

5-Day Devotional: Rooted in Christ – America at 250
Pastor Jay Hassman
July 5, 2026

Day 1: Building on the Right Foundation

Reading: Matthew 7:24-27

Devotional: Jesus tells us that everyone who hears His words and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The storms came, but the house stood firm. What foundation are you building your life upon? Career success, financial security, and relationships are blessings, but they make poor foundations. They shift like sand beneath our feet. Only Christ provides the unshakable foundation we need. Before the storms of life reveal what you're standing on, examine your foundation today. Are you regularly in God's Word? Is prayer your first response or last resort? The time to build deep roots is now, before the winds begin to blow.

Reflection Question: What "sand" have I been building on that needs to be replaced with the solid rock of Christ?

Day 2: The Power of Spiritual Roots

Reading: Colossians 2:6-10

Devotional: Paul uses the imagery of being "rooted and built up" in Christ and that is a language that speaks of depth, stability, and growth. A mighty oak tree survives hurricanes not because of what's visible above ground, but because of the extensive root system hidden below. Your spiritual roots are cultivated in the unseen moments: early morning prayer, late-night Scripture reading, quiet acts of obedience no one applauds. These hidden disciplines determine whether you'll stand or fall when trials come. The world celebrates the visible meaning things that people can see. That includes success, status, achievement. God is cultivating something deeper in you. Don't despise the hidden work. Those roots you're growing in secret will hold you steady in public storms.

Reflection Question: What daily spiritual discipline can I commit to that will deepen my roots in Christ?

Day 3: Remembering God's Faithfulness

Reading: Psalm 78:1-8

Devotional: "We will not hide them from their children, telling the generation to come the praises of the LORD." Every generation stands one generation away from forgetting God's faithfulness. The psalmist understood that faith isn't automatically inherited. It must be intentionally passed down. What stories of God's faithfulness are you sharing with those who come after you? Your testimony matters. Your children and grandchildren need to hear how God carried you through difficulty, answered specific prayers, and proved Himself faithful. Don't assume they know. Tell them about the Red Sea moments in your life. Recount the wilderness seasons where God provided. Share how He transformed your heart. You are running a relay race, and the baton of faith must be passed with intention.

Reflection Question: Who in my life needs to hear my testimony of God's faithfulness this week?

Day 4: Citizens of Heaven, Residents of Earth

Reading: Ephesians 2:19-22; Philippians 3:20-21

Devotional: Paul reminds us that our citizenship is in heaven, even while we live on earth. This dual identity transforms how we engage with our world. We can love our country without making it our savior. We can participate in civic life without placing ultimate hope in political solutions. We can celebrate freedom while remembering our greatest freedom was purchased at Calvary. This heavenly citizenship doesn't make us less engaged. It is something that makes us better citizens. Christians should be the most honest, compassionate, hardworking, and gracious people in any nation because we represent a different King. When earthly kingdoms rise and fall, Christ's Kingdom remains unshaken. Let this truth anchor you when headlines create anxiety and uncertainty swirls around you.

Reflection Question: How does my identity as a citizen of heaven change the way I live today?

Day 5: Abounding with Thanksgiving

Reading: Colossians 2:6-7; Psalm 100

Devotional: Paul concludes his instruction about being rooted in Christ with a call to abound in thanksgiving. Gratitude isn't merely a polite response to blessing it's a spiritual discipline that transforms perspective. When you cultivate thankfulness, you remember that every good gift comes from above. You recognize God's hand in both provision and pruning. You see scars not just as reminders of pain, but as testimonies of survival and grace. A grateful heart doesn't deny difficulty; it chooses to see God's faithfulness within it. As you reflect on God's goodness, His salvation, His presence, His countless mercies is when you let thanksgiving overflow. A deeply rooted Christian is a deeply grateful Christian, recognizing that even in a changing world, God's mercy is everlasting and His truth endures to all generations.

Reflection Question: What three specific blessings can I thank God for today, and how have they revealed His character to me?