

LIVING by
the SPIRIT

21 DAYS OF
PRAYER
& FASTING

May 4 - May 24, 2026

DAILY
DEVOTIONS

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21 DAYS OF PRAYER & FASTING
DAILY DEVOTIONS

WEEK 1

WELCOMING GOD'S PRESENCE



DAY 1 / MAY 4

Repentance & Making Room

DEVOTION:

As we begin these 21 Days of Prayer and Fasting, I'm reminded of the cry of Psalm 51 - "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me." Repentance is more than just confessing our sins to God - it's a posture of the heart. We often think that we need to know what we are repenting of before we come to Him, but the truth is that "every man's ways are right in their own eyes."

We often don't know where we are sinning or thinking incorrectly. Repentance begins with admitting we do not know everything and inviting God to search us and reveal to us any ways where we are in the wrong. To repent literally means to "re-think". It is an invitation for God to challenge our beliefs, actions and assumptions and lead us deeper into His truth.

When we come before Him this way - humble, open, and willing - we make room for Him to move. Over these next 21 days, may repentance become our daily starting place - trusting that as we invite Him to cleanse our hearts, He will transform us, unify us, and lead us into something far greater than we could ever ask for or imagine.



DAY 1 / MAY 4

SCRIPTURE:

Psalm 51 NIV

Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your unfailing love;
according to your great compassion
blot out my transgressions.
Wash away all my iniquity
and cleanse me from my sin.
For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is always before me.
Against you, you only, have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight;
so you are right in your verdict
and justified when you judge.
Surely I was sinful at birth,
sinful from the time my mother conceived me.
Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb;
you taught me wisdom in that secret place.
Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean;
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.
Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones you have crushed rejoice.
Hide your face from my sins
and blot out all my iniquity.
Create in me a pure heart, O God,
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me from your presence
or take your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.



DAY 1 / MAY 4

Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
so that sinners will turn back to you.
Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God,
you who are God my Savior,
and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.
Open my lips, Lord,
and my mouth will declare your praise.
You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it;
you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.
My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart
you, God, will not despise.
May it please you to prosper Zion,
to build up the walls of Jerusalem.
Then you will delight in the sacrifices of the righteous,
in burnt offerings offered whole;
then bulls will be offered on your altar.

PRAYER

Take a moment to open your heart before God, perhaps holding your hands open as a posture of surrender and invitation. Confess any known sins that come to mind, and ask Him to show you His heart for you in the midst of them. Then ask Him to reveal any hidden sins or areas He wants to bring into the light so He can make you more like Him. As you close, ask Him to renew your mind and align your thoughts and heart with His!



DAY 2 / MAY 5

Longing for God

DEVOTION:

Let out a cry of desperation for the Lord our God! A longing for God comes from desperation for Him, His presence, His nearness, His will. In our culture today, our desperation is for our finances, our jobs, food, family, and friends. While we need those things very much, we prioritize our need for them over our need for Jesus.

In Psalm 42, we see a beautiful yet somber illustration of God as the water that David needs in the midst of tribulation. He is on the run from King Saul, driven away from the comfort of the kingdom, yet he doesn't cry out for those comforts. In desperation, he cries out to his God. He speaks to his flesh and says, "Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God." He cries out to his God because he knows that ultimately the Lord is the only thing he needs in the face of all of the hardship. Could this be tied to the cry that Jesus lets out in John 7:37-39?

Jesus cries out in desperation for the people around him. There is an invitation here for us to come and drink from the well that never runs dry. In all things, he is truly what we need. Our souls could never be satisfied by the things of the world, but only by Jesus, the living water.



DAY 2 / MAY 5

SCRIPTURE:**Psalm 42 ESV**

"As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God? My tears have been my food day and night while they say to me all the day long, 'Where is your God?' These things I remember, as I pour out my soul: how I would go with the throng and lead them in procession to the house of God with glad shouts and songs of praise, a multitude keeping festival. Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God. My soul is cast down within me; therefore, I remember you from the land of Jordan and of Hermon, from Mount Mizar. Deep calls to deep at the roar of your waterfalls; all your breakers and your waves have gone over me. By day the Lord commands his steadfast love, and at night his song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life. I say to God, my rock: 'Why have you forgotten me? Why do I go mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?' As with a deadly wound in my bones, my adversaries taunt me, while they say to me all the day long, 'Where is your God?' Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God."

John 7:37-39: 37 ESV

On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.'" Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive, for as



DAY 2 / MAY 5

yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

PRAYER

Lord, here we are, in desperate need of you. We open our hearts and our hands to you. Fill us with rivers of living water that overflow from you, the well of living water. Let our souls long for you. Let our thirst and hunger for you in all things increase. Make known to us the joy of our salvation, that in you we have everything. Father, if there is anything that has outweighed our desperation for you, let today be the day we lay these things at your feet. Let your waves of grace and mercy wash over us as you take us deeper into your presence. We speak to our souls and say, "Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God." We lift our cups to you, Lord, and say, "Fill us with your living water." In Jesus name, Amen.

