COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Save the Lost · Grow the Saved

5-Day Devotional: The Journey of Sanctification

Day 1: The New Creation
Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:17; Romans 7:16-20

Devotional:
When you accepted Christ, something radical happened—the old you died, and a new creation emerged. But this new life doesn't mean perfection arrives instantly. Paul's honest confession in Romans 7 reveals a profound truth: salvation is immediate, but transformation is progressive. The struggle between your redeemed spirit and unsanctified flesh is real. Today, acknowledge that hating sin isn't just about avoiding the "big" sins that drove you to Christ—it's about pursuing holiness in every area. God hates all sin, and as His child, you're called to the same standard. What "small" sins are you justifying? Bring them to the cross today.

Day 2: Taking Up Your Cross Daily
Reading: Luke 9:23; Philippians 2:12-13

Devotional:
Jesus didn't say "take up your cross once." He said "daily." Sanctification isn't a one-time event but a daily decision to die to self and follow Christ. Working out your salvation doesn't earn your redemption—it demonstrates it. God is continually working in you, but are you cooperating with His work? This requires intentional effort: straining, pressing, pursuing holiness with the same intensity an athlete pursues victory. The flesh doesn't surrender easily; strongholds take time to destroy—not because God lacks power, but because we resist fully surrendering. What part of your life are you withholding from God's sanctifying work? Choose today to surrender it completely.

Day 3: Pressing Toward the Goal
Reading: Philippians 3:12-16

Devotional:
Paul, the great apostle, admitted he hadn't "arrived" spiritually. If Paul needed to press on, how much more do we? The Christian life isn't passive—it's an active pursuit of Christlikeness. Notice Paul's focus: forgetting what lies behind and straining toward what lies ahead. You can't mature while clinging to past sins, past hurts, or past victories. Sanctification demands forward motion. Are you merely religious, attending services and checking spiritual boxes? Or are you genuinely chasing after Christ with everything in you? Maturity isn't measured by attendance but by transformation. Evaluate your spiritual trajectory honestly. Are you pressing forward or standing still?

Day 4: The Heart Behind the Work
Reading: Matthew 7:21-23; Philippians 3:15-16

Devotional:
Sobering truth: you can do religious activity without knowing Jesus. The people in Matthew 7 prophesied, cast out demons, and performed miracles—yet Jesus said, "I never knew you." The difference between disciples and pretenders isn't busyness but relationship. Why are you serving? For approval? Recognition? Habit? Or genuine love for Christ? Your motivation matters eternally. Sanctification isn't about impressing others or building your reputation—it's about becoming more like Jesus because you love Him. People around you are dying without Christ. Your family, friends, coworkers need to see authentic faith, not performance. Today, examine your heart. Do your spiritual disciplines flow from love or obligation?

Day 5: Choosing the Battle
Reading: Romans 7:19-20; Philippians 1:6

Devotional:
The battle is real: your redeemed spirit wars against unsanctified flesh. Paul's frustration echoes in every believer's heart—"I do what I don't want to do!" But here's hope: God promises to complete the good work He started in you. Victory doesn't come from willpower alone but from continually bringing your flesh to the cross. Every temptation is an opportunity to choose sanctification over sin. Stop justifying, hiding, or minimizing sin you've grown comfortable with. Hate it as God does. The choice is always yours—will you feed your flesh or crucify it? Where will you go today? Back to comfortable sin or forward toward Christlikeness? Your eternal impact depends on this daily choice.