5-Day Bible Reading Plan and Devotional Guide Based on "E.R. Needed" -- Erasure & Restoration

Day 1: Miracles Are Still Happening

Reading: Luke 5:17-19 -- The account of Jesus teaching while the power of God was present to heal, and the paralyzed man being carried by his friends toward Christ.

Devotional: It is easy to walk through an ordinary week and miss the extraordinary work God is doing all around you. Health, clarity of mind, the ability to move and work and love -- these are not coincidences. They are miracles wearing the clothes of the everyday. The pastor reminded the congregation that God gives movement, sight, strength, and motivation as acts of grace renewed every single morning. Open your eyes today. The same power that was present in that crowded room is present wherever you are right now. Do not let another miracle pass you by without pausing to give God the glory He deserves.

Reflection: What miracle have you been taking for granted? Name it specifically and offer a prayer of gratitude today.

Practical Application: Keep a small journal this week. Each morning, write down one thing God has given you that you did not earn. At the end of the week, read the list aloud as an act of praise.

Day 2: Friends Who Carry You

Reading: Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 -- The passage affirms that two are better than one, and that a friend can help lift someone who has fallen.

Devotional: The friends in Luke 5 did not simply feel sorry for the paralyzed man and move on. They carried him. When the door was blocked, they climbed to the roof. When the roof was in the way, they tore it open. Their determination was not casual concern -- it was active, costly, and relentless love. The pastor said plainly that friends do not leave friends behind. Real community does not admire people from a distance when they are struggling. It gets close, gets inconvenient, and finds another way in. Someone in your life may be paralyzed by pain, sin, or despair right now. They need you to carry them toward Jesus, not wait for them to find their own way.

Reflection: Is there someone in your life who is spiritually or emotionally paralyzed? What is one specific thing you can do this week to carry them closer to Christ?

Practical Application: Reach out today to one person you know has been absent from community, struggling in silence, or carrying a heavy burden. Do not just send a message -- make a plan to be present with them in a real and tangible way.

Day 3: God's Erasure -- Forgiveness That Goes to the Root

Reading: Psalm 103:10-12 -- This passage declares that God does not deal with us according to our sins, and that He has removed our transgressions as far as the east is from the west.

Devotional: When the paralyzed man was lowered through the roof, the crowd expected Jesus to address the obvious -- the broken body lying on the stretcher. Instead, Jesus went deeper. He spoke to the root. He said the man's sins were forgiven. Before the body was touched, the soul was cleansed. God's ER does not just treat symptoms. It addresses the source. Many of us carry the weight of past sins like a wound that never fully healed because we have never truly believed that God erased it completely. The pastor declared that God can cover what people are trying to dig up, and erase what you are most embarrassed about. That is not wishful thinking -- it is the character of God.

Reflection: Is there a sin or failure from your past that you have never fully released to God? What would it mean to truly believe that He has removed it as far as the east is from the west?

Practical Application: Write down the thing you most struggle to believe God has forgiven. Then, as an act of faith, tear up the paper or delete the note. Speak aloud: "God has erased this. I will not carry it anymore."

Day 4: When Religion Gets in the Way of Restoration

Reading: Luke 5:21-24 -- The scribes and Pharisees question Jesus inwardly, and He responds by demonstrating His authority to both forgive sins and heal the body.

Devotional: The Pharisees sat in the same room as a miracle and chose suspicion over celebration. They were so committed to their religious framework that they could not recognize God moving right in front of them. The pastor warned that some religious people will never want to see you get better. They will question your growth, undermine your testimony, and suggest that someone with your history does not qualify for God's restoration. Do not let those voices define your journey. Jesus did not ask the Pharisees for permission to forgive. He simply forgave. He did not wait for the crowd's approval to heal. He simply healed. God's grace does not require a vote. It requires your faith.

Reflection: Have you allowed the skepticism of others -- or your own internalized religious shame -- to make you doubt that God's restoration is available to you personally?

Practical Application: Identify one voice in your life, whether external or internal, that consistently tells you that you are too far gone for God's grace. Commit to countering that voice this week with a specific truth from Scripture each time it speaks.

Day 5: Restored to Walk and Glorify

Reading: Luke 5:25-26 -- The healed man immediately rose, picked up what he had been lying on, went home glorifying God, and the crowd was struck with awe and gave glory to God as well.

Devotional: The man did not leave the room the same way he entered it. He came in on a stretcher carried by others. He walked out carrying the stretcher himself, glorifying God with every step. That is the full picture of God's ER -- erasure and restoral. What once held you down becomes the very thing you carry as a testimony of what God has done. The pastor said that we serve a God who not only forgives sin but heals the body and the broken heart. He said it plainly: that is light work for our God. Whatever you came into this week carrying, God's desire is that you leave differently -- walking, restored, and giving Him the glory that a miracle demands.

Reflection: What would it look like for you to walk out of this season carrying your stretcher instead of lying on it? What testimony is God preparing you to carry?

Practical Application: Share your testimony with one person this week -- not a polished version, but an honest account of where you were and what God has done. Let your story become someone else's reason to believe that miracles still happen.