

5-Day Bible Reading Plan and Devotional Guide Based on "Found: The Grace of Becoming a Christian"

Day 1: Who You Were Before Grace

Reading: Ephesians 2:1-3

Devotional:
It is uncomfortable to sit with who we were before Christ. Paul does not soften it. Before salvation, every person walks in spiritual death, following the course of a world ordered by the enemy, driven by the desires of flesh and mind. But discomfort here is necessary. You cannot genuinely repent of something you refuse to acknowledge. Owning who you were is not shame — it is honesty. It is the first step toward understanding the magnitude of what God did for you. Sit today with the weight of who you were, so that tomorrow the grace of who you are lands with full force.

Reflection Questions:
- Have you ever fully acknowledged who you were apart from God?
- What "course of the world" patterns still try to pull at you today?
- How does owning your past deepen your gratitude for grace?

Practical Application:
Write down three specific ways your life reflected the "course of this world" before Christ, or before you began taking your faith seriously. Hold nothing back. This is between you and God. Then thank Him specifically for each one.

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Day 2: The God Who Never Lost You

Reading: Jeremiah 1:5; Psalm 139:13-16

Devotional:
God did not find you because He never lost you. Jeremiah 1:5 makes this startlingly clear — before you were formed in the womb, God already knew you. That word "knew" carries weight. It is not casual awareness. It is intimate, deliberate, personal knowledge. God was never searching for you the way a man searches for lost keys. He knew exactly where you were, who you were, and what it would cost to bring you to Himself. You were not a surprise to Him. You were not a mistake. You were known before time began, and He moved toward you anyway.

Reflection Questions:
- How does knowing that God never lost you change the way you understand your salvation?
- What does it mean to you personally that God knew you before you were born?
- How does this truth affect the way you see your purpose?

Practical Application:
Spend ten minutes in silence today. No music, no phone, no noise. Simply sit with the reality that God has known you since before your first breath. Let that sink in and speak honestly to Him about what that stirs in you.

Day 3: The Richness of God's Mercy

Reading: Ephesians 2:4-7; Lamentations 3:22-23

Devotional:
Paul uses a specific word when he describes God's mercy — rich. Not adequate. Not sufficient. Rich. Abounding. Overflowing. God does not extend mercy reluctantly or minimally. He extends it from a place of infinite supply, driven by love for people who were spiritually dead and unable to help themselves. Lamentations 3:22-23 reminds us that His mercies are new every morning, not because yesterday's ran out, but because His nature never stops producing them. The God who moved toward you in your worst condition is the same God who meets you this morning. His mercy is not a one-time event. It is His character on constant display.

Reflection Questions:
- Do you tend to think of God's mercy as something you can exhaust?
- How does understanding mercy as God's character rather than just His action change your relationship with Him?
- Where in your life do you most need to receive His mercy today?

Practical Application:
Identify one area of your life where you have been reluctant to bring your failures before God, perhaps because you feel you have asked too many times. Bring it to Him today. His mercy is not diminished by your repeated need of it.

Day 4: Grace, Faith, and the Gift You Did Not Earn

Reading: Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 6:23

Devotional:
Salvation cannot be earned, and that is precisely what makes it grace. Ephesians 2:8-9 strips away every human contribution and places the full weight of salvation on God. This is both humbling and liberating. Humbling because there is nothing you brought to the table. Liberating because there is nothing you can do to lose what you did not earn in the first place. Romans 6:23 frames it plainly — the gift of God is eternal life. Gifts are not wages. You do not negotiate for them or work toward them. You simply receive them. The danger is receiving the gift and then spending your life trying to pay God back, rather than walking in the freedom He purchased for you.

Reflection Questions:
- Do you live as though your standing with God depends on your performance?

- What does it feel like to accept that salvation is entirely a gift?
- How does understanding grace as unearned change the way you approach God on your worst days?

Practical Application:
Write out Ephesians 2:8-9 by hand and place it somewhere you will see it daily this week. Each time you see it, speak it aloud as a declaration over any lie that tells you your standing with God is tied to your behavior.

Day 5: Workmanship With a Purpose

Reading: Ephesians 2:10; 2 Corinthians 10:4-5

Devotional:
You are not saved simply to be rescued. You are saved to be deployed. Ephesians 2:10 calls you God's workmanship — something He deliberately crafted and shaped. The word carries the idea of a masterpiece, something made with intention and skill. And that workmanship was created for specific good works that God prepared in advance. This means your gifts, your personality, your experiences, and even your past are not accidents. They are tools in the hands of a purposeful God. Second Corinthians 10:4-5 reminds us that the strongholds the enemy built

in your mind before Christ are the very areas where God now equips you to fight. Your history is not a liability. In His hands, it is a weapon.

Reflection Questions:
- Do you see yourself as someone with a God-given purpose, or do you still see yourself primarily through the lens of your past?
- What specific gifts or experiences has God placed in your life that could be used for the good works He prepared for you?
- What strongholds still need to be surrendered so that your purpose can be fully realized?

Practical Application:
Have an honest conversation with someone you trust — a pastor, a mentor, or a mature believer — about where you believe God is calling you to serve. Do not wait until you feel ready. The works were prepared before you were. Step toward them.