5-Day Bible Reading Plan: Instruments of Righteousness

Day 1: The Decision to Present Yourself
Reading: Romans 6:12-14

Devotional:
Sin never "just happens." Every act of disobedience begins with a decision of the will. To present your members means to intentionally place yourself in a position—either toward God or toward sin. Today, examine where you are positioning yourself. Are you walking into places, relationships, or thought patterns that make righteousness difficult? God calls you to make deliberate choices about where you go, who influences you, and what you allow into your mind. Your location matters. Your associations matter. Your thoughts matter. Before sin takes root, it requires your permission. Take inventory today: What decisions are you making that either honor God or invite temptation? Choose wisely, for you are deciding what kind of instrument you will be.

Day 2: Understanding the Battle Within
Reading: James 1:13-16; Galatians 5:16-21

Devotional:
Temptation is an inside job. Your flesh wars against the Spirit, and your evil desires become fertile ground for sin when enticed. While Satan broadcasts temptations like signals through the air, he cannot force you to sin—only you can make that choice. Recognize that you are pre-programmed by your fallen nature to receive these signals, but you are not powerless. The moment a tempting thought enters your mind is the moment you must take it captive. Do not blame God, circumstances, or the devil for your sin. Own your responsibility. Your desires conceived give birth to sin, and sin brings death. Today, ask God to reveal the desires within you that are most vulnerable to temptation, and surrender them to His transforming power.

Day 3: Taking Every Thought Captive
Reading: 2 Corinthians 10:3-5; Ephesians 6:10-18

Devotional:
The battlefield is your mind. Before sin manifests in action, it begins as a thought, a fantasy, an entertained idea. This is where spiritual warfare is won or lost. Paul commands us to destroy arguments and take every thought captive to obey Christ. You cannot afford to be passive about what you think. Put on the full armor of God—the belt of truth, breastplate of righteousness, shield of faith, helmet of salvation, and sword of the Spirit. These are not decorative; they are essential weapons against the flaming darts of the evil one designed to ignite your fleshly desires. Satan knows your weaknesses and crafts specific temptations for you. Be sober-minded. Be alert. Guard your mind fiercely, for it is the gateway to either righteousness or ruin.

Day 4: The Fruit You Bear Reveals Your Master
Reading: Romans 7:5; Colossians 3:5-10; Galatians 5:22-23

Devotional:
You are a tool—the question is, what are you producing? Instruments of unrighteousness bear fruit for death: sexual immorality, impurity, evil desires, covetousness, anger, and division. These are the products of presenting yourself to sin. But instruments of righteousness produce the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Examine your life honestly. What fruit is evident? Ask your spouse, your children, your brothers and sisters in Christ. Better yet, ask God. He sees what you produce when no one else is watching. If you find fruit for death, repent and reposition yourself. Present your members to God for His purposes. Allow the Holy Spirit to cultivate His fruit in you. True transformation is not self-improvement; it is Spirit-empowered change.

Day 5: Living as Instruments Acceptable to God
Reading: Genesis 1:27; 2:24; Matthew 5:27-28; Philippians 4:11-13

Devotional:
Righteousness is the state of being as you ought to be—acceptable to God. This requires alignment with His design, not society's opinions. God created male and female, established marriage as one man and one woman, and reserved sexual intimacy for that covenant alone. Cultural approval does not change divine truth. Your body is not your own; it was bought with a price. Present yourself as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God. Live content with His provision, rejecting covetousness. Guard your eyes and heart from lustful intent. Remember, purity begins in the mind. As you surrender daily to God's will, He renews your mind, transforms your desires, and produces lasting fruit. You become an instrument fit for the Master's use—prepared for every good work.