

## Day 1: When Darkness Falls

**Reading:** Psalm 34:4-7

**Devotional:** "I sought the Lord, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears." Like the chickens in our story who panicked when darkness came, we often find ourselves overwhelmed when circumstances grow dim. But notice David's response—he didn't deny his fears or pretend to be brave. He sought the Lord. Faith isn't the absence of fear; it's knowing where to turn when fear arrives. The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear Him. Today, what darkness are you facing? A difficult diagnosis? Financial uncertainty? Relational conflict? Don't run from your fears—run to God with them. He hears, He answers, and He delivers.

**Reflection Question:** What fear have you been carrying alone instead of bringing to God in prayer?

## Day 2: The Mountain of Expectations

**Reading:** 2 Chronicles 16:9; Psalm 139:1-6

**Devotional:** God's eyes search the whole earth to strengthen hearts fully committed to Him—not hearts that have achieved perfection, but hearts turned toward Him. We live under crushing expectations: others' standards, our own perfectionism, the pressure to perform. But God knows you completely—every weakness, every failure, every hidden struggle—and His love doesn't waver. You don't have to climb the mountain of expectations to earn His approval. Jesus already climbed Calvary for you. The gospel frees us from performance-based living. God's expectation is simple: trust in the finished work of Christ. From that secure foundation, He walks with you, transforming you into Jesus' likeness not through pressure, but through love.

**Reflection Question:** What expectations are you carrying that God never placed on you?

## Day 3: Walking Through the Unknown

**Reading:** Romans 8:35-39

**Devotional:** "Nothing can separate us from the love of God." The forest of the unknown terrifies us because we can't see what's ahead. Job loss. Health concerns. Relationship changes. Moving to a new place. We want certainty, but God offers something better—His presence. If you can trust God with your forever (and you can, because Jesus secured it through His death and resurrection), then you can trust Him with your next step. The unknown isn't unknown to Him. He's already there, preparing the way, working all things together for your good. You're not walking into the darkness alone; you're walking with the Light of the World who has already conquered that darkness.

**Reflection Question:** What unknown situation are you facing? How does knowing God is already there change your perspective?

## **Day 4: Living by Faith, Not by Sight**

**Reading:** 2 Corinthians 5:6-7; Hebrews 11:1

**Devotional:** Faith is assurance about what we don't see. It's trusting God's character when circumstances contradict His promises. It's believing He is good when life feels hard. It's walking forward when you can't see the path. This isn't blind optimism—it's confidence rooted in God's proven faithfulness. He who called you is faithful; He will do it. Jesus walked this path before you. He faced the unknown garden, the unjust trial, the brutal cross—all by faith in His Father's plan. And because He rose victorious, you can face your unknowns with courage. Faith doesn't eliminate obstacles, but it changes how you walk through them—not alone, but hand-in-hand with the One who holds your future.

**Reflection Question:** Where are you being called to take a step of faith this week?

## **Day 5: You Matter to God**

**Reading:** Matthew 10:29-31; Romans 15:13

**Devotional:** Not one sparrow falls without your Father knowing. And you are worth more than many sparrows. In a world that measures worth by achievement, appearance, or approval, God declares your value based on one thing: His love demonstrated through Jesus. You matter so much that God sent His only Son. You matter so much that Jesus willingly laid down His life. You matter so much that the Holy Spirit dwells within you. When worries threaten to overwhelm you—about your kids, your job, your future—remember this: the God of hope fills you with joy and peace as you trust in Him. Not as you figure everything out. Not as you fix every problem. As you trust. May you overflow with hope today by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Reflection Question:** How does knowing you matter deeply to God change how you face today's challenges?

**Closing Prayer:** Father, thank You that nothing—no trouble, no danger, no uncertainty, no fear—can separate us from Your love in Christ Jesus. Help us live by faith, not by sight. When darkness comes, when expectations overwhelm, when the unknown terrifies, remind us that You are with us, You love us, and You will never forsake us. In Jesus' name, Amen.