

5-Day Bible Reading Plan and Devotional Guide

Based on the sermon "Just a Little Water"

Day 1: God Is Still in the Boat With You

Reading: Mark 4:35-41 — Jesus commands his disciples to cross the Sea of Galilee, a fierce storm arises, and he rebukes the wind and waves with a word, bringing perfect calm.

Devotional: When storms rise without warning, it is easy to assume God has gone silent or stepped away. But silence is not absence. Jesus was in the boat the entire time — not panicking, not scrambling, not doubting the outcome. He had already said "let us go to the other side," and his word was the guarantee of arrival. Whatever storm is raging in your life right now, God has not abandoned the vessel. He is present, even when he appears still. Do not confuse his rest with his retreat. He knows exactly how much water is in the boat, and he knows exactly when to rise.

Personal Reflection: Where in your life are you interpreting God's silence as abandonment? What would change if you trusted that he is still present and in control?

Practical Application: Write down one area of your life where you feel God has been quiet. Commit to spending five minutes each morning this week simply sitting in his presence before asking for anything, practicing the discipline of trust over panic.

Day 2: Write the Vision, Do Not Abandon It

Reading: Habakkuk 2:1-4 — The prophet stations himself and waits on God, who instructs him to record the vision clearly, for though it may delay, it will certainly come to pass at its appointed time.

Devotional: Habakkuk did not pace the streets in despair. He went to his watchtower — a place of security and focus — and he waited with intentional expectation. God honored that posture. He told the prophet to write the vision down and make it plain, because delay is not denial. Many people abandon God-given visions at the first sign of resistance, mistaking a storm for a wrong turn. If God confirmed the direction, the storm does not cancel the destination. The vision is still valid. The appointed time is still coming. Your job is to stay at your post, keep bailing, and keep believing.

Personal Reflection: Has God given you a vision for your life, your family, or your calling that you have quietly set aside because it seemed too slow or too hard?

Practical Application: Take time today to physically write down the vision God has placed in your heart. Date it. Store it somewhere you will see it regularly. Let it serve as your anchor when the waves rise.

Day 3: Faith Over Fear — Choosing Your North Star

Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:7 — The believer is called to walk by faith and not by sight, trusting what cannot be seen over what the natural eye observes.

Devotional: The disciples had Jesus physically present in the boat, yet they still panicked because they were walking by sight. They saw the waves. They felt the water. They measured the threat with their eyes instead of their faith. Faith is not the absence of a storm — it is the refusal to let the storm become your point of reference. When everything around you is shifting, you need a fixed point, a North Star that does not move. That North Star is the word God has already spoken over your life. Feelings will lie to you in the middle of a storm. The word will not.

Personal Reflection: What are you currently using as your primary measure of God's faithfulness — your circumstances or his word? Where do those two things conflict right now?

Practical Application: Identify one promise from Scripture that speaks directly to your current situation. Write it on a card, place it somewhere visible, and speak it aloud each morning this week as a declaration of faith over fear.

Day 4: The Danger of Distraction — Guard the Vision

Reading: James 1:13-17 — God does not tempt anyone. Every good and perfect gift comes from above, from the Father of lights, in whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.

Devotional: The enemy rarely attacks a God-given vision with a frontal assault. He is far more patient than that. He uses distraction — small compromises, misaligned motives, shortcuts that look like blessings, and relationships that slowly pull you off course. The little foxes spoil the vine, not the lions. When your motives are wrong, your relationship with God suffers. When your relationship suffers, your faith weakens. And when your faith weakens, you become vulnerable to jumping ship at the first sign of trouble. Guard your heart. Guard your motives. Ask God regularly to search you and reveal anything that is pulling you away from his purpose for your life.

Personal Reflection: Are there any distractions in your life right now that are masquerading as opportunities or blessings? What would it look like to honestly evaluate them before God?

Practical Application: Set aside fifteen minutes today for a quiet, honest inventory of how you are spending your time, energy, and attention. Ask God to show you where distraction has taken ground, and surrender those areas back to him in prayer.

Day 5: Peace Be Still — Trusting God's Perfect Timing

Reading: Philippians 4:6-7 — Rather than being anxious about anything, bring every concern to God through prayer and thanksgiving, and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your heart and mind.

Devotional: When Jesus rose and spoke to the storm, he did not negotiate with it. He did not explain himself to the wind. He simply said peace, be still — and it was. That same authority belongs to the God who is walking with you through your storm today. He is not scrambling. He is not surprised. He has not forgotten the word he spoke over your life. His timing is not always our timing, but his timing is always right. Delay is not denial. A slow answer is not no answer. When the water is rising and you are still bailing, know this: he will rise at exactly the right moment, and when he does, there will be perfect calm.

Personal Reflection: What would it look like for you to genuinely surrender your timeline to God? Where are you still trying to control the outcome of something he has already promised to handle?

Practical Application: End each day this week by releasing one specific worry to God in prayer before you sleep. Thank him in advance for the peace he has promised, and trust that he is working even while you rest — just as he was in the stern of that boat, fully at peace, fully in control.