Worship Song: *Isaiah Song* by *Maverick City Music*



DAY 3 / MAY 6

The Person of the Holy Spirit

DEVOTION:

The Holy Spirit is not a distant force or an abstract idea: he is the third person of the Trinity. Jesus describes him as the Advocate, the one who comes alongside, who remains with us and within us. This means we are never left to navigate life, faith, or suffering on our own. The Spirit is God's personal and active presence, guiding us into truth and leading us to Jesus.

So often we relate to God at a distance, as if He is near only in certain moments or places. But the indwelling Spirit of Christ dissolves that distance. He dwells with us in the ordinary, in quiet prayers, in restless thoughts, in moments of decision, and even in our confusion. Learning to recognize His presence is less about striving and more about awareness. He is already here. The invitation to this gift is to become attentive. Where in your daily life might the Holy Spirit already be present and inviting your attention?

SCRIPTURE:

John 14:16–17 NIV

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever—the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.”



PRAYER

Come, Holy Spirit, help me to know you not as an idea, but as God's true, personal presence with me. Open my eyes to where you are already at work in my life. Teach me to listen, to trust, and to follow your gentle leading. Remind me that I am not alone, and form in me a deeper awareness of your nearness each day. Thank you for your presence. Amen.



DAY 4 / MAY 7

Sensitivity to God's Voice

DEVOTION:

One of the main goals of this time of fasting is to invite God to speak and lead us by his Spirit. 1 Kings 19 gives us a beautiful picture of what that can look like. Elijah had just witnessed one of the most dramatic displays of God's power in Scripture: fire fell from heaven on a water-soaked altar, proving that the Lord alone is God and exposing the prophets of Baal. But soon after, Queen Jezebel threatened his life, and Elijah ran into the wilderness - exhausted, afraid, and deeply discouraged.

When God asked him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" Elijah answered honestly: "I have been very zealous for the Lord God Almighty... I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too." God did not immediately correct him. He did not begin by saying, "Actually, Elijah, you are wrong. You are not alone." Instead, God met him with tenderness. He led Elijah to the mountain, where a powerful wind, an earthquake, and fire passed before him. But God was not in any of those. Then came a gentle whisper. It was like a holy embrace and a gentle reminder that said: "I see you. I love you. I am with you."

Elijah didn't need another reminder of God's power- he needed a reminder of his nearness. Then, after a moment of encounter and connection, God spoke and answered



DAY 4 / MAY 7

Elijah's question. He explained that he was not actually alone- there were many still following the Lord, and then led him to meet Elisha, who would walk alongside him in his next season of ministry.

This passage shows us that when we are honest with God, He responds. He may speak to us through a quiet prompting, a thought that comes to mind, through Scripture, through creation, through our surroundings, or a next step of obedience. Our role is to simply come honestly before Him, invite Him to speak, test what comes to mind against Scripture, and follow where He leads.

SCRIPTURE:**1 Kings 19:11–13 NIV**

"The Lord said, 'Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by.' Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave. Then a voice said to him, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?'"



PRAYER

Be honest with God today. In your journal or in your thoughts, bring Him something you are struggling with or a question you have. Then ask, "Lord, is there anything You want to say to me?" Pay attention to any Scripture, thought, picture, phrase, or gentle prompting that comes to mind. Write it down, test it against Scripture, ask God for confirmation if needed, and then take one small step of obedience.



DAY 5 / MAY 8

Humility

DEVOTION:

When God spoke to Solomon after the temple was dedicated, He showed His covenant people the way back to Him when their sin had brought covenant consequences upon them: humility, prayer, seeking His face, and turning from wickedness. God's restoring mercy meets the heart that stops defending itself and turns honestly back to Him.

Humility is the posture that says, "Lord, begin with me." Brokenness is not shame or despair. It is a softened heart that stops resisting God and becomes responsive to His voice.

Pride can hide in ordinary places: when we defend ourselves too quickly, resist correction, blame others, allow prayer to become secondary, hold unforgiveness, or try to carry life in our own strength. In this week of welcoming and encounter, we are not only asking God to work among us. We are asking Him to search within us.

Before asking God to change what is around us, we can ask, "Lord, what in me needs to turn back to You?" The mercy of God is not far from a humble heart. He draws near to those who come honestly, seek His face, and trust Him to forgive, cleanse, and restore what sin, pride, and self-reliance have damaged.



DAY 5 / MAY 8

SCRIPTURE:**2 Chronicles 7:14 NKJV**

"If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land."

Psalms 51:17 NKJV

"The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit,
A broken and a contrite heart —
These, O God, You will not despise."

1 Peter 5:5-7 NKJV

"God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble."
Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God,
that He may exalt you in due time, casting all your care upon
Him, for He cares for you.

PRAYER & PRACTICE:

Lord, teach us to humble ourselves before You. Search our hearts and show us what needs to turn back to You. Forgive, cleanse, and restore what pride, sin, unforgiveness, and self-reliance have damaged, including the places where prayer has become secondary. Lead us in Your everlasting way. Bring Your healing and restoration to our hearts, homes, relationships and church, beginning with me. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Before praying for anything else today, pause and ask: "Lord, what in me needs to turn back to You?"



