

# 5 Day Devotional Guide

*The God Who Is Salvation*

**Day 1: The God Who Is With Us** | Scripture: Exodus 3:13-15, Matthew 1:23, Isaiah 7:14, John 1:1-4

Devotional: When God introduces Himself to Moses, He doesn't allow a distant, difficult and different statement to stand alone. He says "I AM" and then immediately connects Himself to real people with real stories. Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, stories Moses knew and held tightly. God wants us to know Him not as a God up there, but as a personal Father who enters into relationship with His people. He uses the stories of flawed, struggling humans to reveal His character. Today, consider how God has revealed Himself in your own story. What has He shown you about His faithfulness through your experiences? God doesn't just want you to know about Him; He wants you to know Him, the great I AM who is with you.

**Day 2: From Striving to Resting** | Genesis 32:24-28

Devotional: Jacob's wrestling match with God reveals a profound truth: when we wrestle with God, we learn to rest with God. Jacob refused to let go until he received a blessing, and God transformed him from "heel-grabber" to "prince with God." Many of us approach our relationship with God like Esau, striving, working, trying to earn approval through our efforts. But God invites us to be like Jacob, clinging to His promises rather than our performance. Wrestling with God isn't about fighting against Him; it's about refusing to let go of Him. Where are you striving in your own strength today? What would it look like to stop working for God's approval and start clinging to His promises instead?

**Day 3: Looking Up When Facts Look Down** | Scripture: Genesis 3:15, Matthew 1:20-21

Devotional: From the very beginning, God promised a Seed who would crush the serpent's head while being struck at the heel. Throughout the Old Testament, people waited for this promise to be fulfilled. Then came Jesus, whose very name means "He will save His people from their sins." The promise given in Genesis found its fulfillment in the manger and ultimately at the cross. Jesus is the heel that crushes sin while being crushed by it. But because He is God, death couldn't hold Him. This Christmas season, remember that the greatest gift isn't just God's presence, but God's salvation. Jesus didn't come merely to be near us, but to save us from our sins and invite us into His rest.

**Day 4: You Have to Get Low to Grab the Heel** | Scripture: Philippians 2:5-11

Devotional: To grasp someone's heel, you must humble yourself and get low. You cannot reach a heel while standing proud and tall. This is the posture Christ invites us into. Following Christ is not prideful striving, but humble clinging. Remarkably, Jesus Himself took this posture first. He humbled Himself, took on human flesh, and went to the cross. He became the ultimate "Jacob," the supplanter who takes our place. When we throw ourselves at the feet of Jesus in humility, acknowledging we cannot save ourselves, He lifts us up and calls us "princes with God." Stop trying to stand on your own strength today. Get low. Grasp His heel. Let Him be your Savior, your strength, your righteousness. True strength comes not from standing tall, but from clinging tightly to the One who has all power.

**Day 5: Reigning Through Rest** | Scripture: Romans 16:20; Deuteronomy 30:19-20; Ephesians 2:11-13

Devotional: God's invitation has always been clear: "Choose life... cling to Him, for He is your life." When we cling to Jesus, something miraculous happens—He transforms us from wrestlers to rulers. The God of peace crushes Satan under our feet. Not because of our strength, but because we've learned to rest in His. This is the paradox of the kingdom: we reign by resting, we overcome by clinging, we find strength in surrender. Jacob became Israel, Prince with God, not through his own might, but through his refusal to let go of God. As you close this devotional journey, ask yourself: Am I still striving like Esau, or am I resting like Israel? The Christian life isn't about exhausting yourself for God; it's about clinging to the God who has already won the victory.