5 Day Devotional: The Evidence of Genuine Salvation

Day 1: The Danger of a False Resume **Reading: Matthew 7:21-23; 2 Corinthians 13:5-6** **Devotional:** It is possible to accumulate an impressive spiritual record and still miss the most important thing. Jesus warned that many who performed works in His name would hear the most terrifying words imaginable: that He never knew them. The apostle Paul did not write to the Corinthians to shame them but to protect them. He urged them to examine whether their faith was genuine, not merely familiar. Religion can be inherited, performed, and displayed without ever being possessed. The question is not whether your name appears on a church roll. The question is whether Christ lives in you. Examine your faith today, not your religious resume.

Day 2: The Miracle of Being Made Alive **Reading: Ephesians 2:4-5; Colossians 2:13; John 6:63** **Devotional:** The biblical word translated "quickened" carries the weight of resurrection. It means to make alive, to restore, to repair what was broken beyond human repair. Scripture is clear that before God intervened, we were not merely wounded or weakened by sin. We were dead. Dead people cannot generate their own spiritual life any more than a grave can empty itself. But God, who is rich in mercy and driven by a love that defies human comprehension, reached into that death and breathed life into those who had none. This is not a story about human potential. It is a story about divine rescue. The life you now live, if you are in Christ, is not your own achievement. It is His gift.

Day 3: The Tests That Reveal True Life **Reading:** 1 John 2:3-6; 1 John 3:14; Romans 8:9, 14-16 **Devotional:** John did not write his letters to create doubt among genuine believers. He wrote to expose the difference between those who profess Christ and those who possess Him. He gave his readers measurable, observable evidence to examine. Does obedience mark your life in a growing pattern? Do you love fellow believers with a love that goes beyond preference or convenience? Does the Spirit of God bear witness within your spirit that you belong to the Father? These are not tests designed to condemn the struggling saint. They are signposts that point toward real transformation. A tree is known by its fruit, and a life reborn by the Spirit will bear the Spirit's unmistakable marks over time.

Day 4: The Honest Believer and the Faithful God **Reading: 1 John 1:8-10; Psalm 119:37** **Devotional:** One of the most telling marks of genuine salvation is not moral perfection but honest confession. The person who claims to have no sin does not demonstrate spiritual maturity. They demonstrate self-deception. Genuine believers are not people who never fall. They are people who refuse to stay down and refuse to pretend the fall never happened. They bring their sin to the light, not to earn forgiveness, but because they trust the One who already paid for it. God is described in 1 John 1:9 as faithful and just to forgive. His faithfulness is not contingent on yours. His cleansing is not partial. The repentant heart is not a sign of weak faith. It is one of its strongest evidences.

Day 5: Rest in the Son **Reading: 1 John 5:11-13; 2 Corinthians 5:15** **Devotional:** John wrote with pastoral clarity and deliberate purpose: so that those who believe in the name of the Son of God may know they have eternal life. Not suspect it. Not hope for it on good days and dread its absence on bad ones. Know it. But notice where that assurance is anchored. It is not anchored in the consistency of your feelings, the length of your church attendance, or the absence of doubt. It is anchored in the Son. Whoever has the Son has life. The most dangerous spiritual deception may be the one that convinces us we need no rescue. The most liberating truth is that rescue has already come, and His name is Jesus. Do you know Him, or do you only know about Him? **Personal Reflection:** Is your assurance of salvation grounded in Jesus and His promise, or is it grounded in something about yourself that could shift tomorrow?