DAY 6 / MAY 9

Welcoming the Spirit of Christ

DEVOTION:

Beholding Jesus cultivates awe and love for him, but answering the knock takes us a step further in our relationship with Christ. It takes us from receiving to participating in Christ. Jesus waits for us to let him in. He stands and knocks, waiting for his bride to open the door to the bridegroom. If we listen, hear, and act, then we are invited to have beautiful communion with the Lord and can partner with him to enact his will in us and the world. If we deny the knock and voice of the Lord, we risk straying from the one who died in hopes that his creation would want to dwell with him as much as he wanted (and still wants) to dwell with us. I want you to imagine your life divided into sections. You have the family section, friends, work, hobbies, and of course, we have Jesus. Do your sections look like this: Work (Jesus), Family (Jesus), Friends (Jesus), Hobbies(Jesus)? Or does it look like this: Jesus (work), Jesus (family), Jesus (friends), Jesus (hobbies)? Is Jesus welcome and reigning over all of these things? Do you heed his voice in all of these things?

Whether you are a new believer or a seasoned saint, each day we wake up with a choice: to accept and partake in the Lord's invitation we see in Revelation 3:20, or to ignore his knock and his voice. Jesus has something new to us about himself each day. He has a plan for each day, knowing what



DAY 6 / MAY 9

part of our heart he wants to tackle next. There's something that delights the heart of God when his children welcome him in. It pleases his heart because it communicates our want for him in our lives. So welcome in the Spirit of Christ, breaking away the barriers you may have made between the ins and outs of your life and Christ.

SCRIPTURE:**Revelation 3:20 ESV**

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me."

PRAYER:

Jesus, let us hear Your knock and Your voice. Let us jump at the invitation to be in communion with You in every aspect of our lives. Let our hearts not harden when we hear Your voice, but let them be soft before You, ready and willing to welcome You in. Lord, reveal to us the ways we have rejected You instead of welcomed You, and let us turn from rejecting You and run to welcome You. Jesus, You are welcome in our hearts and minds. Have Your way. In Jesus name, Amen.

Worship Song: *I Want To Know You* by UPPERROOM



DAY 7 / MAY 10

Invitation & Gratitude: Filled with the Spirit

DEVOTION:

In Acts 2, the Holy Spirit was poured out upon the gathered disciples, just as Jesus had promised, and they were filled with power to bear witness to Jesus. What God poured out on those who waited did not remain hidden; it overflowed into worship, boldness, fellowship, generosity, and public witness to Jesus.

For believers, prayer of invitation does not mean the Holy Spirit is absent. Jesus promised the Helper would abide with His people. But we still need to yield ourselves afresh to the Lord and ask Him to fill and lead us. We pray, "Father, by Your Holy Spirit, have Your way in me today. Lead my words, thoughts, reactions, work, service, and witness, through Jesus Christ."

Gratitude helps bring the heart into surrender. We thank God the Father for salvation through Christ, thank Him for the gift of the Holy Spirit, and ask to be filled in a way that glorifies Christ. Being filled with the Holy Spirit is not only for church gatherings or moments of worship. It is a life increasingly surrendered to God, strengthened for obedience, and sent as a witness.



DAY 7 / MAY 10

SCRIPTURE:

Acts 2:1, 4 NKJV

"When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit..."

Acts 4:31 NKJV

"And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness."

Ephesians 5:18, 20 NKJV

"And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit... giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

PRAYER & PRACTICE:

Father, thank You for salvation in Jesus and for the gift of Your Spirit. By Your Holy Spirit, fill us afresh. Have Your way in us: in our words, thoughts, reactions, and in the way we live at home, at work, in our relationships, in service, and as witnesses to Jesus. Deepen our gratitude, lead us in truth, and let what You do in us overflow through us for Christ's glory. Amen.

Pause today with a yielded heart: thank God for His mercy, ask Him to fill and lead you by His Spirit, and look for one ordinary opportunity to reflect Jesus in your words, attitude, service, or witness.



21 DAYS OF PRAYER & FASTING
DAILY DEVOTIONS

WEEK 2

EMPOWERED BY THE SPIRIT



DAY 8 / MAY 11

Empowered by the Spirit

DEVOTION:

In the beginning, God breathed His Spirit into Adam and he came alive with the breath and presence of God within him. Think of it like a jar. We were made as clay vessels, designed to hold the breath of God. But when Adam sinned, the jar was cracked. Humanity could no longer hold the Spirit the way we were created to. Throughout the Old Testament, the Holy Spirit came upon certain people for certain moments, empowering them for specific purposes, but His presence could not permanently dwell within them - it would always leak out. This is why David cried, "Take not your Holy Spirit from me." But then Jesus did something radical. Through His death and resurrection, He made us new creations! He took our cracked, sin-broken nature and gave us His own righteousness: pure, spotless, and whole.

Then, at Pentecost, Jesus filled His people once again with the promised Holy Spirit - and this time, the Spirit did not leak out. Through Jesus, we can hold and be empowered with the presence of God again- the way we were designed to from the beginning. We have been made new, filled with the Spirit, and empowered to live as His witnesses, just as Jesus promised in Acts 1:8. Having the Spirit does not mean we will never walk through hard things, but it does mean that we have access to the resurrection power of Christ that overcomes. God is with us and within us, leading, guiding, speaking, transforming, empowering, and flowing



DAY 8 / MAY 11

through us wherever we go. No longer do we strive on our own. We get to operate out of the victorious power of the Holy Spirit.

