COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Save the Lost · Grow the Saved

5-Day Devotional: Dying to Live with Christ

Day 1: The Power of Dying with Christ
Reading: Romans 6:8-11

Devotional:
True Christian faith begins with death—dying with Christ to our old life of sin. This isn't merely intellectual agreement but a heart transformation where we reckon ourselves truly dead to sin's power. Paul uses accounting language: "consider" means to calculate as fact. Just as Christ died once for all and rose never to die again, we who believe share in both His death and resurrection life. This isn't about our daily struggle with temptation; it's about sin's dominion being broken over us. Today, reflect honestly: Have you truly died with Christ, or are you still trying to manage sin in your own strength? The Christian life begins at the tomb—your old self buried with Jesus, powerless to condemn you anymore.

Reflection Question: What areas of your past still try to define you instead of your new identity in Christ?

Day 2: Normal vs. Nominal Christianity
Reading: Luke 12:34; Matthew 7:20-23

Devotional:
Where your treasure is, your heart will be also. This simple truth separates normal Christians from nominal ones—those who are Christian in name only versus those whose lives reflect genuine transformation. Jesus warned that many will claim His name but never truly knew Him. The difference? What you treasure most. Normal Christians make Jesus their most precious possession because they've experienced genuine death to self and resurrection life in Him. Nominal Christians exist in name only, their faith "so small, slight as to be hardly worth the name." Examine your treasure today. What consumes your thoughts, time, and resources? Is Jesus truly your greatest treasure, or merely an accessory to the life you've built? Your answer determines everything—including your eternity.

Reflection Question: If someone examined your calendar and bank account, would they conclude Jesus is your greatest treasure?

Day 3: The Resurrected Jesus—Death Defeated
Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:26; Ephesians 1:19-20

Devotional:
The power of the Gospel stands entirely on one fact: Jesus lives today. If Christ remained dead, Christianity would be useless, our faith futile, and we'd still be condemned in our sins. But He walked out of that tomb, defeating death forever. The last enemy—death itself—has been destroyed. The same immeasurable power that raised Jesus from the dead now works in every believer. Death has lost its sting and dominion. This isn't future hope alone; it's present reality. Because Jesus lives, you live. Because He conquered death, death cannot hold you. Fear of death loses its grip when you grasp this truth. Today, let this reality sink deep: the risen Christ lives in you, and the power that conquered the grave empowers your daily walk.

Reflection Question: How would your life change if you truly believed death has no power over you?

Day 4: You Are Completely New
Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:16-17; 2 Corinthians 7:10

Devotional:
"The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." This isn't wishful thinking—it's spiritual reality for everyone in Christ. No label from your past, no sin, no failure, no identity defines you anymore. Jesus destroyed your past when you died with Him. You are genuinely new. This newness comes through godly grief—Holy Spirit conviction that produces repentance leading to salvation. It's not shame from being caught; it's sorrow knowing your sin nailed Jesus to the cross. This grief drives you to God, not away from Him. True belief requires action: reckoning yourself dead to sin and alive to God. Stop letting yesterday's labels define today's identity. You're not who you were. In Christ, you're a completely new creation with a new nature, new power, and new purpose.

Reflection Question: What old labels or past sins are you still allowing to define you instead of embracing your new identity?

Day 5: Living Sober-Minded and Watchful
Reading: 1 Peter 5:8; James 1:13-15

Devotional:
Being sober-minded means spiritual clarity—steadfastness, self-control, and moral decisiveness where your priorities align with God's will. You're not intoxicated by worldly allurements but controlled by the Holy Spirit. This requires intentionality and work. Your adversary prowls like a roaring lion, but temptation itself comes from within—your own desires. Daily struggles with temptation are real and will continue until heaven, but sin no longer has dominion over you. You've died to its power. Living sober-minded means trusting God's timing, not rushing ahead in anxiety. It means letting Holy Spirit guide your decisions rather than flesh dictating your responses. When overwhelmed, return to the truth: you've died with Christ, and His resurrection power lives in you. God is faithful. Trust Him, stay watchful, and walk in the freedom He's already provided.

Reflection Question: In what area of life do you need to practice sober-mindedness instead of being controlled by worry, impatience, or worldly thinking?

Closing Prayer:
Lord Jesus, thank You for defeating death and offering me new life. Help me truly reckon myself dead to sin and alive to You. May I treasure You above all else and walk in the freedom and power of my new identity. Keep me sober-minded and watchful, trusting Your timing and Your faithfulness. In Jesus' name, Amen.