

2026-02-22 5 Day Devotional

5-Day Devotional: Born Again and Growing in Christ

Day 1: The Necessity of New Birth

Reading: John 3:1-21

Devotional: Nicodemus came to Jesus at night, seeking truth but still bound by religious understanding. Jesus shocked him with a radical declaration: "You must be born again." This isn't about improving your old life—it's about receiving a completely new one. Salvation begins when we recognize that our spiritual condition is desperate, that we cannot save ourselves, and that Jesus alone offers the transformation we need. Being born again means more than accepting facts about Jesus; it means experiencing a complete spiritual rebirth that changes everything. Have you experienced this radical new birth, or are you still trying to approach God on your own terms? True salvation begins when you acknowledge your desperate need for Christ and surrender completely to Him.

Day 2: The Seed and the Soil

Reading: Luke 8:4-15

Devotional: Jesus' parable reveals an uncomfortable truth: not everyone who hears the Word truly receives it. Some hearts are hardened paths where the seed never takes root. Others receive with joy but lack depth, falling away when tested. Still others are choked by life's worries, riches, and pleasures—never maturing. But good soil produces a crop through perseverance. Which soil describes your heart? Salvation isn't just about a moment of decision; it's about ongoing development and fruit-bearing. If you claimed Christ years ago but see no growth, no transformation, no fruit—something is desperately wrong. Don't settle for a shallow faith. Ask God to cultivate your heart into good soil that receives His Word, retains it, and produces abundant fruit through faithful perseverance.

Day 3: Much Forgiven, Much Love

Reading: Luke 7:36-50

Devotional: The sinful woman understood something the religious Pharisee missed: the depth of her forgiveness determined the depth of her love. She brought her most precious possession, humbled herself completely, and worshiped Jesus with tears and devotion. Simon the Pharisee, thinking he had little sin, offered little love. Jesus asks us the same question today: Do you realize how much you've been forgiven? Your love for Christ reveals your understanding of grace. If your faith feels routine, if worship feels obligatory, if Jesus seems optional—perhaps you've forgotten the magnitude of your debt and the costliness of your forgiveness. Take inventory today. Are you the woman who gave everything in grateful worship, or the Pharisee who offered minimal hospitality while judging others?

Day 4: Faith That Shows

Reading: James 2:14-26

Devotional: James confronts comfortable Christianity with piercing clarity: faith without works is dead. This doesn't mean we earn salvation through good deeds, but genuine faith inevitably produces transformation and action. If someone claims salvation but shows no fruit, no development, no evidence of Christ's presence—that faith is worthless. The woman at Jesus' feet demonstrated saving faith through costly worship. Her actions revealed her heart. What does your life reveal? Do you show evidence of being born again, or do you simply claim a past decision while living unchanged? God isn't interested in our religious talk; He looks for transformed lives that demonstrate genuine faith. Stop arguing about the point of salvation and start showing the proof of salvation through a life surrendered to Christ.

Day 5: Continuous Development in Christ

Reading: Philippians 3:7-14

Devotional: Paul, despite his spiritual maturity, refused to claim he had

arrived. He pressed on toward the goal, forgetting what was behind and straining toward what was ahead. Salvation includes a moment of conversion, but it demands a lifetime of development. Too many believers treat salvation like fire insurance—get the ticket, then live unchanged. But being born again means continuous growth. A baby that never develops beyond birth is tragic; a Christian who never matures is equally concerning. Where are you in your spiritual development? Are you still wearing spiritual diapers, or are you growing in Christlikeness? Stop focusing on defending your salvation experience and start examining whether you're developing. Surrender everything to Christ today—not because you're trying to earn salvation, but because genuine salvation produces wholehearted devotion to the One who gave everything for you.