SCRIPTURE:**Acts 1:8 NIV**

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

Acts 2 NIV

“When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. Utterly amazed, they asked: ‘Aren’t all these who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!’ Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, ‘What does this mean?’



DAY 8 / MAY 11

Some, however, made fun of them and said, 'They have had too much wine.'

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: 'Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning! No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: "In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billows of smoke. The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord. And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

Fellow Israelites, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. This man was handed over to you by God's deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. David said about him:

"I saw the Lord always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest in hope, because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead, you will not let your holy one see decay. You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence."



DAY 8 / MAY 11

Fellow Israelites, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. Seeing what was to come, he spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, that he was not abandoned to the realm of the dead, nor did his body see decay. God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it. Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear. For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said,

“The Lord said to my Lord:

“it at my right hand
until I make your enemies
a footstool for your feet.”

Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah.’

When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, ‘Brothers, what shall we do?’ Peter replied, ‘Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.’

With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, ‘Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.’ Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the



DAY 8 / MAY 11

apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved."

PRAYER:

Take a moment to open your heart to God. If you have not already done so, ask Him to make you a new creation through Jesus. Receive His gift of salvation and His promise to make you whole. Then ask Him to fill you with His Holy Spirit, the presence of God who will never leave you. Then ask Him to empower you with the resurrection power of Christ. Spend time thanking Him for this incredible gift. To close, invite Him to teach you how to walk in his power instead of your own. Ask him to make you more aware of His presence with you, within you, and around you in every moment.



DAY 9 / MAY 12

Spiritual Gifts Overview

DEVOTION:

The Holy Spirit is a gift giver! Through our awareness of God's presence and our desire to partner with the Holy Spirit as we live out our baptism, we place ourselves in a posture of surrendered receiving. We live by the Spirit, therefore we yield to the Spirit. The Holy Spirit, in God's infinite wisdom and kindness, gives out spiritual gifts to Christ followers "to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up." (Eph 4:12)

You can read one of the lists of spiritual gifts in 1 Corinthians 12. Though not exhaustive, Paul does give an idea of the types of spiritual gifts that may manifest in the lives of Christ followers. It is important to note that there is no hierarchy of gifts. In 1 Corinthians 14, Paul says that we are to "eagerly desire gifts of the Spirit." However, it is essential to note that no one person will possess all the gifts. Why? Because they are meant to be used together with other Christ followers within the context of a church community on mission to love our neighbors and share the gospel! We are designed, even in our giftings, to need one another in the body of Christ to bring about God's kingdom here on earth.



DAY 9 / MAY 12

SCRIPTURE:**1 Corinthians 12:1-26 NIV**

Now about the gifts of the Spirit, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. You know that when you were pagans, somehow or other you were influenced and led astray to mute idols. Therefore I want you to know that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus be cursed," and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit.

There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.

Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.

Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many.

Now if the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. 16 And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason



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stop being part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. If they were all one part, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, but one body.

The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!". On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it, so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.

PRAYER:

Holy Spirit, thank you for the beautiful journey of getting to unwrap spiritual gifts that you have gifted to me. I thank you that you empower us with gifts to use for the edification of the church. Would you empower me to see them, to not fear them, to receive them, to grow in them, and to use them not for selfish gain or personal glory but for your Kingdom work in the body of Christ. In Jesus' name, Amen.



DAY 9 / MAY 12

PRACTICE:

Ask God today to make you aware of any dormant spiritual gifts you have yet to receive and use. Many times, God will mirror and redeem the gifts or aptitudes we possess in the natural by redefining them and empowering them in the supernatural through spiritual gifts. Ask him to teach you how He would like you to use them, when, and in what context.

Worship Song: *"Come Like the Dawn"* by River Valley Worship



DAY 10 / MAY 13

Prophecy

DEVOTION:

In 1 Corinthians 14:1–25, Paul urges believers to eagerly desire spiritual gifts, especially prophecy. For many of us, prophecy can feel intimidating because we fear getting it wrong or have seen people misuse the phrase “God told me.” But Paul says that prophecy is not a crazy, big scary thing, but a gift meant to strengthen, encourage, and build up the church. New Testament Prophecy is different from Old Testament Prophecy. Hebrews 1:1–2 tells us that “in the past God spoke through the prophets, but now He has spoken through His Son.” Before Jesus came, the Spirit would come upon certain people for a time, and they would prophesy. Often, Old Testament prophecy spoke judgment, revealing both the seriousness of sin and our desperate need for a Savior. But through Jesus, our broken connection with God has been restored, and the Holy Spirit now lives within all His people. Joel said, “Your sons and daughters shall prophesy,” pointing to the incredible gift Jesus would give us: direct connection with God through His Spirit at all times.

