



5 Day Devotionals for I AM Worship Church
From Tomb To Testimony
Pastor Mark Ogletree • Sunday, April 19, 2026



Monday: The Power of Staying

Reading: John 20:1-10

Devotional: Peter and John came to the tomb, looked inside, and left. Mary stayed. In our fast-paced, microwave society, we rush through everything—even our encounters with God. We want instant answers, quick fixes, and immediate breakthroughs. But God doesn't move according to our schedules. What God is doing IN you is deeper than what you want FROM Him. Faithful people stay when others leave. Your faithfulness positions you for a story worth telling. Today, resist the urge to rush. Whether in prayer, worship, or simply sitting in His presence, be a stayer. The breakthrough you're seeking may come in the moments after you thought it was time to go. If you linger long enough, you won't leave the same way you came in.

Reflection Question: Where in my spiritual life am I rushing when God is asking me to stay?

Tuesday: When Emotions Cloud Your Vision

Reading: John 20:11-13

Devotional: Mary was so overwhelmed with grief that she was talking to angels and didn't even realize it. When emotions get high, understanding becomes low, and we act out of character. The issue isn't that God isn't there—it's that we're too overwhelmed to see Him clearly. You might be going through something right now that has you super emotional and totally overwhelmed. That doesn't mean you lack faith. It means you're human. But here's the truth: just because you don't understand what God is doing doesn't mean He's not moving in your life. What looks like an ending might actually be the beginning of something greater. God is present in your chaos, even when you can't see Him through your tears.

Reflection Question: What emotions are currently clouding my ability to see God's presence and work in my life?

Wednesday: One Word Changes Everything

Reading: John 20:14-16



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Devotional: Mary didn't recognize Jesus until He called her name. One word—"Mary"—changed everything. Her confusion broke. Her grief lifted. Her perspective shifted. What she couldn't see before, she suddenly couldn't miss. You don't need another podcast, another opinion, or another explanation. You need the one word that Jesus has already spoken over your life. When Jesus speaks, everything changes. He knows how to say one thing and ten things change. He knows how to call your name and bring clarity to all the chaos. That one word from Jesus can do what nothing else can do—it turns your confusion into clarity, your pain into peace, your moment into a testimony. Stop searching everywhere else. Listen for Him calling your name.

Reflection Question: What has Jesus already spoken over my life that I need to hold onto today?

Thursday: Your Past Doesn't Disqualify Your Future

Reading: Luke 8:1-3 (Mary Magdalene's deliverance)

Devotional: Mary Magdalene was delivered from seven demons. People remembered her by her past, whispered about her reputation, and questioned why Jesus let "that woman" follow Him. But Jesus didn't look at Mary through the lens of her worst moment—He looked at her through the lens of what she was becoming. God doesn't just erase your past; He redeems it. Your past isn't disqualifying you; it's preparing your testimony. Jesus doesn't call you by what you were—He calls you by what you're becoming. The world may have written you off, but God is writing you into His story. You went from possessed to proclaiming, from broken to chosen, from disqualified to commissioned. Your faithfulness positions you for a story worth telling.

Reflection Question: How is God redeeming my past and turning it into a testimony for His glory?

Friday: Commissioned with a Message

Reading: John 20:17-18

Devotional: Mary was the first person Jesus appeared to after the resurrection. Not Peter. Not John. A woman once possessed by demons became the first preacher of the resurrection message. Why her? Because she stayed. She was faithful. She loved Him. God isn't looking for the most talented, the most



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qualified, or the loudest voice. He's looking for stayers—people who will be faithful, who are always in the room. Mary wasn't the most recognizable, but she was always present: at the cross, at the burial, at the tomb. And she stayed long enough to see what others missed and hear what others didn't hear. You have a testimony of Jesus inside you. Tell your story. But remember—God's not done with your story yet. There's more breakthrough, more revelation, more of His presence waiting for those who stay.

Reflection Question: How can I cultivate a lifestyle of faithfulness and presence with God, not just pit-stop moments?

Closing Prayer: *Father, teach us to be stayers in Your presence. Help us not to rush through our encounters with You, but to linger long enough to receive what You want to give us. Call us by name, bring clarity to our confusion, and use our testimonies—past and present—for Your glory. We surrender our schedules, our emotions, and our expectations. Do what only You can do. In Jesus' name, Amen.*