

5-Day Devotional: *Bound For The Promised Land*

Day 1 — God's Timing Begins

Verse:

"The Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I will begin to exalt you in the sight of all Israel, that they may know that, as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. And as for you, command the priests who bear the ark of the covenant, 'When you come to the brink of the waters of the Jordan, you shall stand still in the Jordan.'"

— Joshua 3:7–8 (ESV)

Reflection:

God's timing almost never mirrors ours. Israel had waited over 400 years to step into the land they were promised in Genesis 12. Now — "today" — God says the time has come. Not during the dry season when the river was low, but at flood stage when it looked impossible. God doesn't work around obstacles; He works through them. When He says it's time, He makes a way.

Questions:

1. Where have you been waiting for God to move and wondering why it hasn't happened yet?
2. How does it change your perspective to remember that God's timing doesn't have to make sense to you to be perfect?
3. What step of obedience might God be asking you to take "today"?

Prayer:

Lord, help me trust Your timing even when it feels late, confusing, or inconvenient. Give me faith to follow when You say "today," even if the waters still look high. Amen.

Day 2 — Waiting with Perspective

Verse:

"But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance."
— 2 Peter 3:8–9 (ESV)

Reflection:

Waiting is hard, whether it's for healing, breakthrough, answers, or direction. Israel waited centuries for what God promised. We often assume delay means denial, but Scripture reminds us: God is not slow — He's purposeful. His timing is tied to His love, His patience, and His desire to redeem.

Questions:

1. What are you tempted to believe about God when you don't see movement?
2. How might your current waiting season be an expression of God's patience and care rather than His absence?
3. Where do you need to release your timeline and accept His?

Prayer:

Father, reshape how I view waiting. When I'm restless or discouraged, remind me that Your delays are not neglect — they are love. Help me trust Your pace. Amen.

Day 3 — His Presence Is Enough

Verse:

"But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me."
— 2 Corinthians 12:9 (ESV)

Reflection:

In Joshua 3, the ark — the symbol of God's presence — leads the way into the Jordan. The waters don't part until the priests step in with the ark. Their success wasn't about strength, timing, or strategy — it was about presence. The same is true today. We don't need God plus better circumstances, God plus confidence, God plus control. His presence is enough, even when we feel weak, overlooked, afraid, or alone.

Questions:

1. Where are you tempted to think you need something besides God to be okay?
2. How have you seen His strength show up in your weakness before?
3. What would it look like today to believe His presence is sufficient?

Prayer:

Jesus, thank You that I don't walk into the waters alone. When I feel weak, remind me that Your grace is not barely enough — it is more than enough. Be my confidence today. Amen.

Day 4 — The Plan Has Always Been Jesus

Verse:

"...whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness..."

— Romans 3:25 (ESV)

Reflection:

The ark and its mercy seat pointed forward to something greater — not just a place of atonement once a year, but a person who would atone once for all. Jesus is the plan, not a backup plan. He is the bridge from slavery to freedom, wilderness to promise, death to life. Just as the ark stood firm in the Jordan so the people could cross, Jesus stands in the gap for us, bearing the weight we could never carry.

Questions:

1. Have you ever approached God like He needs your help to finish His plan?
2. What part of your life still tries to live on "Plan B," "Plan Plus," or "Plan Me"?
3. How does it change things to remember that salvation and security are not on your shoulders?

Prayer:

Jesus, thank You that You are not part of the plan — You are the plan. Help me stop trying to add to what You've already finished. Teach me to rest in what You've done. Amen.

Day 5 – From the Jordan to Forever

Verse:

"And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; and behold, a voice from heaven said, 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.'"
— Matthew 3:16–17 (ESV)

Plus:

"Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb..."
— Revelation 22:1 (ESV)

Reflection:

The same Jordan River that parted for Joshua is where Jesus stood centuries later — not to cross on dry land, but to step into the waters that symbolize death and chaos. He went down so we could come up. He entered judgment so we could enter promise. One day the story ends not with flood or fear, but with living water flowing from His throne forever. That's the destination.

Questions:

1. Where are you still trying to get across the water on your own strength?
2. How does knowing the ending — life with Him forever — change how you live right now?
3. What would trust look like today if you believed Jesus already made the way?

Prayer:

Lord, thank You that I don't have to make my own path to life — You already have. Help me walk as someone who is led, loved, and rescued. Keep my eyes on the One who stands in the river for me. Amen.