Prophecy is different from simply hearing God’s voice for ourselves because it involves sharing what we sense God may be putting on our hearts for someone else. This is why Paul says that Prophecy is meant for believers - it requires discernment through the Holy Spirit for what to share, and



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also for receiving and testing what others share with us. Like a sword, it is powerful and must be handled carefully. If you gave a child a sword without teaching them how to use it, they could hurt someone - but when used rightly it can be incredibly powerful. In the same way, prophecy must be stewarded wisely, offered humbly, and used to build others up, not to control, shame, or condemn. When we simply ask, "Lord, is there someone You want me to encourage today?", Paul says it can be so powerful that people may recognize God's presence, fall on their faces and say, "God is really among you."

SCRIPTURE:**1 Corinthians 14:1-25 NIV**

"Follow the way of love and eagerly desire gifts of the Spirit, especially prophecy. For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to people but to God. Indeed, no one understands them; they utter mysteries by the Spirit. But the one who prophesies speaks to people for their strengthening, encouraging and comfort. Anyone who speaks in a tongue edifies themselves, but the one who prophesies edifies the church. I would like every one of you to speak in tongues, but I would rather have you prophesy. The one who prophesies is greater than the one who speaks in tongues, unless someone interprets, so that the church may be edified.

Now, brothers and sisters, if I come to you and speak in tongues, what good will I be to you, unless I bring you some revelation or knowledge or prophecy or word of instruction? Even in the case of lifeless things that make sounds, such as the



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pipe or harp, how will anyone know what tune is being played unless there is a distinction in the notes? Again, if the trumpet does not sound a clear call, who will get ready for battle? So it is with you. Unless you speak intelligible words with your tongue, how will anyone know what you are saying? You will just be speaking into the air. Undoubtedly there are all sorts of languages in the world, yet none of them is without meaning. If then I do not grasp the meaning of what someone is saying, I am a foreigner to the speaker, and the speaker is a foreigner to me. So it is with you. Since you are eager for gifts of the Spirit, try to excel in those that build up the church.

For this reason the one who speaks in a tongue should pray that they may interpret what they say. For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my mind is unfruitful. So what shall I do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my understanding; I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my understanding. Otherwise when you are praising God in the Spirit, how can someone else, who is now put in the position of an inquirer, say 'Amen' to your thanksgiving, since they do not know what you are saying? You are giving thanks well enough, but no one else is edified.

I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you. But in the church I would rather speak five intelligible words to instruct others than ten thousand words in a tongue.

Brothers and sisters, stop thinking like children. In regard to evil be infants, but in your thinking be adults. In the Law it is written: 'With other tongues

and through the lips of foreigners

I will speak to this people,

but even then they will not listen to me,

says the Lord.'



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Tongues, then, are a sign, not for believers but for unbelievers; prophecy, however, is not for unbelievers but for believers. So if the whole church comes together and everyone speaks in tongues, and inquirers or unbelievers come in, will they not say that you are out of your mind? But if an unbeliever or an inquirer comes in while everyone is prophesying, they are convicted of sin and are brought under judgment by all, as the secrets of their hearts are laid bare. So they will fall down and worship God, exclaiming, 'God is really among you!'"

PRAYER:

Ask God to bring to mind someone He wants to encourage today. Then ask Him for a Scripture, phrase, encouragement, or simple act of love to share with them. Step out humbly, without pressure or drama, and trust God to use your obedience to strengthen someone else.



DAY 11 / MAY 14

Boldness in Witness

DEVOTION:

Speak the word of God with *all* boldness.

By the power of the Holy Spirit, we are empowered and equipped with boldness by the authority of Jesus to speak His word and live out His word. We are given authority to witness to miracles, signs, and wonders of the Holy Spirit. It all starts with His word. His word lets us know that boldness is something to ask for because it is vital for us to have as we speak the word of God. These servants of Jesus are proclaiming the word of God everywhere they can and to anyone who will listen. This can seem intimidating when we think about proclaiming the word of God to anyone, but here's what these servants of Jesus in Acts knew that I think we would benefit from remembering. It is not in our own strength that we witness the word of God. It is the Lord who provides the supernatural boldness to carry out His word with authority. The works of the Lord require boldness. When we walk in boldness, we will witness the wonder-working power of the Holy Spirit.

SCRIPTURE:

Acts 4:29-31: 29 ESV

"And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness,



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while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus." And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness."

PRAYER:

Lord, we ask that You would clothe us in boldness. That we would boldly proclaim and witness the word of God. Lord, I pray that we would reflect You being as bold as a lion and as meek as a lamb. We pray that as we walk in boldness, Your word goes forth as well as Your hand bringing forth miracles, signs, and wonders. Let us be filled afresh with the Holy Spirit and speak Your word with all boldness. In Jesus name, Amen!

Worship Song: *All For Jesus* by *Circuit Rider Music*



DAY 12 / MAY 15

Healing

DEVOTION:

Healing in the Kingdom of God is rarely only about healing the body: God is concerned with redeeming both our physical selves and our inner worlds. And in doing so, he continually heals our relationship with Him.

James emphasizes that healing comes within the community through prayer, confession, anointing, and the faithful presence of others. Healing is not meant to be carried alone. When Jesus appeared to His disciples after the resurrection, He did not hide his wounds. He showed them his hands and feet. The scars remained, but they no longer defined death, they testified to victory. Healing does not always mean the absence of scars; sometimes it means learning that our scars can become witnesses of grace. Christ meets us in our wounds, not in spite of them. His peace can enter the room well before his explanation does.

