

5 Day Devotional

Day 1: Known by Name

Devotional

Nobody in the city knew Lazarus. He was the man people stepped over on their way to somewhere more important. He had no status, no influence, and no one to advocate for him. By every measure the world uses, he was invisible.

But God knew His name.

That is one of the most powerful truths in all of Scripture. While the rich man was celebrated by everyone around him, heaven was silent about him. But Lazarus, the forgotten beggar at the gate, was known personally by God. And when he died, God sent angels to escort Him home.

You may feel overlooked right now. Maybe you feel like your struggles go unnoticed, like you are sitting at the gate while life passes you by. Take heart. God sees you. He knows your name. He knows your pain, your story, and every detail of what you are carrying.

Your value is never determined by who recognizes you here. It is determined by the One who created you. And He has never once taken His eyes off of you.

This is the foundation everything else builds on. Before we talk about eternity, before we wrestle with hard questions about heaven and hell, we start here. God knows you. He loves you. And that changes everything.

Bible Verse

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." - John 3:16 (New King James Version)

Reflection Question

If you truly believed that God knows your name and sees every detail of your life, how would that change the way you face your hardest days?

Quote

Nobody in the city knows him, but God mentions His name.

Prayer

Lord, thank You for seeing me when the world looks past me. Help me to rest in the truth that I am known and loved by You. Amen.

Day 2: The Great Equalizer

Devotional

The rich man had everything. Fine clothes, lavish meals, and a reputation that opened every door. Lazarus had nothing. No home, no health, and no help. From the outside, it looked like the rich man had won at life.

Then death came for both of them.

No amount of wealth, influence, or status could hold death back. In a single moment, every advantage the rich man had accumulated meant absolutely nothing. Death does not negotiate. It does not accept payment. It is the great equalizer, and it reminds every one of us that this life is not the final word.

This is not meant to frighten you. It is meant to free you. When you understand that eternity is real and that this life is brief, it reorders your priorities in the best possible way. The things that feel so urgent and so permanent begin to loosen their grip.

What you do with Jesus Christ right now matters more than anything else you will ever decide. Not because life does not matter, but because what comes after life is forever. The good news is that the same God who escorted Lazarus home is inviting you into that same relationship today. He is not waiting for you to get it all together. He is simply asking you to come.

Bible Verse

"For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?" - Matthew 16:26 (New King James Version)

Reflection Question

If death is the great equalizer, what are you currently investing in that will still matter on the other side of eternity?

Quote

Death became the great equalizer. Do you know that no matter how much money the rich man had, he could not fight off death.

Prayer

Father, remind me today that my life is in Your hands and that eternity is real. Help me to live with that truth at the center of everything I do. Amen.

Day 3: Compassion Is Not Optional

Devotional

The rich man was not condemned because he was wealthy. Scripture does not teach that having money is a sin. The problem was something far more personal. Lazarus was right there, at his gate, every single day. The rich man saw him. He knew he was there. And he did nothing.

Compassion was not missing because the rich man lacked opportunity. It was missing because his heart had grown hard toward the suffering of others. When the world around you stops moving you, something has gone wrong on the inside.

This is a challenge worth sitting with honestly. It is easy to walk past need when we are comfortable. It is easy to assume someone else will help, or that the problem is too big for one person to make a difference. But God is not asking you to solve every problem. He is asking you to see the person in front of you.

The encouraging truth is this: a compassionate heart is not something you manufacture on your own. It is something God grows in you as you draw closer to Him. When you spend time with Jesus, you begin to see people the way He sees them. And that changes how you respond to them.

Ask God today to soften your heart toward the people He has placed in your path.

Bible Verse

"Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." - Proverbs 22:6 (New King James Version)

Reflection Question

Is there someone in your life right now whom you have been walking past, someone God may be calling you to stop and truly see?

Quote

The rich man's sin is not that he's wealthy. The rich man's sin is that he's wealthy, but doesn't have compassion on those who don't have as much as he has. And when the world around you doesn't move you, you have a problem with compassion.

Prayer

Lord, give me eyes to see the people around me the way You see them. Soften my heart and make me willing to act when You place a need in front of me. Amen.

Day 4: Familiar with Faith Is Not the Same as Known by God

Devotional

The rich man, even in torment, called out to Abraham. He knew the right name. He had some connection to the faith of his people. He may have sat in the right services and said the right things. But none of it had ever moved from his head into his heart.

This is one of the most sobering truths in all of Scripture. You can be surrounded by church your entire life and still not truly know Jesus Christ. You can sing in the choir, serve as a deacon, tithe faithfully, and post Scripture on social media, and still be fooling yourself about where you actually stand with God.

Salvation is not a category you belong to. It is a relationship you live in. It is personal, it is real, and it requires more than familiarity with the right religious language.

Here is the encouragement: God is not trying to trick you or catch you off guard. He is inviting you into something genuine. If you sense a gap between your church life and your actual walk with Christ, that awareness is a gift. It means there is still time to close it. Turn to Him honestly today. He already knows where you are, and He is ready to meet you there.

Bible Verse

"That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved." - Romans 10:9 (New King James Version)

Reflection Question

If you are honest with yourself, is your faith a genuine relationship with Jesus Christ, or has it become more of a routine you follow?

Quote

You are a Christian, but are you Christlike? You're in church, but is your name written in the Lamb's book of life? I know you, but does Christ know you?

Prayer

Jesus, I do not want a religion about You. I want a real relationship with You. Search my heart and draw me close to Yourself today. Amen.

Day 5: There Is Still Time

Devotional

One of the most urgent realities in this parable is the fixed chasm between heaven and hell. Once eternity begins, there is no crossing over, no second chance, and no one who can pray you from one side to the other. The decisions made in this life are the decisions that stand forever.

But here is what makes that truth good news right now: you are still here. You are still breathing. The invitation is still open.

God has been patient with you. He has kept calling even when you walked away. He has kept forgiving even when you repeated the same mistakes. He has kept drawing you back to Himself because He loves you with a love that does not give up easily. But there will come a day when the calling stops. Do not wait for that day.

Jesus is not simply a ticket out of hell. He is the most loving, most faithful, most transforming relationship available to any human being. He wants to walk with you through every part of your life, not just secure your eternity.

If you are not sure where you stand with Him today, settle it. Confess your need, believe in what He did on the cross, and receive the life He is offering you. Heaven is real. Hell is real. And the God who made you wants you home with Him.

Bible Verse

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me." - Revelation 3:20 (New King James Version)

Reflection Question

Are you absolutely sure that if you breathed your last today, you would open your eyes in God's heaven, or are you simply hoping that going to church has been enough?

Quote

Are you absolutely sure that if you were to breathe your last right now that you would open up your eyes on the other side of eternity in God's heaven? Or do you just go to church a lot?

Prayer

Lord, thank You for not giving up on me. I open my heart to You fully today. Be my Savior, my Lord, and my closest friend. Amen.