5 Day Devotional July 13, 2025 AM Sermon "Overcoming Because of Jesus Pt. 8"

Day 1: God's Love and Sacrifice

Reading: Romans 5:6-11

Devotional: Today's reading reminds us of the profound love God has for us. Even when we were still sinners, Christ died for us. This sacrificial love mirrors what we learned about Paul's attitude in Colossians 1:24, where he rejoiced in his sufferings for the sake of others. Reflect on how God's love has transformed your life. How can you demonstrate this sacrificial love to others today? Consider ways you might "suffer" or sacrifice for the benefit of someone else, whether it's giving up your time, comfort, or resources. Remember, our ability to love others sacrificially stems from the love we've received from Christ.

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Day 2: The Hope of Glory

Reading: Colossians 1:24-27

Devotional: Paul speaks of a mystery now revealed: "Christ in you, the hope of glory." This indwelling presence of Christ is our guarantee of salvation and future glory. In your current circumstances, how does the reality of Christ living in you provide hope? Whether you're facing challenges or experiencing joy, remember that Christ's presence is constant. Take a moment to thank God for this incredible gift. How might you live differently today, knowing that the hope of glory resides within you? Look for opportunities to share this hope with others who may be struggling.

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Day 3: God's Presence in Suffering

Reading: 2 Corinthians 1:3-7

Devotional: Today's passage reveals how God comforts us in our afflictions, enabling us to comfort others. Paul's perspective on suffering wasn't just about enduring it, but seeing it as a means to minister to others. Reflect on a difficult experience you've had. How has God comforted you through it? Consider how that experience might equip you to help someone facing a similar struggle. Pray for opportunities to use your past pain as a platform for ministering to others, and for the courage to be vulnerable in sharing your story.

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Day 4: The Call to Spiritual Maturity

Reading: Ephesians 4:11-16

Devotional: This passage emphasizes the importance of spiritual growth and maturity within the body of Christ. As we learned from the sermon, God has given each of us gifts to be used for the benefit of all. What spiritual gifts has God given you? How are you using them to serve others and build up the church? Consider areas where you might need to "step up" in your faith, taking on more responsibility or serving in new ways. Pray for wisdom in discerning how God wants to use you, and for the courage to say "yes" to His calling.

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Day 5: Living with Eternal Perspective

Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

Devotional: Paul encourages us to focus on the unseen, eternal realities rather than our temporary circumstances. This perspective allows us to endure present sufferings with hope and joy. How might your daily decisions change if you consistently viewed life through an eternal lens? Consider an area of your life where you're struggling or feeling discouraged. How does an eternal perspective shift your view of this situation? Pray for God to deepen your faith and strengthen your ability to trust Him, even when you can't see the immediate results. Look for ways to encourage others today by reminding them of the eternal hope we have in Christ.