We all need healing but we also need to reflect on where in our lives we need healing the most. Is it our body, our soul, our relationships? And who is walking with us as we navigate our healing? If we have already received healing, how is God using us to bring healing to others?



DAY 12 / MAY 15

SCRIPTURE:**James 5:14–16 NIV**

“Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. Therefore, confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.”

Luke 24:36–40 NIV

“While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’ They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. He said to them, ‘Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have.’ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet.”

PRAYER:

Lord Jesus, You know every wound I carry, seen and unseen. Meet me in the places where I tend to hide, and bring Your healing touch. Heal what is broken. Restore what is weary. Help me trust that even my scars can tell the story of your grace. Give me the courage to receive care from others and the faith to believe you are making me new. Amen.



DAY 13 / MAY 16

Spiritual Warfare

DEVOTION:

When you gave your life to Christ, whether you knew it or not, you also enlisted in his army. The army of the Lord fights not against other humans but against the present darkness in the world. Every scheme, every lie, every demonic agenda is a force we must fight against. Spiritual warfare is a very real thing that should not be taken lightly. In Ephesians 6:10-12, we are given a command to be strong in the Lord. To put on the armor of the Lord, which is necessary for battle and fight against the present darkness.

How do we fight against the present darkness? Acts 16:25-26 shows us one very vital way to fight in the spirit. Worship. Paul and Silas began to worship the Lord while they were in prison, and as they worshiped, their bonds were unfastened. In other words, their chains fell off! We can fight against the darkness by worshiping the Lord, who is the light of the world. We sing, we pray, we fast, so much so that the chains the enemy uses to keep us in bondage come off in the name of Jesus. Call on the name of Jesus and see that every principality, every demon in hell must bow to his authority. This is how we wage war.



DAY 13 / MAY 16

SCRIPTURE:**Ephesians 6:10-12 ESV**

"Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places."

Acts 16:25-26 ESV

"About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken. And immediately all the doors were opened, and everyone's bonds were unfastened."

PRAYER:

Lord, our commander, would you strengthen us as soldiers in Your army? Would we choose to put on the full armor of God and prepare for the spiritual battle that lies ahead? Lord, let us have eyes to see this spiritual battle and where You may be needing us to wage war against the enemy. Father, teach us how to wage war through song, prayer, and fasting. That this would increase our authority given by You in the Spirit. Lord, you are mighty in battle, and so we trust that You go before us with the victory in hand. We pray all of this in the mighty and powerful name of Jesus, Amen!

Worship Song: *All Authority* by Tasha Cobbs Leonard



DAY 14 / MAY 17

The Armor of God

DEVOTION:

The Armor of God is a necessity in the life of a believer. Just as physical armor protects a soldier in battle, God's spiritual armor guards our heart, mind, and spirit. These are the inner places that shape how we live, love, and follow Christ—and the same places the enemy often attacks. But Paul reminds us that we are not left defenseless in this spiritual battle. In Christ, we have been given everything we need to stand firm. When the enemy attacks, we do not respond in fear, but in faith. We have been equipped with truth, righteousness, peace, faith, salvation, and the Word of God. Because the Spirit of the living God empowers us, we can stand firm, resist the enemy, and move forward in confidence as we advance God's Kingdom.

SCRIPTURE:

Ephesians 6:13-19 NIV

Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. And pray in the Spirit on



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all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel...

PRAYER:

Holy Spirit, help me put on your armor today. Guard my heart, my mind, and my spirit from every scheme of the enemy. Teach me to walk not in fear, but in confidence, knowing that you have given me everything I need to stand firm in faith. I pray this not only for myself, but also for my brothers and sisters in Christ, so that each of us will fearlessly proclaim the gospel, advance your Kingdom, and glorify your name on the earth. In Jesus' mighty name, Amen.



21 DAYS OF PRAYER & FASTING
DAILY DEVOTIONS

WEEK 3

BEARING FRUIT AND LIVING SENT



DAY 15 / MAY 18

Fruit of the Spirit

DEVOTION:

The fruit of the Spirit is not something we produce by willpower: it is the character of Christ formed in those who belong to Him and are learning to walk by His Spirit.

Paul does not describe fruit as something we manufacture in our own strength. Fruit grows from life. Jesus said, "I am the vine, you are the branches." As we abide in Christ and walk by the Spirit, His life begins to show in ordinary places: our words, our patience, our reactions, our relationships, our service, and the way we respond when life presses us.

This matters as we begin the week of fruit and mission. God does not only send us to do His work; He also forms us to reflect His Son. When we serve without love, we can become busy but not Christlike. But when the Spirit is at work in us, love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control become visible in daily life. Not just one in particular, but all of these things make up the singular spiritual fruit that God cultivates in us.

Today, do not try to perform spiritual fruit. Walk by the Spirit. Yield to Him where sinful desires are strong, where patience is thin, where words come quickly, or where love needs to become more practical. Ask God to form the character of Christ in you by His Spirit.



