5-Day Bible Reading Plan and Devotional Guide

Based on the Themes of Justification, Grace, Faith, Adoption, and Peace with God

---

Day 1: The Verdict Is In Reading: Romans 5:1 Devotional: The courtroom of eternity has already rendered its verdict for those who are in Christ. You are not declared righteous because of your record, your effort, or your moral achievement. You are declared righteous because your advocate, Jesus Christ, stepped forward and said, "Put it on my account." That declaration is not a feeling that rises and falls with your circumstances. It is a legal and eternal fact spoken by the Judge of all creation. When the enemy comes to accuse you, and he will, remember that God Himself has already spoken. His word overrules every accusation.

Reflection: In what area of your life are you still trying to earn what Christ has already freely given you?

Practical Application: Write down one accusation you frequently believe about yourself and place beside it the words "declared not guilty by God through Christ."

Day 2: The Great Exchange Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:21 Devotional: The great exchange is the heartbeat of the gospel. God took the one who knew no sin and made him to bear the full weight of human sinfulness, so that those who believe might receive the righteousness of God in return. This is not a transaction that makes logical sense by any human standard. It is a divine act of love that defies calculation. Martin Luther trembled before the righteousness of God until he understood that it was not only the standard that judges us but the gift that saves us. Stop fearing what God offers freely. Receive it.

Reflection: Have you fully accepted the great exchange, or are you still presenting your own goodness to God as though it were sufficient?

Practical Application: Spend time in prayer today thanking God specifically for taking what was yours and giving you what was His.

Day 3: Adopted, Not Orphaned Reading: Romans 8:15 and 1 John 3:1 Devotional: Justification changes your legal standing before God. Adoption changes your relational

standing. You are not simply a forgiven criminal who has been released from prison. You are a beloved child who has been welcomed into the family of the Most High God. In the Roman world, adoption carried extraordinary weight. All prior debts were cancelled. A new name was given. Full inheritance rights were granted. Your previous identity was legally erased. This is precisely what God has done for the believer in Christ. You are no longer an orphan wandering without belonging. You have a Father, and He has lavished His love on you.

Reflection: Do you relate to God more as a distant judge or as a loving Father? What has shaped that perception?

Practical Application: Identify one relationship in your life where you can model the kind of unconditional acceptance that God demonstrated through adoption.

Day 4: Peace in the Dark Places Reading: Romans 8:1 and Romans 8:33-34 Devotional: Life will bring seasons of darkness, illness, grief, and pain. The comfort bags described in this sermon are a small but meaningful reminder that the church is called to enter those dark places alongside hurting people. God is not absent in the hospital room or the infusion center. He is present, and He uses the hands and hearts of His people to make that presence known. Romans 8:1 declares that there is no condemnation for those in Christ, and Romans 8:33-34 reminds us that Christ Himself intercedes for us at the right hand of God. You are not alone in your valley.

Reflection: Is there someone in your life walking through a dark season who needs to be reminded that they are not forgotten?

Practical Application: Reach out today to one person who is suffering. A simple word, a handwritten note, or a moment of prayer offered on their behalf can carry the weight of eternity.

Day 5: Grace Alone, Faith Alone, Christ Alone Reading: Romans 4:5 and Ephesians 2:8-9 Devotional: The entire foundation of the Christian life rests on a truth that is both simple and staggering. Salvation is not achieved. It is received. It is not earned through religious performance, moral effort, or accumulated good deeds. It comes by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone. Romans 4:5 describes a God who justifies the ungodly, not the deserving. That is the only category any of us truly belong to. When we stop striving to be good enough and begin trusting the One who already is, everything changes. The burden lifts. The peace arrives. The verdict stands. Come to Him exactly as you are.

Reflection: What would change about your daily life if you truly believed that nothing more was required of you than to trust Christ?

Practical Application: Share the gospel with someone this week using the courtroom illustration. Explain that every person has an advocate, and His name is Jesus.