



5 Day Devotional: Watch – [The Climb Begins In The Valley](#)

Day 1: When You Cry Out, He Hears You

Devotional

Have you ever felt like your prayers were bouncing off the ceiling? Like you were crying out into silence, wondering if anyone was actually listening? The psalmist knew that feeling. He was surrounded by people who lied, stirred up conflict, and made life exhausting. And yet, right in the middle of that mess, he made a declaration that changes everything: God answered Him. Not "God eventually fixed everything." Not "God made it all go away." Simply this: He answered. That is the starting point of faith. Not a perfect life, but a God who hears. When you are in your hardest season, when the situation feels impossible and the weight feels unbearable, God is not distant. He is not distracted. He is listening. Sometimes we wait until we have exhausted every other option before we turn to God. We try to manage, fix, and push through on our own. But God is not a last resort. He is the first place we should run. Your distress is not a sign that God has abandoned you. It is actually an invitation to discover just how close He really is. He meets us in the valley, not just on the mountaintop.

Bible Verse

"In my distress I called to the Lord, and He answered me." - Psalm 120:1

Reflection Question

When life gets hard, what is usually the first place you turn, and what would it look like to make God your first response instead of your last resort?

Prayer

Lord, thank You that You hear me when I call. Teach me to run to You first, not last, and remind me today that You are closer than I think. Amen.

Notes

Day 2: God Is Enough, Even When It Doesn't Feel Like It

Devotional

There is a moment in every difficult season when you realize you have run out of options. You have tried everything. You have called everyone. And you are still stuck. That moment, as uncomfortable as it is, might be one of the most important moments of your life. When everything else is stripped away, something remarkable happens. We stop treating God like a backup plan and start discovering that He is actually everything we need. It is not a lesson we tend to learn on easy days. It is learned in the valley, in the waiting, in the places where we feel most helpless. God is not surprised by your valley. He is not scrambling to figure out what to do. In fact, He may be using the very thing you are praying He would remove to draw you closer to Himself. That is a hard truth, but it is also a deeply hopeful one. Because it means nothing in your life is wasted. The struggle, the uncertainty, the season that feels like it is going nowhere, all of it is being used by a God who loves you and is working on your behalf. You are not forgotten. You are being formed.

Bible Verse

"I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us." - Romans 8:18

Reflection Question

Is there something in your life right now that you have been asking God to remove? What might it look like to ask Him what He wants to teach you through it instead?

Prayer

Father, help me to trust You even when I do not understand what You are doing. Remind me that You are enough, and that You are using this season for my good and Your glory. Amen.

Notes

Day 3: You Were Made for More Than This World

Devotional

Have you ever felt like you just do not quite fit in? Like the values around you are not your values, and the things the world celebrates leave you feeling empty? That feeling is not a flaw. It is actually a clue. The psalmist described living among people who loved conflict while he longed for peace. He felt out of place, like a stranger in a land that was not his home. And honestly, that is exactly what he was. As followers of Jesus, we belong to another kingdom. The things that grieve us, the lies, the conflict, the brokenness, they grieve us because we were made by a God who is holy, peaceful, and true. We feel the weight of a broken world because we were created for a restored one. This is not a reason to disengage or give up on the people around you. It is actually the opposite. Knowing where you belong gives you the freedom to love people well right where you are, without losing yourself in the process. You do not have to become what surrounds you. You are called to represent something better, a kingdom defined by love, truth, and peace. That is not a burden. It is a privilege.

Bible Verse

"For from him and through him and for him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen." - Romans 11:36

Reflection Question

In what area of your life do you feel the most pressure to conform to the values around you, and how might remembering your true identity in Christ change how you respond?

Prayer

Lord, remind me today that I belong to You and Your kingdom. Give me the courage to live differently, and let my life point others toward You. Amen.

Notes

Day 4: Stay the Course, Even When Nothing Is Resolved

Devotional

We love resolution. We want the conflict to end, the relationship to be restored, the diagnosis to come back clear. We want the story to wrap up neatly. But Psalm 120 does not end that way. The liars are still there. The conflict is still present. Nothing has been fixed. And yet, something has shifted. The psalmist is now facing Jerusalem. He is pointed in the right direction. That is a picture of real, honest faith. It is not pretending everything is fine. It is not waiting until life is perfect to trust God. It is simply turning toward Him, one step at a time, even when the circumstances have not changed. Jesus walked this same road. He was surrounded by hatred, betrayal, and injustice. He never became what the world around Him was doing. He kept loving. He kept speaking truth. He kept moving forward, all the way to the cross, and through it, He made a way for us. Because He walked through the deepest valley, you do not have to walk through yours alone. You do not need all the answers today. You just need to be facing the right direction.

Bible Verse

"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." - John 3:16

Reflection Question

What would it look like for you to take one step of faith today, even if your circumstances have not changed and you do not yet have the resolution you are hoping for?

Prayer

Jesus, thank You for walking through the valley so I never have to walk alone. Help me to keep my eyes on You today, even when the road ahead feels uncertain. Amen.

Notes

Day 5: The Valley Is Where the Journey Begins

Devotional

It is easy to assume that a valley means something has gone wrong. That if you were really following God, life would be smoother. But what if the valley is not a detour? What if it is exactly where God intended to meet you? The Songs of Ascent begin in distress, not triumph. The journey to Jerusalem, to worship, to the presence of God, starts in a hard place. That is not an accident. It is a reminder that God does not wait for your life to be together before He starts working in it. The valley is where we learn things we could never learn on the mountaintop. It is where trust is built, where character is formed, and where we discover that God's provision is not just waiting for us at the destination. It is already happening right where we are. Your hard season is not evidence that God has forgotten you. It may be the very beginning of the greatest journey of your life. Every step you take, even the shaky

ones, even the ones taken through tears, is a step toward Him. So take the next step. Face Jerusalem. God is already there, and He is already at work.

Bible Verse

"I will repay you for the years the locusts have eaten." - Joel 2:25

Reflection Question

Looking back, can you identify a valley in your past where God was working even when you could not see it? How does that shape the way you view the valley you might be in right now?

Prayer

God, help me to trust that You are already at work in this season, even when I cannot see it. Give me the courage to keep walking toward You, one step at a time. Amen.

Notes