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SCRIPTURE:

Galatians 5:22-23 NKJV

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long suffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.”

Galatians 5:16, 24-25 NKJV

“Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh... And those who are Christ’s have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.”

John 15:5 NKJV

“I am the vine; you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.”

PRAYER & PRACTICE:

Father, thank You for giving us life in Christ and for the work of Your Spirit within us. Form the character of Jesus in us. Where sinful desires are strong, teach us to yield. Let Your fruit be seen in our homes, words, decisions, relationships, and service. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

Pause today and ask: “Lord, where do I need to walk by Your Spirit instead of reacting from sinful desire, self-protection, or pride?” Then look for one ordinary place to yield.



DAY 16 / MAY 19

The Most Excellent Way

DEVOTION:

The world often measures maturity by achievement, knowledge, or influence. Paul offers a completely different measure of spiritual maturity: love. Love is the culminating fruit of spiritual formation and the strongest evidence of the Holy Spirit at work. You can have gifts, wisdom, sacrifice, hope, and faith, but without love, it all becomes meaningless. Love is the evidence that Christ is the one who is truly being formed in us.

This “most excellent way” is often slow and costly. Love requires patience when we want speed, openness when we feel wounded, humility when pride feels safer. It asks us to stay present instead of protecting ourselves through distance. Love is not merely what we feel; it is the daily choice to reflect the character of Jesus toward others. It is how the church becomes believable to the world. Maybe God is inviting you to practice love not as a feeling, but as a deliberate act of faith and partnership with His Spirit.

SCRIPTURE:

1 Corinthians 13 NIV

“If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give



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all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears.

When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me. For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love."

PRAYER:

Father, teach me the way of love as you see it. Help me to model my own love after yours. Slow my hurried heart and soften the places in me that resist patience, openness, and humility. Help me to love others as you have loved me with truth, grace, and faithfulness. Let my life reflect not just good intentions, but the steady presence of Christ in how I treat those around me. Amen.



DAY 17 / MAY 20

Servant Leadership

DEVOTION:

Greatness in God's Kingdom looks different. When we think of greatness, we often picture success, influence, or status. Even Jesus' disciples leaned that way, asking for positions of honor beside Him. But Jesus reshaped their understanding: true greatness is found in serving others. In the Gospel of Mark, Jesus makes it clear—whoever wants to be great must become a servant. This isn't weakness; it's the way of Christ. Jesus Himself modeled it perfectly, not by seeking status, but by humbly giving His life for the redemption of the world. This is the kind of "greatness" God calls us to. And through His Holy Spirit, He is forming that same servant heart in us—one that chooses humility, loves sacrificially, and reflects the heart of Jesus in everyday life.

SCRIPTURE:

Mark 10:42–45 NIV

"Jesus called them together and said, 'You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.'"



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PRAYER:

Jesus, I praise You as the Servant King. Though You are God in the flesh, You chose humility—serving others and giving your life so that we might be saved.

Teach me to follow Your example. By the power of your Holy Spirit, shape my heart to serve with humility, love, and faithfulness. Give me the strength to embrace my calling as a servant in Your Kingdom. May my life reflect Your heart, and may Your Kingdom grow through how I serve others. In Your Holy name, amen.



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Spirit-led Corporate Worship

DEVOTION:

We are called to worship God in spirit and in truth—hallelujah! For some of us, one may come easier than the other. We can know a lot about God intellectually but unintentionally “quench the Spirit” (1 Thes. 5:19) within us by way of neglect. How do we worship God in spirit?

First and foremost, we do this by being filled “with the Spirit, speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, and always give thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.” (Eph 5:18-20) Simply put, we worship in spirit by inviting the Holy Spirit to fill us, and singing songs both congregationally and our own personalized made up songs to God that are filled and guided by the truth of how great God is! In doing so, we are giving glory and gratitude to God.

Secondly, we do this by exercising our spiritual gifts during corporate gatherings, as appropriate. We are reminded in 1 Cor 14:33 that when it comes to corporate worship, “God is not a God of disorder but of peace.” How good is it to know that God’s desire for corporate gatherings is to usher in the peace of Christ! Anything that the Holy Spirit stirs in us during a service or corporate gathering is to be submitted to the spiritual authority of the church body. We choose to



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exercise self-control and spiritual discernment so that God will be glorified in our unity and bring blessing upon our church (Ps. 133:1-3).

SCRIPTURE:**1 Corinthians 14:26-33, 40 NIV**

What then shall we say, brothers and sisters? When you come together, each of you has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. Everything must be done so that the church may be built up. If anyone speaks in a tongue, two—or at the most three—should speak, one at a time, and someone must interpret. If there is no interpreter, the speaker should keep quiet in the church and speak to himself and to God. Two or three prophets should speak, and the others should weigh carefully what is said. And if a revelation comes to someone who is sitting down, the first speaker should stop. For you can all prophesy in turn so that everyone may be instructed and encouraged. The spirits of prophets are subject to the control of prophets. For God is not a God of disorder but of peace—as in all the congregations of the Lord's people.

But everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way.

John 4:23-24 NIV

Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. God is



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spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.

