

5-Day Devotional: Journey to the Promised Land

Day 1: The Call to Leave Everything Behind

Reading: Genesis 12:1-9

Devotional: When God called Abram, He asked him to leave behind everything familiar—his country, his relatives, his father's house. This wasn't just a geographical move; it was a picture of true repentance. Like Abram, we are called to turn from the kingdom of darkness and walk toward the kingdom of light. This journey requires us to examine what holds us back—comfortable relationships, cultural expectations, or personal ambitions that compete with God's purposes. Repentance means changing direction entirely, walking away from one land toward another we cannot yet see. What is God asking you to leave behind today? Remember, nothing should hinder your walk toward Him. The temporary things of this world—even good things—cannot compare to the eternal inheritance awaiting you. Take inventory of what you're clinging to and ask God for courage to release it.

Day 2: Living as Aliens and Strangers

Reading: Hebrews 11:8-16

Devotional: Abraham lived as an alien in the land of promise, dwelling in tents, never fully settling. This is our calling too—to recognize that this world is not our permanent home. We live in temporary dwellings, waiting for "a city which has foundations, whose architect and builder is God." This perspective transforms how we approach everything: our homes, careers, relationships, and possessions. We can enjoy these blessings without being enslaved by them. When we truly grasp our alien status, we hold earthly things loosely, knowing they'll pass to someone else when we're gone. Yet this doesn't mean withdrawal from life—Abraham still lived, built, planted, and raised a family. We're called to engage fully in this world while keeping our citizenship in heaven. How does understanding your temporary status here change your priorities? Live fully, but invest eternally.

Day 3: The Gospel of the Kingdom

Reading: Matthew 4:17-25; Matthew 6:25-34

Devotional: Jesus proclaimed the gospel of the kingdom, calling people not just to forgiveness but to a new way of life under God's rule. "Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness," He commanded. The kingdom isn't merely a future destination; it's a present reality we enter through Christ. When we receive

salvation through Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection, we simultaneously enter this kingdom journey. We become sanctified and glorified children of the King, even while still in the flesh. This dual reality—living in a fallen world while belonging to God's kingdom—creates tension. We experience the "already but not yet" of God's reign. The Holy Spirit within us won't allow us to remain in darkness because God Himself dwells in us. What does it mean today to seek His kingdom first? It means aligning every decision, relationship, and ambition with His eternal purposes rather than temporary satisfaction.

Day 4: Sanctification: The Journey Home

Reading: Romans 8:28-39

Devotional: God's process of conforming us to Christ's image is both glorious and challenging. We are predestined, called, justified, and glorified—yet we still stumble. The beauty of sanctification is that God never gives up on completing what He started. When we fall into sin, we cannot stay there because the Spirit within us compels us back to the standard. This isn't about earning our salvation; it's about God's faithfulness to finish His work in us. You are a sanctified, glorified child of the King right now, not because of your performance but because of His presence in you. There is no darkness in God, and He has sealed Himself to you. When you wander, He draws you back. When you fall, He lifts you up. Nothing can separate you from His love. How does knowing you're already glorified in God's eyes change how you view your struggles today?

Day 5: Faithful Citizenship in Two Kingdoms

Reading: Jeremiah 29:4-14; Romans 13:1-7

Devotional: As citizens of heaven living on earth, we have dual responsibilities. Jeremiah instructed exiles to build houses, plant gardens, marry, have children, and seek the welfare of Babylon—the very place of their captivity. Similarly, we must engage responsibly in our earthly nation while never forgetting our true home. This means voting for the good of the country, praying for leaders (even those we disagree with), and understanding that God appoints all authorities for His purposes. Sometimes leaders are placed to bless; sometimes to refine us through difficulty. We cannot complain if we don't participate, and we shouldn't complain anyway when we recognize God's sovereignty. Yet our ultimate allegiance remains with Christ. As knowledge increases and truth is revealed, we must point others away from earthly solutions to the only true Savior. How can you be a responsible citizen today while maintaining your primary identity as a kingdom ambassador? Engage faithfully, pray consistently, and always point toward the eternal city.

