5-Day Bible Reading Plan and Devotional Guide

Based on John 14:15-31 and Supporting Themes

Day 1: You Are Not an Orphan

Reading: John 14:15-18

Devotional: Jesus looked at his disciples in their darkest hour and promised them something extraordinary: they would not be left alone. He did not merely promise to check in on them. He promised a permanent, indwelling presence. Whatever you are facing today, God has not abandoned you. The feeling of being forgotten, left behind, or forsaken does not reflect your reality in Christ. You have been sealed with His Spirit, and that Spirit does not clock in and clock out. You are not wandering without a Father. You are not an orphan. You are His, and He is in you.

Reflection: In what area of your life have you been living as though God has left you alone?

Application: Write down one circumstance where you have felt abandoned. Then write beside it the truth from John 14:18, summarizing Christ's promise that He will not leave you without a helper and comforter.

Day 2: Another the Same

Reading: John 14:25-26; Romans 8:9-11

Devotional: When Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit, He used a word meaning another of the exact same kind. The Helper coming would not be a lesser substitute. He would be equal in comfort, equal in power, equal in love. Romans 8 reminds us that if the Spirit of God dwells in you, the same power that raised Christ from the dead is at work in your life. You do not have a portion of God. You have God Himself. This is not a truth reserved for spiritually elite believers. Every person who belongs to Christ has the full presence of the Holy Spirit.

Reflection: Do you live as though the resurrection power of the Holy Spirit is actually at work inside of you?

Application: Throughout today, pause before a difficult conversation, a hard decision, or a moment of temptation and silently acknowledge the Holy Spirit's presence. Ask Him specifically to lead you in that moment.

Day 3: A Peace the World Cannot Give

Reading: John 14:27; Philippians 4:6-7

Devotional: The peace Jesus offers is not circumstantial. The world's version of peace depends entirely on what is happening around you. When things settle, peace arrives. When things unravel, peace disappears. But Christ offers His own peace, the very peace that allowed Him to wash a betrayer's feet and comfort grieving friends while hours away from the cross. Philippians 4 describes this peace as one that surpasses all understanding, standing guard over your heart and mind. It is not the absence of storms. It is the settled confidence that the One who is sovereign over every storm dwells within you.

Reflection: Are you waiting for your circumstances to change before you allow yourself to experience peace?

Application: Identify one specific anxiety you are carrying today. Follow the pattern described in Philippians 4:6 by bringing it to God in prayer with thanksgiving, then rest in the promise that His peace will guard your heart.

Day 4: Satan Has No Claim on You

Reading: John 14:30-31; Romans 8:31-39

Devotional: In the middle of comforting His disciples, Jesus made a stunning declaration. The ruler of this world was coming, and yet Satan had no claim on Him. He was not walking to the cross as a victim. He was walking in obedience, out of love for the Father. Romans 8 echoes this truth for every believer: nothing in all of creation can separate you from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Your circumstances do not have the final word. Your failures do not have the final word. The enemy does not have the final word. Christ has already spoken it, and He has won.

Reflection: What circumstance in your life have you allowed to speak louder than the victory of Christ?

Application: Write out Romans 8:37 in your own words, personalizing it to your current situation. Read it aloud as a declaration of faith, not a feeling, but a fact rooted in what Christ has accomplished.

Day 5: This Is the Day

Reading: Psalm 118:1-29; 2 Corinthians 1:3-5

Devotional: On the night He was betrayed, Jesus and His disciples sang Psalm 118 before walking out into the darkness. He sang of steadfast love, of being pushed hard and nearly falling, of the rejected stone becoming the cornerstone, and of rejoicing in the day the Lord had made. He sang it while headed to the cross. This is what faith in action looks like. It is not singing when everything is easy. It is singing when everything is hard, because you know who is sovereign over the day. God is the Father of all comfort, and He meets you in your affliction with the same abundance He offers in joy.

Reflection: What would it look like for you to choose praise today, not because your circumstances have changed, but because your God has not?

Application: Read Psalm 118 in full today. Mark every verse that speaks directly to something you are currently walking through. Let it become your prayer, your declaration, and your song for the week ahead.

The Comfort of the Indwelling God

John 14:15–31

There are days when rejoicing feels easy. The sun is rising, the coffee is hot, relationships are peaceful, and the path ahead seems clear.

And then there are days when the last thing we want to hear is, “This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.”

Sometimes life feels too heavy for singing. We look around at our circumstances, our families, our marriages, our workplaces, our world, and we wonder: *What is happening? Why does everything feel so dark? Where is God in all of this?*

That is not a foreign feeling to followers of Jesus.

In John 14, the disciples are in the upper room with Jesus. He has washed their feet. Judas has left to betray Him. The cross is only hours away. Jesus has told them He is going away, and their hearts are troubled. They have left everything to follow Him, and now He is talking about leaving them.

They are confused. Afraid. Hurting. Uncertain.

And what does Jesus do?

Though He is the One about to suffer, though He is hours away from betrayal, torture, and crucifixion, His heart is turned toward comforting His disciples.

That is the heart of our God.