PRAYER:

God, we thank you that you created us to worship both in spirit and in truth! Would you help us to sing songs to you that are filled with truth and that express our own song of gratitude for what you have done in our lives. Would you give us wisdom in how to gracefully navigate exercising spiritual gifts during corporate worship. Would you unite us and bind us together through the power of your Holy Spirit. In Jesus name, Amen.

PRACTICE:

On your drive to or from work today or whenever you have a moment to yourself, practice singing your own song to God. You can do this by singing along to a song that's already written, but I would also encourage you to either add your own twist to it or to sing your own song entirely based on what He has done in your life and the truth of who He is. God loves to hear our worship and we all have our own unique song to sing about how great God has been to us!

Worship Song: *"The Heart of Worship"* by Seacoast, Brandon Lake



DAY 19 / MAY 22

Unity

DEVOTION:

The good news of the gospel doesn't end with forgiveness—it invites us into transformation. We are called to walk in new life and to help others experience that same life in Christ. This calling is what unites us as believers. But unity isn't automatic—it's something we are called to pursue and protect. In Ephesians 4, Paul urges us to make every effort to maintain it. That means laying down preferences, comforts, and anything else that divides, so we can experience true unity in the body of Christ. We are not one because it's easy—we are one because God is one. And in His wisdom, He has given us a shared purpose. Simply put, we need each other. This walk was never meant to be lived in isolation. The church is God's design for our growth—a place where we are built up, encouraged, and equipped to live out our faith with both confidence and humility. As we walk together in unity, we grow in our understanding of who God is, who He has called us to be, and what He has called us to do.

SCRIPTURE:

Ephesians 4:1-13 NIV

"As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit



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through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. This is why it says:

'When he ascended on high,
he took many captives
and gave gifts to his people.'

(What does "he ascended" mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions? He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe.) So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ."



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PRAYER:

Most Holy God, teach us to live in unity, just as you are perfectly one. Shape us to walk in a manner worthy of the calling you have given us—with humility, gentleness, and patience. Bind us together as your body. Help us to lay aside our preferences for the sake of unity, and form in us a love that reflects your heart. Build us up, strengthen us, and mature us, so that we might attain the full measure of Christ. May our unity bring you great pleasure and display your glory to the world. In Jesus' name, amen.



DAY 20 / MAY 23

Discernment & Maturity

DEVOTION:

Spiritual maturity is not simply knowing more; it is becoming steady. Paul describes mature believers as those who are no longer tossed back and forth by every new idea, fear, or cultural current. Maturity creates deep roots. Maturity helps us discern what is true and what is merely distraction.

But maturity is never meant to be isolated. We grow as each part of the body does its work: speaking truth in love, remaining connected to Christ, and allowing others to shape us. Discernment is not suspicion; it is wisdom shaped by love. And mature faith does not make us rigid, but grounded. It allows us to respond rather than react, to listen before speaking, and to trust Jesus with all that we are.

For in this loud world, real disciple-making comes with learning how to discern and grow in that maturity. Each of us is shaped and molded by the Holy Spirit as we allow but other voices, human voices, also shape our spiritual life. Who has the honor of walking with you right now as you grow your spiritual discernment and maturity in Christ?



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SCRIPTURE:**Ephesians 4:14–16 NIV**

Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

PRAYER:

Holy Spirit, give me wisdom to discern what is true and courage to walk in it. Keep me from being easily shaken by fear, distraction, or false voices. Root me deeply in Christ and surround me with people who help me grow in grace and truth. Form in me a steady faith that reflects Your love and leads others toward You. Amen.



DAY 21 / MAY 24

Living Sent

DEVOTION:

The call of every Christ-follower is simple: go. Go beyond comfort, beyond the walls of the church, beyond familiar circles—and make disciples. This is the mission every one of us has been given. And we are not sent alone. In the closing of Matthew's gospel, Jesus declares that all authority in heaven and on earth belongs to Him. From that place of victory, He commissions His followers—and promises to be with them always. Through His Holy Spirit, we are empowered with gifts, guided by His presence, and sustained by His love in the going.

As you come to the end of these 21 days of prayer and fasting, take time to reflect. How has the Lord revealed Himself to you? Where has He grown, shaped, empowered, or refined you? None of it has been wasted. This season has been preparation: the empowerment, the gifts, the fruit, everything. Now comes the sending. May you step into this new season with boldness. Engage in a life of obedience. A life of service. A life of Kingdom impact. And as you go, hold onto this truth: your Savior goes before you, behind you, and beside you—always. He is and has everything you need.



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SCRIPTURE:**Matthew 28:18-20 NIV**

“Then Jesus came to them and said, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.’”

PRAYER:

Lord, this calling is simple, yet impossible without your presence. Empower me to step into my heavenly calling—to go and make disciples. Establish the work you have done in me over these 21 days for your glory. Let it take root and bear lasting fruit for your Kingdom. Remind me that all authority is yours, and that you are with me every step of the way. I lift up those in my life who do not yet know you. Use me to reach them, to love them, and to faithfully share the good news of your saving grace.

Here I am, Lord. Send me.

In Jesus' name, amen.



LIVING by
the SPIRIT