

5 Day Devotional

GRACE
COMMUNITY | CHURCH

Day 1: Chosen and Adopted

Reading: Ephesians 1:3-14

Devotional: Before you accomplished anything, before you proved yourself worthy, God chose you. This isn't about your performance but His grace. Paul reminds us that we are adopted into God's family—not as distant relatives, but as beloved children with full inheritance rights. Today, reject the lie that your worth comes from achievement or approval. You don't work to become God's child; you work from that identity. Pause and let this truth sink in: you are chosen, adopted, and sealed with the Holy Spirit. This is who you are. How does believing this change the way you approach today's challenges? Write down one old identity marker you need to set aside and replace it with this truth: "I am God's chosen child."

Day 2: Made New in Your Mind

Reading: Romans 12:1-2; Ephesians 4:17-24

Devotional: Transformation doesn't begin with trying harder; it begins with thinking differently. Paul insists we must no longer think like those disconnected from God. Our old patterns of thinking—rooted in shame, fear, or worldly values—produce futile living. But God offers renewal at the deepest level: our minds. The Holy Spirit wants to reshape how you perceive yourself, God, and your circumstances. This week, pay attention to your thought patterns. When you catch yourself defining your identity by past failures, others' opinions, or cultural standards, stop and ask: "What does God say is true about me?" Spend time reading Ephesians 1-3 and underline every identity statement. Let Scripture, not experience, define you. Renewal starts in your mind.

Day 3: Putting Off the Old Self

Reading: Colossians 3:1-17

Devotional: Imagine wearing a rotting corpse as clothing—repulsive, right? Yet Paul says this is what we do when we cling to our old identity. That person died when you were baptized into Christ. Why resurrect what God has buried? Your past sins, your former shame, your old ways of coping—these no longer define you. Today, identify one specific "garment" of your old self you keep putting back

on. Perhaps it's bitterness, insecurity, or the need to control. Consciously "take it off" through confession and repentance. Then "put on" the new self by declaring who Christ says you are: forgiven, holy, dearly loved. This isn't pretending; it's agreeing with God's reality. You are a new creation—live like it.

Day 4: Created Like God

Reading: Genesis 1:26-27; Ephesians 2:1-10

Devotional: You are God's masterpiece, His handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for good works. This isn't self-improvement; it's new creation. God hasn't merely modified your old self—He's made you entirely new, fashioned to reflect His image in true righteousness and holiness. This feels impossible when you focus on your shortcomings, but that's backwards thinking. Don't let your current experience dictate your identity; let your identity shape your experience. You are like God in righteousness—not because you've achieved it, but because Christ has given it to you. Today, instead of asking "Why do I keep failing?" ask "Who does God say I am, and how do I live from that truth?" The Holy Spirit provides everything you need to become who God declares you are.

Day 5: Living From Your Identity

Reading: Ephesians 4:1-6, 25-32

Devotional: Paul finally gets to behavior in Ephesians 4, but notice the order: three chapters on identity, then application. We don't behave rightly to become something; we behave according to what we already are. Dogs bark because they're dogs. New creations in Christ live in righteousness because that's who they are. The question isn't "What must I do to be accepted?" but "How do I live out who I already am?" This week, when tempted toward old patterns, pause and remember: "I am a saint, filled with the Holy Spirit, seated with Christ, God's dwelling place." Then ask, "Does this behavior match who I am?" You'll stumble, but keep returning to your true identity. Transformation is a journey of increasingly living from who God says you are. Start today by declaring one identity truth over yourself and living accordingly.