

5-Day Devotional: From Eden to the Cross

Day 1: God's Perfect Provision Reading: Genesis 2:4-17

Devotional: Before sin entered the world, God created a perfect garden where every need was abundantly met. Eden wasn't just beautiful—it was a picture of God's generous heart toward His people. He didn't create a barren wilderness but a thriving paradise. Even the one restriction God gave wasn't meant to withhold good but to protect life itself. Today, reflect on how God continues to provide for you. What blessings surround you that you've taken for granted? God's provision hasn't stopped since Eden; it's culminated in Christ, our greatest gift. Take time to list specific ways God has cared for you this week, and thank Him for His faithful provision that never ceases.

Day 2: The Anatomy of Temptation Reading: Genesis 3:1-7; 1 John 2:15-17

Devotional: Eve's temptation reveals a pattern that persists today: the lust of the eyes, the lust of the flesh, and the pride of life. The fruit looked good, promised satisfaction, and offered god-like wisdom. Satan's tactics haven't changed in thousands of years because they still work. He questions God's goodness, twists His words, and promises fulfillment apart from obedience. Where are these three temptations showing up in your life? Is it through social media comparison, material desires, or self-reliance? Recognizing the pattern is the first step to resistance. Jesus faced these same temptations in the wilderness and overcame through God's Word. Arm yourself daily with Scripture to stand firm against the enemy's ancient schemes.

Day 3: God Seeks the Sinner Reading: Genesis 3:8-13; Luke 19:10

Devotional: After their sin, Adam and Eve hid in shame. But notice: God came looking for them. "Where are you?" wasn't asked because God didn't know their location—He wanted them to recognize their spiritual condition. This is the heart of our God: He pursues sinners. He doesn't wait for us to clean ourselves up before approaching Him. Even in their rebellion, God sought them with a question that invited confession. Jesus continued this mission, declaring He came "to seek and save the lost." Are you hiding from God today because of shame or guilt? Stop running. He's already seeking you, ready to cover your shame with His grace. Confession isn't about punishment—it's about restoration.

Day 4: Covered by Sacrifice Reading: Genesis 3:21; Hebrews 9:22-28

Devotional: Fig leaves weren't enough to cover Adam and Eve's shame. God provided garments of animal skin—requiring the first death in creation. An innocent creature died so they could be covered. This wasn't just practical clothing; it was prophetic symbolism pointing to Calvary. Every Old Testament sacrifice whispered, "This isn't enough," until Jesus declared, "It is finished." His blood covers what our best efforts never could.

When you feel inadequate or ashamed, remember: you're not covered by your good works or religious performance. You're covered by Christ's perfect sacrifice. That covering is complete, permanent, and sufficient. Let this truth silence the voice that says you need to do more to earn God's acceptance.

Day 5: One Man's Obedience Reading: Romans 5:12-21

Devotional: Adam's disobedience brought death to all humanity. But praise God—the story doesn't end there! Through Christ's obedience, righteousness is offered to all who believe. Where the first Adam failed, the last Adam succeeded. This isn't just historical theology; it's personal hope. You're not defined by your failures or your family's dysfunction. Through faith in Jesus, you're made righteous—not partially, not eventually, but completely. Justification declares you innocent; sanctification transforms you daily into Christ's likeness. Both are gifts of grace. As you walk through today, remember whose obedience defines you. Let Christ's victory over sin fuel your confidence and shape your identity. You are not who you were; you are who He says you are.