

# 5-Day Devotional: Repent and Believe the Good News

## Day 1: The Lifeguard Who Sees You

**Reading:** Mark 1:14-15; Luke 15:1-7

**Devotional:** Jesus came as the ultimate lifeguard, seeing those drowning in sin when others walk by. The Pharisees criticized Him for eating with sinners, yet Jesus understood what they missed: people are perishing without rescue. Like the shepherd leaving ninety-nine sheep to find one lost lamb, God pursues you relentlessly. He doesn't wait for you to clean yourself up first. He dives in fully clothed, ready to pull you from the waters of destruction. Today, reflect on how Jesus has rescued you. Are you watching others drown in their sin while going about your day? Ask God to give you His eyes to see the desperate need around you and the courage to extend a hand.

## Day 2: Heaven's Celebration Over You

**Reading:** Luke 15:8-10; Zephaniah 3:17

**Devotional:** Picture this: all the angels of heaven gathered, and in their presence, God Himself dances with unbridled joy because you repented. Not polite applause—exuberant celebration. The Creator of the universe rejoices over you without reservation. This isn't about your performance or perfection; it's about your return. When you turn from sin and toward God, you trigger a cosmic party. The woman who lost one coin searched desperately and celebrated wildly when she found it. That's how valuable you are to God. You're not just tolerated or accepted—you're treasured. Let this truth sink deep today: your repentance matters to heaven. When you struggle and turn back to God, all of heaven erupts in joy.

## Day 3: Coming to Your Senses

**Reading:** Luke 15:11-24; Romans 7:14-25

**Devotional:** The prodigal son "came to his senses"—metanoia, a transformed mind. Sitting in pig filth, he rethought his thinking. Repentance isn't just feeling sorry; it's destroying the house you've built apart from God and having nowhere to return to but Him. Like Elisha burning his plows, true repentance is radical. The son rehearsed his speech, ready to beg for servant status, but the father ran—the only time Scripture shows God running—and restored him completely. Not as a servant, but as a son. God doesn't want you groveling; He wants you clothed in righteousness, wearing the ring of

full sonship. What broken pieces of wood are you clinging to instead of reaching for the Rescuer? Repent today—rethink your thinking and come home.

## Day 4: The Urgency of Now

**Reading:** Luke 16:19-31; 2 Corinthians 6:1-2

**Devotional:** The rich man discovered too late that an impassable chasm separates the saved from the lost. In torment, he begged for someone to warn his brothers, but Abraham said they already had Moses and the prophets—they had truth available. Even resurrection wouldn't convince those who refuse to listen. This story jolts us awake: tomorrow isn't guaranteed. Every person lives, dies, and faces judgment. We cannot be comfortable while others drown. The kingdom is near—closer than ever—and the invitation remains open, but not forever. Who in your life needs to hear the good news today? Not next month, not when it's convenient—today. Pray for one person God brings to mind. Ask Him for an opportunity to share your story of rescue this week. The time is now.

## Day 5: Living as the Rescued Rescuer

**Reading:** Matthew 28:18-20; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

**Devotional:** You are a walking testimony—a resurrected life. Your story echoes every transformation in Scripture, proving God lives and rescues today. Jesus never lost sight of His mission to seek and save the lost, marching resolutely to the cross. Now He commissions you with the same purpose. Repentance isn't once-for-all; it's daily. Carrying your cross means embracing the discomfort of reaching drowning people. Walk humbly—you need Jesus just as desperately as anyone else. Examine your heart: where have you grown indifferent or callous? Who do you struggle to rejoice over when they repent? Pray for compassion and courage. Speak truth with grace. Live like the kingdom is near because it is—it's in you. Go and lovingly, urgently invite others to repent and believe the good news.