

5-Day Bible Reading Plan and Devotional Guide

Union With Christ: Abiding in the Life That Cannot Be Undone

Day 1: A New Location

Reading: Romans 6:1-4

Devotional: The Christian life is not a self-improvement project. It is a relocation. Paul's language in Romans 6 is not the language of moral reform but of radical displacement. You are no longer in Adam. You are in Christ. Think of Nicander's illustration of the cucumber submerged in vinegar until it becomes a pickle, permanently and fundamentally changed. That is what the Holy Spirit has done in the believer. Your sin no longer defines your address. Christ does. Spend time today asking yourself honestly: Do I live as though my location has changed, or do I still act as a resident of the old life?

Day 2: Buried and Raised

Reading: Colossians 2:9-14

Devotional: Paul teaches in Colossians that the believer has been buried with Christ and raised with Him through faith in the working of God. This is not poetry. It is theology with weight. Because Christ is eternal and not bound by space or time, His death, burial, and resurrection are not merely historical events we observe from a distance. They are events in which the believer participates by virtue of union with Him. His story becomes your story. What He accomplished, you share in. Today, meditate on the reality that your old self was buried, and the life you now live is resurrection life.

Day 3: The Meaning of the Table

Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:14-17

Devotional: The Lord's Supper is not a ritual of mere historical remembrance. Paul uses the word *koinonia*, meaning participation, fellowship, and shared life. When believers gather at

the table, they are not simply recalling something that happened to someone else two thousand years ago. They are actively sharing in the benefits, the power, and the life generated by Christ's death and resurrection. His memory is meant to be our memory because His story is meant to be our story. Before you next receive communion, pause and ask yourself whether you are approaching the table as a participant in Christ or merely as an observer of Him.

Day 4: Clothed in Righteousness

Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Devotional: Paul declares in 2 Corinthians 5:21 that God made Christ, who knew no sin, to be sin on our behalf, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God. This is the great exchange at the heart of the gospel. Your sin was placed upon Christ. His righteousness was placed upon you. This is not a transaction you completed. It is a gift you received. As one pastor observed, Christ did not merely die for us. He died as us. Today, resist the temptation to earn what has already been given. Rest in the righteousness that is yours through union with Christ alone.

Day 5: One Bread, One Body

Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

Devotional: Because every believer shares in the one bread, the one Christ, they are bound to one another in a way the world cannot manufacture. Grief shared becomes lighter. Joy shared becomes fuller. Work shared becomes possible. This is not simply church membership. It is covenant life. The church covenant does not replace Scripture. It is the agreement of a local body of believers to live out the new covenant together, in the same direction, with the same Lord. Today, consider whether you are genuinely participating in the life of your local body or merely attending it. Union with Christ produces union with His people.