Jesus Does Not Leave Us Alone

Jesus tells His disciples:

> “I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever.”
> — John 14:16

The “Helper” is the Holy Spirit. Jesus makes that clear in verse 26:

> “But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name…”
> — John 14:26

The Holy Spirit is not a vague force or symbol. He is God. He is a person of the Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. He teaches, comforts, guides, convicts, reminds, empowers, and dwells within believers.

Jesus says the Father will send "another Helper." That word "another" matters. Jesus is not saying the Father will send a different kind of helper. He is saying the Father will send another Helper of the same kind.

In other words, the Holy Spirit continues the comforting, teaching, guiding, strengthening ministry of Jesus—not merely beside us, but within us.

Jesus tells His disciples:

"I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you."
— John 14:18

That is a deeply personal promise. Jesus does not abandon His people. He does not leave us fatherless, leaderless, or alone. If we belong to Christ, the Spirit of God dwells in us forever.

The Spirit Dwells Within Believers

Jesus says:

"You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you."
— John 14:17

Before the cross and resurrection, the disciples had Jesus with them. But after Jesus returned to the Father, the Holy Spirit would come to dwell in them.

This is one of the most beautiful realities of the Christian life: God Himself makes His home in His people.

Jesus says:

"If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him."
— John 14:23

God does not clock in and out of the believer's life. We are not merely His workplace. We are His home.

When a person hears the gospel, trusts in Christ, and is saved, that person is sealed with the Holy Spirit.

> "In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit."
> — Ephesians 1:13

This is true for every believer. The Holy Spirit is not reserved for some spiritually elite class of Christians. If you belong to Christ, you have the Spirit of Christ.

And if you do not have the Spirit, you do not belong to Christ.

> "Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him."
> — Romans 8:9

So the question for us is not merely, "Do I know about the Holy Spirit?" The question is: *Have I trusted Christ? Does the Spirit of God dwell in me? Am I yielded to Him?*

Love and Obedience Go Together

Throughout this passage, Jesus repeatedly connects love and obedience.

> "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."
> — John 14:15

This is not Jesus saying we earn His love by obeying Him. Rather, obedience is the fruit of genuine love for Christ.

Those who love Jesus desire to follow Jesus.

And Jesus Himself models this. At the end of the chapter, He says:

> "I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father."
> — John 14:31

Jesus is about to walk toward the cross in obedience to the Father. He is not being overpowered by Satan. He is not losing control of the story. He is obeying the Father out of love.

And He calls His disciples to follow Him in that same kind of love-filled obedience.

Jesus Gives Us His Peace

Jesus not only gives His Spirit; He gives His peace.

> "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you."
> — John 14:27

The world's peace is based on circumstances. If things are going well, we feel peaceful. If things are falling apart, peace disappears.

But Jesus gives a different kind of peace.

He gives *His* peace.

This is the peace that allowed Him to sit at a table with His disciples, knowing betrayal was coming. This is the peace that allowed Him to wash the feet of Judas. This is the peace that allowed Him to walk toward the cross in obedience to the Father.

The world says peace comes when the storm stops.

Jesus gives peace in the middle of the storm.

Christian peace is not rooted in circumstances. It is rooted in the sovereign Christ who rules over every circumstance.

That is why Jesus can say:

> "Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid."
> — John 14:27

Not because life will always be easy. Not because suffering will disappear. Not because the cross will be avoided.

But because His Spirit is with us, His peace is given to us, and Satan has no claim on Him.

Satan Has No Claim on Christ

Near the end of the passage, Jesus says:

> “The ruler of this world is coming. He has no claim on me.”
> — John 14:30

That is victory language.

Satan is coming. Betrayal is coming. Arrest is coming. The cross is coming. But Satan is not winning.

Jesus is not a victim of circumstances. He is the obedient Son of God, laying down His life willingly.

And because Satan has no claim on Christ, Satan has no final claim on those who belong to Christ.

So, believer, whatever circumstance you are walking through, you can say with confidence: *Satan has no claim on me*.

Your marriage may be struggling. Your grief may be deep. Your anxiety may be real. Your loneliness may feel overwhelming. Your circumstances may not change overnight.

But if you are in Christ, you are not abandoned. You are not orphaned. You are not defeated.

The Spirit of God dwells in you, and the peace of Christ is given to you.

This Is the Day the Lord Has Made

Before Jesus and His disciples left the upper room, Matthew tells us they sang a hymn before going to the Mount of Olives.

Most likely, they sang from the Hallel Psalms, including Psalm 118.

Imagine Jesus singing these words on the way to the cross:

> “The Lord is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do to me?”
> — Psalm 118:6

“The Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation.”
— Psalm 118:14

“The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.”
— Psalm 118:22

And then:

“This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.”
— Psalm 118:24

The day of betrayal. The day before the cross. The day of sorrow, pain, and darkness.

Still, it was the day the Lord had made.

And Jesus walked into it with peace, obedience, and joy.

An Untroubled Heart

Jesus offers His people real comfort—not shallow optimism, not denial, not temporary distraction.

He gives us Himself.

He gives us His Spirit.
He gives us His peace.
He gives us His presence.
He gives us the promise that we are not alone.

So when your heart is troubled, remember the upper room. Remember the cross. Remember the risen Christ. Remember that the Spirit of God dwells in you.

And by His grace, even in the storm, you can say:

It is well with my soul.