

5 Day Devotional

GRACE
COMMUNITY CHURCH

Day 1: When Death Seems More Real Than Life

Reading: Luke 24:1-12

The women at the tomb had witnessed Jesus' miracles, yet they prepared burial spices. They expected death to have the final word. How often do we do the same? We've seen God's faithfulness, yet when crisis comes, we default to despair rather than hope. The disciples called the resurrection report "nonsense" because death felt more believable than victory. Today, examine where you've allowed circumstances to eclipse God's promises. What "death" in your life—a failed relationship, lost dream, or persistent struggle—feels more real than God's power? Remember, the same Jesus who conquered the grave is present in your situation. Don't let the weight of bad news overshadow the truth of resurrection power.

Day 2: Remembering What Jesus Said

Reading: Luke 9:18-27; Luke 24:6-8

"Then they remembered his words." It took angels and an empty tomb for the women to recall Jesus' promises. In crisis, we forget what God has spoken. Jesus repeatedly told His followers He would rise, yet fear erased their memory. What has God promised you that you've forgotten? Perhaps He's spoken about His faithfulness, His provision, or His purpose for your pain. Write down the promises from Scripture that apply to your situation. When the diagnosis comes, when the job ends, when the relationship fractures, you need these truths accessible. The enemy wants you to forget. Resurrection faith requires remembering. Jesus keeps His word, even when circumstances scream otherwise. Make remembering a spiritual discipline.

Day 3: The Presence You Don't Recognize

Reading: Luke 24:13-35

Two disciples walked with the resurrected Jesus and didn't recognize Him. They expected Him to be dead, so they couldn't see Him alive beside them. How often is Jesus present in our pain, but we're blind to Him because we're focused on the grave? These disciples rehearsed their disappointment while Jesus explained how Scripture predicted both suffering and resurrection. Sometimes Jesus is closest when we feel most abandoned. He walks through your confusion, your grief, your shattered expectations. The question isn't whether He's present, but whether you'll recognize Him. Look for Jesus in unexpected places—in the friend who calls, the Scripture that speaks, the peace that defies logic. He's breaking bread with you even now.

Day 4: Touch Me and See

Reading: Luke 24:36-49; John 20:24-29

Even when Jesus stood among them, the disciples thought He was a ghost. Jesus didn't rebuke their doubt; He invited investigation. "Touch me and see." He ate fish to prove His physicality. Jesus understands that resurrection life is hard to believe when you're surrounded by death. He doesn't shame your struggle to trust; He offers evidence. What doubts are you wrestling with today? Bring them to Jesus honestly. Ask Him to show you He's real, that He's working, that your story isn't over. Look for evidence of His presence—answered prayers, divine timing, unexplainable peace. Jesus is patient with your process of belief. Keep seeking until your eyes are opened and you can declare with Thomas, "My Lord and my God."

Day 5: Living the Ending While in the Middle

Reading: Romans 8:18-39; Revelation 21:1-7

You know how your story ends if you're in Christ: victory, joy, resurrection life. Yet you're living in the middle chapters where loss and pain feel overwhelming. The disciples couldn't believe in resurrection on Saturday because Friday's crucifixion was too fresh. But Sunday came. Your Sunday is coming too. Every tear will be wiped away. Every wrong will be made right. Death will be swallowed up in victory. This isn't wishful thinking; it's the promise of the One who defeated death. Let this future reality transform your present perspective. You can endure the middle when you know the ending. Walk today with resurrection confidence. The same power that raised Jesus is at work in you, turning your mourning into dancing, your ashes into beauty.