

5-Day Bible Reading Plan and Devotional Guide

Based on "The Cycles, The Charcoal, and The Commission"

Day 1: Breaking Out of the Boat

Reading: John 21:1-7

Devotional: Peter returned to what he knew best when clarity ran out. The boat, the nets, the familiar rhythm of fishing became his refuge when the path forward felt uncertain. Yet the night produced nothing. This is the nature of cycles: they feel safe, but they starve us. When purpose is unclear, old habits rush in to fill the void. God has not designed you to be a person of repetition but a person of purpose. Today, ask yourself honestly what boat you keep climbing back into. Comfort is not always provision. Sometimes the empty net is God's invitation to look toward the shore.

Personal Reflection: What familiar pattern do you return to when life feels unclear or overwhelming?

Practical Application: Write down one area of your life where you recognize a cycle. Pray specifically over that area today, asking God to give you clarity and direction to move forward.

Day 2: Jesus Is Standing on the Shore

Reading: John 21:4-8

Devotional: The disciples could not recognize Jesus standing on the beach at dawn. They were too focused on empty nets and a long, fruitless night. But Jesus was already there, already watching, already calling out to them. He did not wait for them to get themselves together before showing up. He showed up first. When the miracle of the fish repeated itself, it was not merely a provision of food. It was a reminder. Jesus was saying, remember the day I first found you here. Remember what I did then. He will repeat whatever miracle is necessary to get your attention and pull you out of where you are stuck.

Personal Reflection: Has God ever repeated a sign or a moment in your life to remind you of His calling? What was it?

Practical Application: Take time today to recall a specific moment when God first made Himself real to you. Journal about it. Let that memory become an anchor against the pull of your past failures.

Day 3: The Charcoal Fire

Reading: John 18:15-18 and John 21:9-14

Devotional: The charcoal fire in John 21 is not an accident of detail. It is a deliberate echo of the charcoal fire in John 18, the very place where Peter denied knowing Christ three times. Jesus did not choose a different setting for restoration. He chose the same one. He brought Peter back to the scene of the greatest failure and turned it into the setting of communion, warmth, and shared bread. This is the nature of God's grace. It does not avoid the broken places. It enters them and transforms them. The place that once held your shame can become the place that holds your greatest testimony.

Personal Reflection: Is there a painful memory or past failure that still defines how you see yourself? How might God want to reframe that memory?

Practical Application: Identify one "charcoal moment" in your life, a place of past failure or regret. Write a brief statement of what God has done or is doing in that very area. Speak it aloud as an act of faith.

Day 4: Do You Love Me

Reading: John 21:15-17

Devotional: Three denials. Three questions. This is not coincidence. Jesus was not being cruel by asking Peter the same question three times. He was being thorough. For every place Peter had broken the relationship, Jesus was rebuilding it. Complete denial met complete restoration. God does not offer partial redemption. He does not fix most of you and leave the rest in ruins. The blood of Christ was full payment for full restoration. If you have been living as though certain parts of your life are simply beyond repair, today is the day to challenge that belief. He asks you the same question He asked Peter: do you love me? Let your answer open the door to everything He wants to restore.

Personal Reflection: Are there areas of your life you have quietly decided God cannot or will not restore? What has kept you from surrendering those areas fully?

Practical Application: Pray through each area of your life where you feel broken or incomplete. For each one, speak aloud: "Lord, I believe you are restoring this." Let faith come by hearing your own declaration.

Day 5: Feed My Sheep

Reading: John 21:17-19 and Hebrews 12:1-2

Devotional: Restoration is never the final destination. It is always the launching point. Jesus did not restore Peter so that Peter could spend the rest of his life reflecting on how far he had come. He restored Peter so that Peter could go and do something greater than himself. Feed my lambs. Take care of my sheep. Feed my sheep. Three commands wrapped around a single truth: you were not redeemed to be idle. Every gift God placed in you, every trial He has brought you through, every cycle He has broken, it all becomes fuel for a purpose that extends beyond your own life. The race set before you is real. It is waiting. And the world needs what only your story can offer.

Personal Reflection: What gifts, experiences, or testimonies has God given you that could serve someone else? What has been holding you back from walking fully in your calling?

Practical Application: Take one concrete step this week toward serving others with what God has placed in you. It may be a conversation, a phone call, volunteering, or simply praying for someone by name. Do not wait until you feel fully ready. Peter was not fully ready either. Jesus commissioned him anyway.

"Jesus is on the shore. He is not waiting for you to get it all together before He shows up. He is already there, calling you by name, ready to restore what is broken and commission you for what is next."