

5-Day Bible Reading Plan and Devotional Guide

Based on the Series: "Miracles Do Happen" -- Letting Go Is the Hardest Part

Day 1: God Calls You by Name

Reading: Genesis 12:1-4 -- God's call to Abram to leave everything familiar and follow an unknown path toward a promised future.

Devotional:

Before Abraham was a patriarch, he was simply a man who heard a voice and chose to trust it. He had no map, no guarantee, and no community of believers cheering him on. He had only a word from God. Bishop Hayes reminded us that when God first moved on Abram's heart, it resonated even when it made no logical sense. That resonance was faith being born. God still calls people by name today. He still speaks into ordinary lives and asks for extraordinary obedience. The question is not whether God is speaking. The question is whether you are listening -- and whether you are willing to move when He does.

Reflection: What has God been prompting you to do that you have been hesitating to act on? What familiar comfort are you holding onto that may be keeping you from stepping forward?

Practical Application: Spend ten minutes in silence today. Ask God to clarify one area of your life where He is calling you to take a step of obedience, no matter how unfamiliar it feels.

Day 2: The Altar of Surrender

Reading: Genesis 22:1-10 -- God tests Abraham by asking him to surrender his most beloved son, Isaac, as an offering on Mount Moriah.

Devotional:

The test God gave Abraham was not designed to destroy him. It was designed to reveal what was truly first in his heart. Bishop Hayes preached that there are things in every believer's life that compete with God -- children, money, status, relationships, identity, and pride. These are not inherently evil things. Many of them are blessings from God. But when they occupy the place that belongs to God alone, they become altars of their own. Abraham's willingness to lay Isaac

down was not an act of cruelty. It was an act of complete trust. God was not asking Abraham to lose his son. He was asking Abraham to prove that no gift would ever outrank the Giver.

Reflection: What is the "Isaac" in your life -- the blessing you love so deeply that it has quietly moved into first place above God?

Practical Application: Write down one thing you know you have placed above your relationship with God. Pray specifically over it today, releasing it to God's authority and trusting Him with the outcome.

Day 3: Speak by Faith Before You See the Answer

Reading: Hebrews 11:1, 17-19 -- Faith is described as confidence in what is hoped for and assurance about what is not yet seen; Abraham's faith is held up as the defining example of this truth.

Devotional:

When Abraham told his servants to wait while he and Isaac went to worship, he said something remarkable. He said, "We will return." He did not know exactly how God would provide. He did not have a plan B. But he spoke by faith before he had any visible evidence that things would work out. Bishop Hayes called this speaking those things that are not as though they already are. There are seasons in life when everything looks impossible -- when the test is overwhelming and the outcome is unclear. In those moments, God does not ask you to pretend the pain is not real. He asks you to trust that He is still writing the ending.

Reflection: Is there a situation in your life right now where you have stopped speaking by faith because the circumstances look too discouraging?

Practical Application: Choose one faith declaration rooted in Scripture and speak it aloud each morning this week over your most difficult situation. Let your words align with what God has promised rather than what you can currently see.

Day 4: God Will Provide -- But Timing Is His

Reading: Genesis 22:11-14 -- At the moment Abraham raises the knife, the angel of the Lord calls out and stops him. God provides a ram in the thicket, and Abraham names the place "The Lord Will Provide."

Devotional:

Bishop Hayes said it plainly: "He may not come when you want Him, but He is always on time." The ram was already in the thicket before Abraham ever climbed the mountain. God's provision was prepared before the test even began. But Abraham had to walk the full distance. He had to bind his son. He had to raise his hand. It was not until the very last moment that heaven interrupted. God's timing is rarely our timing. But His timing is always perfect. The "but" that the angel of the Lord spoke over Abraham's life is the same "but God" that is spoken over every believer who refuses to quit before the breakthrough comes.

Reflection: Where in your life are you tempted to give up right before God's provision arrives? What would it look like to hold on just a little longer?

Practical Application: Think of a time when God provided for you at the last possible moment. Write it down in detail. Return to that memory whenever doubt begins to creep in during your current season of waiting.

Day 5: Letting Go Leads to Greater Blessing

Reading: Genesis 22:15-18 -- Because Abraham did not withhold his son, God renews His covenant and promises to multiply Abraham's descendants and bless all nations through him.

Devotional:

Letting go is the hardest part -- but it is never the final part. What comes after surrender is always greater than what was surrendered. Abraham did not lose Isaac. He received him back, and with him came a renewed covenant, a deeper relationship with God, and a legacy that would bless the entire world. Bishop Hayes reminded us that God is not asking you to give things up so that your life becomes smaller. He is asking you to trust Him so that your life can become what He always intended it to be. The crossing point is not the end of the road. It is the beginning of a deeper walk with the God who provides, sustains, and never fails.

Reflection: What blessing might God be preparing on the other side of your surrender? What has fear of loss been preventing you from trusting God with completely?

Practical Application: Identify one area where you have been unwilling to fully surrender to God. Take a concrete step this week -- whether that is a conversation, a decision, a confession, or a commitment -- that reflects your willingness to let go and let God lead.

This reading plan is designed to be used in personal devotion, small group discussion, or family worship. Return to it whenever you find yourself at a crossing point and need the reminder that miracles do happen -- and that the God who provided for Abraham is the same God who is present with you today.