



Hoboken Church

5-Day Devotional: Seeing Through Grace

Day 1: The Mirror Before the Microscope

Reading: [Matthew 7:1-5](#)

Devotional: Before we examine the speck in another's eye, Jesus calls us to notice the log in our own. This isn't about ignoring truth or avoiding discernment it's about honest self-examination first. How quickly we build conclusions with incomplete information! How easily we judge others while excusing ourselves! Today, ask the Holy Spirit to search your heart. What rooms have you kept locked from Jesus? Remember, He already knows what's there and holds the key. True clarity begins when we let God's grace illuminate our own hearts first. Only then can we approach others with the gentleness we've received from Christ.

Day 2: Created in His Image

Reading: [Genesis 1:26-27](#); [James 3:9-10](#)

Devotional: Every person you encounter today whether difficult, different, or disappointing bears the image of God. This fundamental truth should transform how we see people. We cannot curse what God has blessed with His image. When we forget this, we reduce people to their worst moments, their mistakes, or their differences from us. But grace remembers what is sacred even while not ignoring what is broken. Before speaking about someone, speak to Jesus about them. Ask Him to help you see His image reflected in them. This doesn't mean overlooking sin, but it does mean approaching others with the same mercy Christ extends to us daily.

Day 3: Quick to Listen, Slow to Speak

Reading: [James 1:19-20](#); [Galatians 6:1-2](#)

Devotional: Our culture excels at canceling people, and tragically, the church often mirrors this harshness rather than reflecting Christ's gentleness. James instructs us to be quick to hear, slow to speak, and slow to anger. When we catch someone in sin, do we approach with a spirit of gentleness, or do we come with judgment? Jesus didn't approach you with clenched fists He came with open arms of mercy. Truth without gentleness reveals more about our hearts than theirs. Today, practice pausing before responding. Give grace room to work in you before you speak into someone else's situation. Let mercy soften your spirit even as truth guides your words.

Day 4: The Grace We've Received

Reading: [Colossians 3:12-13](#); [Luke 23:34](#)

Devotional: Even from the cross, in excruciating pain, Jesus cried out for mercy: "Father, forgive them." Can we extend forgiveness when it's hard, when we're hurting, when we feel justified in our anger? We're invited to forgive as the Lord forgave us freely, completely, sacrificially. The only way we can look at others with mercy is by remembering how Jesus first looked at us with mercy. We didn't earn His forgiveness; He gave it while we were still sinners. When you struggle to show grace today, return to the cross. Remember the mercy you've received. Let that remembered grace become the grace you give to others who desperately need it.

Day 5: Love Bears All Things

Reading: [1 Corinthians 13:4-7](#); [Romans 2:1-4](#)

Devotional: Love doesn't rush to conclusions. It stays open long enough for grace to work in our lives and in others' lives. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. This doesn't mean being naive or ignoring sin it means approaching people with the patience God has shown us. When judgment tightens its grip on your heart, compassion begins to grow. The same grace you need every day is the same grace others need. People around you are fighting battles you cannot see. Before focusing on the speck, attend to the log. Before climbing to conclusions, let grace humble you. Let Jesus transform how you see yourself and others.