

**5 Day Devotional**  
**May 10, 2026 AM Sermon**  
**“God knows the real me”**

**Day 1:** The Promise of Rest

**Reading:** Hebrews 4:9-11

**Devotional:** God offers a rest that transcends our circumstances and past failures. The Israelites stood at the edge of the Promised Land but refused to enter because of fear. Their mistake doesn't have to be yours. Spiritual rest isn't about perfect performance or a flawless past—it's about trusting God completely. Today, God invites you to cease striving in your own strength and enter His rest through faith in Jesus Christ. Your past mistakes, your current struggles, and your deepest regrets do not disqualify you from receiving God's gift of rest. The question isn't whether rest is available, but whether you'll stop trying to earn it and simply receive it through faith.

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**Day 2:** Hungry for God

**Reading:** 1 Peter 2:1-3

**Devotional:** A newborn baby doesn't negotiate about when to eat—when hunger strikes, they cry out immediately. Peter uses this powerful image to describe authentic spiritual life. When you've truly tasted that the Lord is good, you develop an insatiable appetite for His Word. This isn't about religious obligation or checking boxes; it's about genuine desire. If you find yourself indifferent to Scripture, uninterested in prayer, or apathetic about God's presence, it's time for honest evaluation. True salvation produces hunger. Ask yourself: Do I crave God's Word like a baby craves milk? Your spiritual appetite reveals the condition of your heart. God doesn't want duty—He wants desire born from relationship.

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**Day 3:** The Sword That Heals

**Reading:** Hebrews 4:12-13

**Devotional:** God's Word functions like a surgeon's scalpel—it cuts with precision to expose what's hidden and heal what's broken. This isn't meant to condemn but to transform. The Bible reveals our true condition: the unforgiveness we've picked back up, the pride we've secretly harbored, the compromises we've rationalized. Nothing is hidden from God's sight, yet this truth isn't meant to drive us away in shame—it should draw us near in honesty. Like a skilled physician, God uses His Word to diagnose accurately so He can heal completely. When Scripture convicts you, that's evidence of God's love at work, not His rejection. Conviction is the pathway to freedom, and transparency before God leads to transformation.

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**Day 4:** No Creature Hidden

**Reading:** Romans 2:1-11

**Devotional:** Accountability before God is inescapable. Every person—regardless of how they identify, what they believe, or how they live—will stand before their Creator. This reality should sober us but also comfort us. Why comfort? Because God, who knows absolutely everything about you, has already made provision for your redemption through Jesus Christ. You cannot hide, disguise, or excuse yourself before an all-knowing God. But here's the glorious truth: you don't have to. God saw every sin you would commit and still sent Jesus to die for you. The same God who will judge all things has offered you complete forgiveness. There are no surprises with God, only opportunities for grace.

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**Day 5:** Loved Anyway

**Reading:** Romans 5:6-11

**Devotional:** God's love defies human logic. While we were still sinners—actively rebelling, deliberately disobeying, willfully rejecting Him—Christ died for us. This is the scandal of grace: God doesn't love you because you're good; He loves you while you're still a mess. Your mother might love you despite your failures, but God's love surpasses even that. He knows the secret thoughts, hidden sins, and darkest moments of your life, and His response is the cross. Jesus didn't die for the person you're pretending to be; He died for the real you—the broken, struggling, imperfect you. Stop performing and start receiving. God's love isn't something you earn; it's something you accept. Today, let this truth transform you: God knows everything and loves you anyway.