

5-Day Devotional: We Can't Keep It to Ourselves

Day 1: When God Sends You to the Desert

Reading: Acts 8:26-27; Proverbs 3:5-6

Devotional

Philip was in the middle of revival when God told him to leave. Not because he had failed, but because God had another assignment waiting on a desert road. This challenges one of our most common assumptions: that God's will always looks like visible success. Sometimes obedience leads you away from momentum and into what appears to be emptiness. Proverbs 3:5-6 reminds us that trusting God means releasing our grip on our own understanding of how things should look. The desert is not evidence of God's absence. It may be the very address where your next assignment is waiting.

Personal Reflection: Is there an area of your life where God may be calling you away from something comfortable toward something unfamiliar? What is making it difficult to obey?

Practical Application: Write down one area where you have been waiting for certainty before obeying. Take one concrete step of obedience today, even without knowing the full outcome.

Day 2: Trusting the God Who Leads You Through Wilderness

Reading: Deuteronomy 8:2; Exodus 13:18; 1 Kings 17:8-16

Devotional

Israel did not wander into the wilderness by accident. Deuteronomy 8:2 makes clear that God led them there intentionally, to humble them, to test them, and to reveal what was in their hearts. Elijah experienced something similar. The brook at Cherith was real provision, but it was provision for one season, not a permanent address. When the brook dried up, God did not abandon Elijah. He redirected him. The drying up of one source of blessing is not the end of God's faithfulness. It is often the beginning of a new instruction. Do not cling to yesterday's provision when God is directing you toward tomorrow's assignment.

Personal Reflection: What brook in your life may be drying up right now? Have you considered that God may be redirecting you rather than abandoning you?

Practical Application: Spend time in prayer today specifically thanking God for a past season of provision that has ended. Ask Him to open your eyes to the new direction He may already be pointing you toward.

Day 3: Divine Appointments in Unlikely Places

Reading: Acts 8:27-31; Romans 10:14-17; John 6:44

Devotional

When Philip arrived on that desert road, the text says, "And behold, a man of Ethiopia." What looked like an empty road was anything but empty. God had been working on both sides of the encounter simultaneously, preparing Philip through obedience and preparing the Ethiopian through hunger. The man had traveled to Jerusalem to worship. He was reading Scripture on the road home. He was asking questions he could not answer alone. God does not manufacture divine appointments at the last moment. He orchestrates them in advance. Your responsibility is not to create the hunger in someone else's heart. Your responsibility is to be available when God positions you beside someone He has already been drawing.

Personal Reflection: Think about the people in your everyday life, at work, in your neighborhood, in your family. Who might God already be drawing toward Himself that He wants to reach through your availability?

Practical Application: Ask God today to make you more aware of the people around you who may be spiritually searching. Pray specifically for one person by name and ask God to create an opportunity for a meaningful conversation this week.

Day 4: Opening Your Mouth About Jesus

Reading: Acts 8:30-35; Romans 1:16; 1 Peter 3:15; 2 Corinthians 4:5

Devotional

Philip ran. He did not hesitate, stall, or wait for a more convenient moment. He ran toward the opportunity God had placed in front of him. And when he got there, he asked a question before he gave an answer. He listened before he explained. He started where the Ethiopian was and led him to Jesus. Acts 8:35 captures the heart of the entire encounter: Philip opened his mouth and preached Jesus. Not himself, not his ministry, not his accomplishments. Jesus. The message has not changed. Methods evolve, cultures shift, and platforms come and go, but the answer for every searching heart is still the same name. Our lives should point toward Him, and eventually our mouths must declare Him.

Personal Reflection: What has been holding you back from speaking openly about Jesus with someone in your life? Fear of rejection, uncertainty about what to say, or simply waiting for the right moment?

Practical Application: You do not need to have every theological answer to share your testimony. Write out in two or three sentences what Jesus has done for you personally. Practice saying it aloud. Be ready to share it when the opportunity comes.

Day 5: The Testimony You Cannot Keep to Yourself

Reading: John 1:40-42; John 4:28-30, 39; Mark 5:18-20; Revelation 12:11

Devotional

Andrew found Jesus and immediately thought of his brother. The Samaritan woman left her waterpot and ran to tell her city. The delivered man was sent home to tell his friends. Philip preached Jesus on a desert road. Different people, different circumstances, different approaches, and the same unstoppable compulsion: when you truly encounter Jesus, you cannot keep Him to yourself. Revelation 12:11 reminds us that the word of our testimony carries real spiritual power. You may not have a platform, but you have a story. You may not have all the answers, but you know what Jesus has done for you. That is enough to point someone toward Him. The greatest assignment you will ever receive may not be in front of a crowd. It may be sitting beside one person who simply needs to hear what God has done in your life.

Personal Reflection: Who in your life needs to hear your testimony right now? What is one thing Jesus has done for you that someone else needs to know about?

Practical Application: Identify one person this week and share with them, in your own words, what Jesus has done in your life. It does not have to be a formal presentation. It can be a conversation. Be the Philip to someone's Ethiopian.