5 Day Devotionals for I AM Worship Church

The Towel Over The Ticket

Pastor Mark Ogletree • Sunday, November 8, 2026

Day 1: Knowing Who You Are

Reading: John 13:1-5

Devotional: Before Jesus picked up the towel, He knew exactly who He was. He knew where He came from and where He was going. That settled identity was the foundation for His service. When we are unsure of who we are, we fight for position, grasp for recognition, and grow defensive when challenged. But when our identity is rooted in Christ, we kneel without shame and serve without resentment. You are not defined by your politics, your past, your failures, or the opinions of others. You are a child of God, a citizen of heaven, an ambassador of Christ. Serve from that place today.

Reflection: In what areas of your life are you still fighting for position rather than serving from a place of settled identity in Christ?

Practical Application: Identify one relationship this week where your striving for recognition. Choose one specific act of humble service toward that person, and do it without announcing it.

Day 2: The Table Has Room for Everyone

Reading: Luke 5:27-32

Devotional: At the Last Supper table sat a tax collector and a zealot, men who, in any other setting, would have been on opposite sides of every argument. Yet Jesus did not ask them to resolve their differences before He served them. He simply knelt and washed both pairs of feet. The church is not a gathering of people who all think alike, vote alike, or come from the same background. It is a gathering of broken people made whole by the same Savior. The towel Jesus picked up was not selective. It reached every pair of feet at that table, including yours.

Reflection: Is there someone in your church, family, or community whose differences make it difficult for you to serve them with genuine love?

Practical Application: Reach out this week to someone with whom you have significant disagreement. Do not go to debate or correct. Go simply to listen and to honor their dignity as someone created in the image of God.

Day 3: Loving Like Jesus Loves

Reading: John 13:31-35; Romans 5:6-8

Devotional: The new command Jesus gave His disciples was not entirely new in subject but entirely new in standard. The measuring stick was no longer your own capacity for love. It was His. Romans 5 reminds us that Christ demonstrated His love for us while we were still in our sin, before we had done anything to deserve it. That is the standard. Love first. Love to the end. Love even when it costs you something. This kind of love is not something you manufacture through discipline alone. It flows from a life surrendered to the Holy Spirit, who pours the love of God into your heart.

Reflection: Are you loving people conditionally, or only if it is convenient or reciprocated?

Practical Application: Write down the name of one person who has hurt or betrayed you. Spend five minutes in prayer asking God to fill you with genuine love for that person. Then take one small, concrete step toward extending grace to them this week.

Day 4: Remaining at the Table

Reading: John 6:60-69; Hebrews 12:1-3

Devotional: When the hard words came, most of the crowd walked away. Only a remnant remained. When Peter was asked whether they would leave too, his answer was simple and profound: where else would we go? That is the confession of someone who has tasted the goodness of God and found nothing else that compares. Life will present you with reasons to walk away from Jesus. Disappointment, unanswered questions, seasons of silence, and the pull of the

world will all press against your faith. But Hebrews calls you to fix your eyes on Jesus, the author and finisher of your faith. Remain. He is worth it.

Reflection: What circumstances or disappointments have tempted you to walk away from your faith or from the community of believers?

Practical Application: Identify one spiritual discipline, whether prayer, Scripture reading, or fellowship, that you have allowed to lapse. Recommit to it this week as a deliberate act of remaining at the table with Jesus.

Day 5: Your Love Is the Proof

Reading: John 13:35; 1 John 4:7-12

Devotional: Jesus did not say the world would know His disciples by their political positions, their church attendance, their theological arguments, or even their miracles. He said the world would know them by their love for one another. First John echoes this, reminding us that love originates in God and that anyone who loves reflects something of God's nature to the world around them. In a world that is loud with division, fear, and hostility, the quiet, costly, consistent love of a Spirit-filled believer is one of the most powerful testimonies available. Your love is not just a feeling. It is evidence. It is witness. It is proof.

Reflection: What does the way you treat people this week say to the watching world about the Jesus you claim to follow?

Practical Application: At the end of each day this week, ask yourself one honest question: did the way I treated people today point them toward Jesus or push them away? Let that daily reflection shape the choices you make the following morning.