

Here's a 5-day Bible reading plan and devotional guide based on this week's message from Pastor James:



### **Day 1: Reconnecting with God**

#### **Reading: Psalm 51:1-12**

**Devotional:** David's heartfelt plea for forgiveness and restoration in Psalm 51 reminds us that no matter how far we've strayed, God is always ready to hear us. Like David, we may find ourselves asking, "Can you hear me now, God?" The beautiful truth is that God always hears us, but sin can create a barrier in our relationship with Him. Today, reflect on any areas in your life where you feel disconnected from God. Are there sins you need to confess? Attitudes that need adjusting? Take time to pray, asking God to create a clean heart within you and restore the joy of your salvation. Remember, God's love for you never wavers, even when you falter.

### **Day 2: The Power of Confession**

#### **Reading: 1 John 1:5-10**

**Devotional:** Confession is a powerful act that clears the lines of communication between us and God. As we learned from David's example, acknowledging our sins before God is the first step towards restoration. Today's reading reminds us that "if we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). Consider the freedom that comes with bringing everything into the light before God. Is there anything you've been hesitant to confess? Remember, God already knows everything about you and loves you unconditionally. Take a moment to confess any hidden sins or struggles, trusting in God's promise of forgiveness and cleansing.

### **Day 3: Embracing God's Grace**

#### **Reading: Romans 5:1-11**

**Devotional:** The message of God's grace is at the heart of the gospel. As we read in Romans, "God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8). This incredible truth should transform how we view ourselves and others. Reflect on times when you've felt unworthy of God's love or struggled to accept His forgiveness. How does the reality of Christ's sacrifice change your perspective? Today,

make a conscious effort to embrace God's grace in your life. Extend that same grace to others, remembering that we all fall short and need God's mercy.

#### **Day 4: Renewing Our Minds**

##### **Reading: Romans 12:1-2**

**Devotional:** As we seek to reconnect with God and live out our faith, the renewal of our minds is crucial. Paul urges us not to conform to the patterns of this world, but to be transformed by the renewing of our minds. This transformation doesn't happen overnight – it's a daily process of aligning our thoughts with God's truth. What "updates" might God be prompting in your life? Are there areas where your thinking needs to be renewed? Take time to meditate on God's Word, asking the Holy Spirit to reveal any thoughts or beliefs that don't align with His truth. Commit to the ongoing process of mind renewal, trusting that as your mind is transformed, your actions will follow.

#### **Day 5: Living in God's Presence**

##### **Reading: Psalm 16:5-11**

**Devotional:** Our ultimate goal as believers is to live in constant awareness of God's presence. David beautifully expresses this desire in Psalm 16, declaring, "You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand" (Psalm 16:11). As we conclude this devotional series, consider how you can cultivate a deeper sense of God's presence in your daily life. Are there distractions you need to eliminate? Habits you need to develop? Remember that God is your "portion and cup" – the source of all you need. Commit to seeking His presence above all else, trusting that in His presence you will find fullness of joy and clear direction for your life.