

# It Can Be Messy

5-Day Devotional - 8.10.25

## Day 1

### The Beauty in Messiness

**Reading:** 1 Corinthians 1:26–29

**Devotional:**

God often chooses the unexpected to reveal His glory. In our reading, we're reminded that God doesn't always select the wise, influential, or noble by worldly standards. Instead, He often chooses the foolish to shame the wise, the weak to shame the strong. This echoes the sermon's message about the church being messy because it's made up of imperfect people.

Reflect on how God has used your weaknesses or "messy" areas of life to demonstrate His power. How can embracing our imperfections actually draw us closer to God and each other in the church? Today, thank God for using your weaknesses for His glory, and look for ways to encourage others who may feel inadequate or unworthy.

**Prayer:**

Lord, thank You for choosing me. Not in spite of my weaknesses but because of them. Help me embrace the messiness of life with grace and humility. Show me how to encourage others who feel disqualified or unseen, and remind me daily that Your strength is made perfect in my weakness. Amen.

## Day 2

### Unity in Diversity

**Reading:** Romans 12:4-5

**Devotional:**

The body of Christ, like our physical bodies, is made up of many parts with different functions. This diversity, while beautiful, can also lead to challenges within the church. Our passage reminds us that despite our differences, we are one body in Christ.

Consider the unique gifts and perspectives you bring to your church community. How can you use these to build up the body rather than cause division? Pray for unity within your church, appreciating the diverse ways God

works through different members. Look for an opportunity today to collaborate with someone whose strengths complement your weaknesses.

**Prayer:**

Father, thank You for creating a diverse and beautiful body of believers. Teach me to value others' gifts and perspectives, and give me the humility to work alongside them in harmony. Let me be a peacemaker who builds unity in my church community. Amen.

## **Day 3**

### **The Unshakeable Church**

**Reading:** Matthew 16:18

**Devotional:**

Jesus declares that He will build His church, and nothing will overcome it. This promise reminds us that despite the messiness and challenges we may face, the church is God's chosen instrument, and it will prevail.

Reflect on times when you've seen God's strength manifest in your church during difficulties. How does this promise of Christ encourage you when facing challenges in your faith community? Today, pray for your church leaders and members, asking God to strengthen their faith in His unshakeable promise.

**Prayer:**

Jesus, thank You for the promise that Your Church will not be overcome. Strengthen our leaders, unify our people, and remind us that You are always working, even in the struggle. Build in me a steadfast faith to trust Your plan for our church. Amen.

## **Day 4**

### **The Importance of Fellowship**

**Reading:** Hebrews 10:24-25

**Devotional:**

We're instructed not to give up meeting together, but to encourage one another. This emphasizes the vital role of community in our faith journey. The sermon highlighted how easy it is to drift away when we stop regularly gathering with other believers.

Think about how your faith has been strengthened through fellowship with other Christians. What specific encouragement have you received? How can you be more intentional about encouraging others in their faith walk? Make a plan to reach out to someone you haven't seen at church lately, offering encouragement and support.

**Prayer:**

God, I'm grateful for the people You've placed in my life to walk this journey with. Help me not to isolate, but to be intentional in building up others. Put someone on my heart today that I can encourage and connect with. Amen.

## **Day 5**

### **Being Part of the Solution**

**Reading:** Ephesians 4:11-16

**Devotional:**

This passage speaks about equipping the saints for the work of ministry and building up the body of Christ. It aligns with the sermon's call to be part of the solution, not the problem, in our churches.

Examine your role in your church community. Are you actively contributing to its growth and health? Consider your spiritual gifts and how you might use them more effectively to serve others. Pray for guidance on how you can be more involved in discipleship or service within your church. Take a concrete step today towards greater involvement, whether it's signing up for a ministry or offering to help a fellow believer in need.

**Prayer:**

Lord, I don't want to be a bystander in my church. I want to be a builder. Show me how to use my gifts to strengthen others, and give me boldness to step into the work of ministry. Teach me to lead with love and truth, always pointing others back to You. Amen.