

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



Day 1: The God Who Restores

Reading: Psalm 23:1-3, Joel 2:25-26

Devotional: Our journey begins with the comforting words of Psalm 23, reminding us that the Lord is our shepherd who provides all we need. Just as a shepherd leads his flock to green pastures and still waters, God guides us to places of rest and renewal. When we feel depleted or broken, remember Joel's promise that God will restore what we've lost. Today, reflect on areas in your life where you need restoration. Are you feeling spiritually dry, emotionally drained, or relationally distant? Invite God to begin His restorative work in you. Trust that He is not only willing but eager to renew your strength and guide you along right paths for His name's sake.

Day 2: Recognition and Repentance

Reading: Psalm 51:1-4, Luke 15:17-20

Devotional: Today we explore the vital steps of recognition and repentance in our spiritual journey. David's heartfelt plea in Psalm 51 shows us the power of acknowledging our sins before God. Similarly, the prodigal son's moment of clarity in Luke 15 illustrates how recognizing our need for God is the first step toward restoration. Consider areas in your life where you may have strayed from God's path. Have you been trying to sweep things under the rug rather than confronting them? Take time to honestly assess your spiritual condition, confess any shortcomings to God, and turn your heart back to Him. Remember, repentance is not just feeling sorry, but actively turning away from sin and toward God. As you do this, trust in God's unfailing love and great compassion to cleanse and renew you.

Day 3: The Father's Heart

Reading: Luke 15:20-24, Jeremiah 31:3

Devotional: Today's readings reveal the incredible depth of God's love for us. The father's response to his prodigal son in Luke 15 paints a vivid picture of God's heart toward His children. Even when we've wandered far from Him, God eagerly awaits our return, ready to embrace us with compassion and celebration. Jeremiah 31:3 affirms this everlasting love that draws us back to Him. Reflect on times when you've experienced God's unconditional

love, perhaps when you felt least deserving. How does knowing God's heart toward you impact your approach to Him? Allow this understanding to deepen your trust in God and motivate you to draw near to Him, regardless of your past mistakes or current struggles.

Day 4: Restoration and Renewal

Reading: Isaiah 40:28-31, 2 Corinthians 5:17

Devotional: Our readings today focus on the renewing power of God in our lives. Isaiah reminds us that even when we feel weak and weary, God never grows tired and is always ready to renew our strength. In 2 Corinthians, we're assured that in Christ, we are made new creations. This renewal isn't just a one-time event but an ongoing process. Consider areas in your life where you need renewed strength or a fresh perspective. Perhaps you're facing challenges that seem insurmountable, or old habits that are hard to break. Bring these before God, asking Him to renew your mind and strengthen your spirit. Trust that as you wait upon the Lord, He will empower you to soar on wings like eagles, to run and not grow weary, to walk and not faint.

Day 5: Living Restored

Reading: Ephesians 2:8-10, 1 Peter 5:10

Devotional: As we conclude our journey, we focus on living out our restored relationship with God. Ephesians reminds us that our salvation and restoration are gifts of God's grace, received through faith. This restoration isn't just for our benefit, but so that we can do the good works God has prepared for us. 1 Peter assures us that after we have suffered a little while, God Himself will restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish us. Reflect on how God has been working restoration in your life this week. How can you live out this restored relationship in your daily life? Consider practical ways you can demonstrate God's restoring love to others who may be struggling. Remember, as recipients of God's grace, we are called to be agents of His restoration in the world around us.