



5 DAY DEVOTIONAL

Sermon: God Can Handle Our Crisis

SPEAKER: REV. CHRIS SMITH | 11/30/2025 | PAGE 1 OF 5

Day 1: The Command That Changes Everything

Devotional: Have you ever had one of those moments when everything seemed fine, and then suddenly your world turned upside down? Maybe it was a phone call with devastating news, an unexpected diagnosis, or a financial crisis that appeared out of nowhere. Life has this unsettling ability to change course without warning, leaving us feeling vulnerable and afraid. In these moments of uncertainty, we need something solid to hold onto. We need a refuge that won't crumble under pressure. The beautiful truth is that God offers Himself as our safe haven. He doesn't promise that storms won't come, but He promises to be our shelter when they do. Unlike the temporary shelters we might create for ourselves - our savings accounts, our health, our relationships - God's protection has no expiration date and no limitations. When the unexpected hits, we don't have to face it alone. We have a God who sees every storm before it arrives and stands ready to be our strength. Today, if you're facing something that caught you off guard, remember that while you may have been surprised, God wasn't. He's already preparing to meet you in this moment with exactly what you need.

Bible Verse: 'God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.' - Psalm 46:1

Reflection Question: What unexpected challenge are you currently facing, and how might viewing God as your refuge change your perspective on this situation?

Quote: We know that life can change in a hurry. And we know that troubles can come without warning.

Prayer: Lord, when life changes suddenly and I feel overwhelmed, help me remember that You are my safe place. Thank You for being a refuge that never fails and for being present with me right now. Give me peace in this moment of uncertainty. Amen.

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Day 2: Strength for Every Struggle

Devotional: When we're in the middle of a difficult season, it's easy to wonder if we have what it takes to make it through. The weight of our circumstances can feel crushing, and we might question our ability to endure. But here's an encouraging truth: God doesn't expect us to rely on our own strength alone. God promises to provide the strength we need for every struggle we face. This isn't just about physical endurance or spiritual fortitude - it includes emotional strength too. When anxiety threatens to overwhelm us, when grief feels unbearable, or when stress keeps us awake at night, God offers His strength to sustain us. This strength comes not through our own effort but through our connection with Him. It's found in prayer, in His Word, and in simply acknowledging our need for Him. Sometimes we exhaust ourselves trying to be strong enough on our own, when what we really need is to lean into His unlimited power. The key is learning to wait on the Lord - not rushing ahead with our own solutions but positioning ourselves to receive His guidance and strength. In our fast-paced world, waiting can feel counterproductive, but God's timing and His ways are always perfect.

Bible Verse: 'But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.' - Isaiah 40:31

Reflection Question: In what areas of your life are you trying to be strong in your own power instead of relying on God's strength?

Quote: God gives us the strength necessary for every struggle we face. He will give us the strength. The Bible promises that he will give us the strength. And we're not just talking about physical strength, and we're not just talking about spiritual strength, but emotional strength also.

Prayer: Father, I confess that I often try to handle things in my own strength. Help me to wait on You and receive the strength You promise. Renew my physical, emotional, and spiritual energy as I trust in You. Amen.

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Day 3: The Peace of His Presence

Devotional: There's something powerful about simply speaking the name of Jesus when we're troubled. Maybe you've experienced this - lying awake at 2 AM with worry consuming your thoughts, and then quietly whispering His name brings an unexplainable calm. Or perhaps during a stressful day, a scripture comes to mind and suddenly you feel His presence surrounding you. God's presence has the remarkable ability to transform our inner turmoil into peace. When fear tries to grip our hearts during uncertain times, His presence defeats that spirit of fear. This isn't just positive thinking or wishful hoping - it's the very real comfort that comes from knowing we're not alone. In our culture, we often look for peace in external circumstances. We think we'll have peace when the problem is solved, when the test results come back clear, or when our finances improve. But God offers us peace in the midst of the storm, not just after it passes. His presence is available to us right now, in this moment, regardless of what we're facing. We don't have to wait for better circumstances to experience His peace. We simply need to acknowledge that He is with us and invite Him into our current situation.

Bible Verse: 'And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.' - Philippians 4:7

Reflection Question: When was the last time you experienced God's peace in the middle of a difficult situation, and what helped you recognize His presence?

Quote: In stressful times, God's presence brings calm to our soul.

Prayer: Jesus, thank You for the gift of Your presence. When anxiety and fear try to overwhelm me, help me to whisper Your name and feel Your peace. Guard my heart and mind with Your supernatural peace that I cannot understand but can certainly experience. Amen.

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Day 4: He Sees What's Coming

Devotional: One of the most comforting truths about God is that nothing catches Him by surprise. While we may be blindsided by life's challenges, God sees everything in advance. He's not scrambling to figure out how to help us - He's already been preparing. This perspective can completely change how we view our current struggles. Instead of feeling like victims of random circumstances, we can trust that our loving Father has already been working behind the scenes on our behalf. He knows exactly what we need and when we need it. Sometimes we forget that God is actively watching over us. We might feel distant from Him or wonder if He truly cares about the details of our lives. But the truth is, He's mindful of every aspect of our journey. He knows our struggles before we voice them and our needs before we recognize them ourselves. When multiple problems seem to hit at once - and they often do come in bunches - we can remember that God isn't overwhelmed by the complexity of our situation. He has the wisdom and power to address every concern simultaneously. What feels chaotic to us is completely manageable for Him.

Bible Verse: 'Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father's care. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.' - Matthew 10:29-31

Reflection Question: How does knowing that God saw your current situation coming in advance change the way you're approaching it?

Quote: God knew this in advance. He's already making preparation to meet the need. And just because we were surprised by what life brings doesn't mean that God was surprised.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank You for seeing what I cannot see and knowing what I do not know. Help me trust that You've been preparing for this moment long before I knew it was coming. Give me confidence in Your perfect timing and provision. Amen.

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Day 5: Unshakeable Foundation

Devotional: Throughout our lives, we build our security around certain 'mountains' - things that seem permanent and reliable. Maybe it's our health, our job, our relationships, or our financial stability. These feel solid and dependable until suddenly they're not. When these foundations are shaken or removed entirely, it can leave us feeling lost and afraid. But here's what we can count on: even when everything else shifts, God remains constant. He is the one foundation that cannot be moved. When the things we've depended on are no longer there, we don't have to fear because our ultimate security was never in those things anyway - it was always in Him. This doesn't minimize the real pain and adjustment that comes when life changes dramatically. It's natural to grieve when we lose something important to us. But in the midst of that grief, we can hold onto the truth that God is either God of all areas of our lives, or He's not God at all. There's no middle ground. When life gets overwhelming and problems seem to come from every direction, we can anchor ourselves in this reality: God is our refuge and strength. He promises to be with us, and His promises never fail. Fear is not from God - He desires that we live in His peace, knowing that our foundation is secure in Him.

Bible Verse: 'Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord, the Lord himself, is the Rock eternal.' - Isaiah 26:4

Reflection Question: What 'mountains' in your life have you been depending on for security, and how can you transfer that trust more fully to God?

Quote: When those things that I've depended on, I will not fear when those things that were stationary for so long, when those things are no longer there in life. I will not fear knowing that God is my refuge, a very present help in time of trouble.

Prayer: Lord, I confess that I sometimes put my trust in things that can be shaken rather than in You alone. Help me to build my life on the unshakeable foundation of Your love and faithfulness. When everything else changes, remind me that You remain the same. Amen.

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