

# ESTABLISHED ON THE HILL

We live in a world that constantly tells us to be more—more capable, more productive, more independent. But as followers of Christ, we're called to live differently. God never asked us to be sufficient in ourselves.

Instead, He invites us to find our sufficiency in Him. This 5-day devotional is a journey into the heart of that truth. Drawing from 2 Corinthians 3:5, we'll explore how God's power meets us in our weakness, how His grace sustains us in the everyday, and how His presence equips us to walk confidently in our calling.

Whether you're facing a season of doubt, exhaustion, or transition, this devotional will remind you that you are not alone—and you are never expected to be enough on your own.

As you reflect and pray through each day, may your heart be anchored in the beautiful reality that your sufficiency comes not from within—but from the One who is always more than enough.

# DAY 1

## BUILDING ON THE ROCK

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### **Reading: Matthew 7:24-27**

Jesus concludes His Sermon on the Mount with a powerful metaphor about two builders - one wise, one foolish. The wise builder constructs his house on rock, while the foolish one builds on sand. When storms come, only the house on rock stands firm. This parable isn't just about construction; it's about the foundation of our lives.

What are you building your life upon? Is it the shifting sands of cultural trends, personal desires, or worldly success? Or is it the solid rock of Christ and His teachings? Today, examine the foundation of your life. Are there areas where you've been building on sand without realizing it?

Remember, storms will come to every life. It's not a question of if, but when. The key to withstanding life's challenges isn't avoiding them, but ensuring our foundation is secure. Spend time in prayer, asking God to reveal any areas where you need to shift from sand to rock. Commit to rooting yourself more deeply in God's Word and Christ's teachings.

# DAY 2 THE POWER OF RECONCILIATION

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## **Reading: Matthew 5:21-26**

In today's passage, Jesus raises the bar on how we handle relationships. He teaches that reconciliation should be a priority even over religious duties. This radical teaching emphasizes the importance God places on healthy relationships and unity among His people.

Is there someone in your life you need to reconcile with? Perhaps a family member, friend, or colleague? Often, we avoid reconciliation because of pride, fear, or simply not knowing how to start. But Jesus calls us to take the initiative, even if we feel we're not the one at fault.

Today, ask the Holy Spirit to bring to mind any relationships that need healing. Pray for the courage and humility to reach out and take the first step towards reconciliation. Remember, this doesn't always mean the relationship will be fully restored, but it does mean you're doing your part to pursue peace. As you do this, you're not just obeying Christ, but also freeing yourself from the burden of unresolved conflict.

# DAY 3

## LOVING BEYOND BOUNDARIES

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### **Reading: Matthew 5:43-48**

Jesus challenges us to love not just those who love us, but even our enemies. This kind of love goes against our natural inclinations and requires supernatural empowerment. It's a love that reflects God's own character, who loves and blesses even those who reject Him.

Think about people in your life who are difficult to love. Maybe they've hurt you, disagree with you politically, or simply rub you the wrong way. How can you show Christ-like love to them? Remember, loving doesn't mean agreeing with everything they do or say. It means seeing them as God sees them and desiring their good.

Today, choose one person who is hard for you to love. Pray for them, asking God to bless them and to give you His perspective on them. Look for one practical way to show kindness to this person, even if it's just offering a genuine smile or a word of encouragement. As you do this, you're not just blessing them - you're growing more into the image of Christ.

# DAY 4 THE POWER OF PRAYER AND FASTING

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## Reading: Matthew 6:5-18

In this passage, Jesus teaches about two spiritual disciplines: prayer and fasting. He emphasizes that these practices aren't meant for show, but for deepening our relationship with God. Prayer is our lifeline of communication with our Heavenly Father, while fasting helps us focus our hearts and depend more fully on God.

How is your prayer life? Is it a vibrant conversation with God, or has it become routine or neglected? Today, try approaching prayer with fresh eyes. Instead of just listing requests, spend time in God's presence, listening for His voice. Use the Lord's Prayer as a model, covering adoration, submission to God's will, provision, forgiveness, and spiritual protection.

Consider also if God might be calling you to fast. This doesn't always mean food - you could fast from social media, television, or anything that tends to distract you from God. The goal is to create space to hear God more clearly and to remind yourself of your dependence on Him. As you engage in these practices, expect God to meet you in powerful ways.

# DAY 5 TREASURES IN HEAVEN

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## Matthew 6:19-24

Jesus challenges our perspective on wealth and possessions. He urges us to store up treasures in heaven rather than on earth, reminding us that our hearts follow our treasure. This teaching invites us to reconsider our priorities and how we use our resources.

What do you treasure most? Where do you invest the majority of your time, energy, and resources? These are often indicators of what we truly value. Today, take an honest inventory of your life. Are you investing primarily in things that will last eternally, or in things that will fade away?

Consider practical ways you can start storing up treasures in heaven. This might mean being more generous with your money, investing time in relationships, or using your talents to serve others and advance God's kingdom. Remember, every act of love, every moment spent in God's presence, every sacrifice made for His sake - these are eternal investments that will yield returns long after earthly treasures have turned to dust.