

5 Day Devotional

Day 1: Don't Miss Out

Devotional

Thomas wasn't there when Jesus first appeared to the disciples after His resurrection. One moment of absence cost him dearly, earning him a reputation that lasted centuries. We live in an age where spiritual resources are more accessible than ever—online services, multiple church gatherings, countless ways to connect with God. Yet somehow, it's easier than ever to miss out on divine encounters. Missing church isn't just about skipping a service; it's about potentially missing the moment when Jesus shows up in a powerful way. When we're absent from fellowship, prayer, or worship, we risk missing the very thing our souls need most. Thomas's absence teaches us that being present matters. God moves in community, in gathered worship, in shared faith experiences. The question isn't whether Jesus will show up—He always does. The question is whether we'll be there to encounter Him.

Bible Verse

'But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came.' - John 20:24 (King James Version (KJV))

Reflection Question

What spiritual opportunities or encounters might you be missing because of your absence from fellowship or worship?

Quote

He missed out. He missed out on this. And I want to ask you this morning, just by way of introduction, is there something you're missing out on. What are you missing out on in regard to Faith?

Prayer

Lord, help me prioritize being present where You are moving. Don't let me miss the encounters You have prepared for me.

Day 2: Courageous Questions

Devotional

Before Thomas became known for his doubts, he displayed remarkable courage. When Jesus decided to return to Judea to raise Lazarus, knowing the danger that awaited, it was Thomas who boldly declared, "Let us also go, that we may die with him." This wasn't doubt speaking—this was courage. Thomas was willing to face death alongside Jesus. Later, his honest questions led to one of the most profound theological statements in Scripture: "I am the way, the truth, and the life." Sometimes what we label as doubt is actually courage—the courage to ask hard questions, to seek deeper understanding, to wrestle with faith rather than accept shallow answers. God isn't threatened by our questions; He uses them to reveal greater truths. Thomas's courage to question brought clarity not just for himself, but for all believers throughout history.

Bible Verse

'Then said Thomas, which is called Didymus, unto his fellowdisciples, Let us also go, that we may die with him.' - John 11:16 (King James Version (KJV))

Reflection Question

What honest questions about faith have you been afraid to ask, and how might God use them to deepen your understanding?

Quote

Thomas is courage brought us to the most profound and celebrated miracle of Jesus. The raising of Lazarus from the dead. Courageous Thomas.

Prayer

God, give me courage to ask honest questions and seek deeper truth. Use my wrestling to draw me closer to You.

Day 3: The Peace That Changes Everything

Devotional

When Jesus appeared to His disciples, His first words were "Peace be unto you." This wasn't a casual greeting—it was a supernatural impartation. The disciples had been hiding in fear, traumatized by recent events, uncertain about their future. But Jesus brought them a peace that transcended their circumstances. This peace isn't just the absence of conflict; it's the presence of God's power in the midst of chaos. As believers, we carry this same peace. When problems arise, when diagnoses come, when relationships break, we respond differently because we have access to resurrection peace. The world desperately needs what we have. They need to see people who don't panic in crisis, who don't despair in difficulty, who carry hope in hopeless situations. Your peace in the storm becomes a testimony to others that there's something more—something they need.

Bible Verse

'Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you.' - John 20:21 (King James Version (KJV))

Reflection Question

How has God's peace in your life during difficult times served as a witness to others around you?

Quote

Peace is not just a hippie statement. It's not just a symbol. But peace is something that they needed. Peace is something that the world needs, but it can only be found in Jesus.

Prayer

Jesus, fill me with Your supernatural peace. Let others see Your presence in my life through how I respond to challenges.

Day 4: You Have Something They Need

Devotional

The church possesses something the world desperately needs—an encounter with the risen Jesus. God chose to make His wisdom known through us, His people. You've had an "upper room experience" that others haven't. Your relationship with Jesus, your testimony, your transformation—these aren't just personal blessings; they're tools for reaching others. Every believer carries the manifold wisdom of God within them. When you've experienced God's faithfulness, His healing, His provision, His peace—you become a living testimony of His power. The world is searching for what you already have. They need to see that there's something more than what this world offers. Your encounter with Jesus is exactly what someone in your circle needs to hear. Don't underestimate the power of your story or the impact of your transformed life.

Bible Verse

'To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God.' - Ephesians 3:10 (King James Version (KJV))

Reflection Question

Who in your life needs to hear about your encounter with Jesus, and how can you share it with them this week?

Quote

Church, you have something that others don't. Your encounter with Jesus is just what somebody else needs. You're amazing. You have had that upper room experience.

Prayer

Lord, help me recognize that my story matters. Give me boldness to share Your goodness with those who need to hear it.

Day 5: My Lord and My God

Devotional

When Thomas finally encountered the risen Jesus, his response was immediate and profound: "My Lord and my God." This wasn't just acknowledgment—it was personal declaration. Thomas made this truth his own. He didn't just say "the Lord" or "a God"—he said "MY Lord and MY God." The resurrection changes everything. It transformed Thomas from a doubter to a believer, from questioning to declaring, from absence to presence. This is where every believer must arrive—at the place of personal declaration. Have you made this declaration your own? The resurrection isn't just a historical event; it's a present reality that transforms lives today. When you truly encounter the risen Jesus, you're changed. Your perspective shifts, your responses change, your hope is renewed. Thomas teaches us that even our doubts can lead to the strongest declarations of faith.

Bible Verse

'And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God.' - John 20:28 (King James Version (KJV))

Reflection Question

Have you personally declared Jesus as both your Lord and your God, and how has this declaration changed your daily life?

Quote

Thomas makes a declaration that others have not made. And he makes this declaration his own. He says, my Lord and my God. And on Easter Sunday, this is where we arrive. Have you said that?

Prayer

Jesus, I declare You as my Lord and my God. Let this truth transform every area of my life and strengthen my faith daily.