

5-Day Devotional: Living on Mission

Day 1: Scattered for a Purpose

Acts 8:1-4

Devotional:

When persecution struck the early church, believers were scattered from their homes and communities. Yet notice what they did—they went everywhere preaching the word. These weren't trained pastors or apostles; they were ordinary believers who understood their calling. Persecution didn't silence their witness; it amplified it across new territories.

God often uses our disruptions for His distribution of the Gospel. When life scatters your plans, remember that you carry the message of Jesus wherever you go. Your workplace, neighborhood, and daily interactions are your mission field. The question isn't whether you're called to share Christ—it's whether you'll embrace that calling today, right where God has placed you.

Day 2: Empowered by the Spirit

Acts 1:8; Acts 8:5-8

Devotional:

Philip's ministry in Samaria demonstrates the power available to every believer. Demons were cast out, paralytics were healed, and great joy filled the city. This wasn't because Philip possessed special abilities, but because he was empowered by the Holy Spirit and obedient to God's mission.

Too often we've relegated ministry to professionals, forgetting that the same Spirit who worked through Philip lives in every believer. You don't need a seminary degree to share the Gospel or pray for someone in need. You need availability and obedience. The Spirit equips those He calls. Stop waiting for perfect conditions or more knowledge. Step out in faith today, trusting that God will work through your willing heart to bring His kingdom into your sphere of influence.

Day 3: Heart Check—True vs. False Belief

Acts 8:9-13, 18-24

Devotional:

Simon's story is sobering. He believed, was baptized, and followed Philip closely—yet his heart remained unchanged. When the Holy Spirit's power was displayed, his true motives surfaced: he wanted power and profit, not transformation.

Many today have said a prayer, been baptized, and attend church regularly, yet

lack genuine affection for Jesus. They want His benefits without surrendering to His lordship. Peter's confrontation with Simon was an act of love, exposing the danger of false belief.

Take time for honest self-examination. Do you love Jesus Himself, or just what He can do for you? Is your faith about personal comfort or complete surrender? True belief produces transformed desires, not just religious activities. If the Spirit reveals counterfeit faith today, respond with genuine repentance and belief.

Day 4: The Mission Belongs to Everyone

1 Peter 2:9-10; Matthew 28:18-20

Devotional:

The early church understood something we've forgotten: every believer is a missionary. When persecution scattered the church, it was the laypeople—not just the apostles—who spread the Gospel. They didn't wait for their leaders to do the work; they recognized their personal responsibility in God's mission.

Somewhere along the way, the church shifted from "we're all on mission" to "we pay professionals to do ministry." But the Great Commission wasn't given only to pastors. You've been saved by grace, empowered by the Spirit, and equipped by God's Word for the work of ministry.

Your life is not your own. Stop living for Sunday attendance and annual Bible reading plans that merely make you feel better. Embrace the adventure of daily mission, watching God work through your obedience.

Day 5: Joy in the Mission

Acts 8:25-40; Luke 15:7-10

Devotional:

Acts 8 ends with Peter and John preaching in many Samaritan villages as they returned to Jerusalem. The chapter that began with persecution and scattering concludes with joy and multiplication. When God's people live on mission, joy follows—both in heaven and on earth.

There's no greater privilege than participating in God's redemptive work. When you share the Gospel, pray for the sick, serve the marginalized, or disciple a new believer, you join the mission that angels long to understand more fully. Heaven erupts in celebration over one sinner who repents.

Don't settle for the mundane Christian life of comfortable Sunday attendance. You were created for more—to know Christ deeply, to be known in authentic community, and to pursue one more person for God's kingdom. This mission

brings a joy that circumstances cannot steal. Will you embrace it today?