

5-Day Devotional: Rooted Deep in Christ
Pastor Jay Hassman
June 19, 2026

Day 1: The Vine and the Branches

Reading: John 15:1-8

Devotional: Jesus declares, "I am the vine, you are the branches." This isn't a call to work harder but to remain closer. A branch doesn't strive to produce grapes. It simply stays connected to the vine, and fruit happens naturally. The Christian life works the same way. We exhaust ourselves trying to manufacture patience, joy, and love through sheer willpower, when Jesus invites us simply to abide. Today, ask yourself: Am I trying to produce fruit, or am I staying connected to the Source? Your fruitfulness flows from your closeness to Christ. Stop striving. Start abiding. Let His life flow through you and watch what He produces in ways you never could alone.

Day 2: Coming Boldly to the Throne

Reading: Hebrews 4:14-16

Devotional: You are invited to approach the throne of grace with confidence and not because of your perfection, but because of Christ's finished work. This isn't a throne of judgment where you must prove your worth; it's a throne of grace where mercy and help await you. Too often we hide from God when we fail, thinking we must clean ourselves up first. But God says, "Come." Come with your mess. Come with your questions. Come with your failures. Your Heavenly Father isn't waiting to condemn you; He's waiting to embrace you. Prayer isn't about earning access because Jesus already opened the door. Today, walk boldly through that door and experience the grace that's already yours.

Day 3: Praying Without Ceasing

Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18; Colossians 4:2-6

Devotional: "Pray without ceasing" doesn't mean constant formal prayer but living in continuous awareness of God's presence. Prayer becomes the quiet conversation running beneath everything you do. A whispered "thank You" at sunrise, a cry for wisdom before a difficult conversation, intercession the moment someone comes to mind. This is abiding prayer, the lifestyle of someone who knows they cannot navigate life alone. Paul urges us to "devote ourselves to prayer," showing steadfast faithfulness like God's chesed love toward us. Today, practice turning ordinary moments into prayer. Let your commute become worship time. Let your concerns become conversations with your Father. Transform your day from self-reliance into God-dependence, one prayer at a time.

Day 4: Aligning Our Hearts with His Will

Reading: Philippians 4:6-7; Matthew 26:36-42

Devotional: In Gethsemane, Jesus prayed honestly when He said "Let this cup pass from Me"; however, —He surrendered completely by saying "Not My will, but Yours." This is the pattern of mature prayer: honest expression followed by humble submission. As we abide in Christ and His

Word dwells in us, something miraculous happens and our desires begin aligning with His. We stop demanding God bless our plans and start asking Him to accomplish His purposes. Prayer doesn't twist God's arm; it transforms our hearts. The peace Paul promises isn't the absence of problems but God's presence within them. Today, bring your honest requests to God, but leave room to say, "Nevertheless, Your will be done." Trust that His plans are better than yours.

Day 5: The Cross Makes Abiding Possible

Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Romans 5:6-11

Devotional: Every prayer you pray, every moment you abide in Christ, is made possible by the cross. You don't come to God because you've earned it through consistent prayer or flawless faith. You come because Jesus gave Himself for you. His body was broken so yours could be healed. His blood was shed so your sins could be washed away. The invitation to abide was purchased at Calvary. When you feel unworthy of God's presence, remember worthiness was never the requirement. Christ's finished work is your access. As you take communion, remember not just what Jesus did, but why: love. Unfailing, covenant-keeping, steadfast love. Today, rest in this truth: you are forever connected to the Vine because of what Jesus accomplished for you.