



5 DAY DEVOTIONAL

Sermon: His Life For Mine

SPEAKER: REV. CHRIS SMITH | 3/29/2026 | PAGE 1 OF 5

Day 1: The Silent Savior

Devotional: In a world where everyone feels the need to defend themselves, Jesus chose silence. When false accusations flew and His reputation was attacked, He remained quiet. This wasn't weakness—it was strength beyond measure. His silence fulfilled ancient prophecies and demonstrated His complete trust in the Father's plan. Sometimes the most powerful response isn't a defense but a demonstration of character. Jesus knew that His mission wasn't to win arguments but to win souls. His silence spoke louder than any words could. When we face criticism or false accusations, we can find comfort in knowing our Savior understands. He walked this path before us, showing us that our worth isn't determined by public opinion but by God's love for us.

Bible Verse: 'He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.' - Isaiah 53:7

Reflection Question: How can Jesus' example of silence in the face of false accusations change the way you respond to criticism or misunderstanding?

Quote: We can't base our opinion on the things of God, on God, on the salvation, on the glorious things of God by public opinion. We have to tune in with God himself.

Prayer: Lord, help me find strength in silence when words would only harm. Give me the wisdom to know when to speak and when to trust You with my reputation.

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850-260-5335



3349 McFatter Avenue, Vernon, FL 32462



info@gracevernon.org



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Day 2: When the Crowd Turns

Devotional: The same voices that once shouted 'Hosanna!' now screamed 'Crucify Him!' Public opinion shifted like sand in the wind. Those who had been healed, fed, and blessed by Jesus were mysteriously absent when He needed them most. This reveals a sobering truth about human nature—we're often quick to receive blessings but slow to stand up when it costs us something. The crowd chose a murderer over the Messiah, revealing how easily we can be swayed by emotion rather than truth. Yet in this dark moment, we see God's incredible love. Even when everyone abandoned Him, Jesus continued toward the cross for our sake. His love doesn't depend on our loyalty or the crowd's approval—it's steadfast and unchanging.

Bible Verse: 'Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it.' - Matthew 7:13

Reflection Question: When have you found yourself following the crowd instead of standing for what's right, and how can you prepare to be different next time?

Quote: Public opinion can change in a hurry.

Prayer: Father, give me courage to stand for truth even when I stand alone. Help me be faithful to You regardless of popular opinion.

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Day 3: The Great Exchange

Devotional: Barabbas woke up that morning expecting to die. He was guilty—a murderer, thief, and rebel who deserved his fate. But something incredible happened: an innocent man took his place. Barabbas walked free while Jesus carried his cross. This is the most beautiful picture of salvation we could ever imagine. Like Barabbas, we all deserve the penalty for our sins. We've all fallen short and earned separation from God. But Jesus stepped in and said, 'I'll take their place.' The guilty go free, and the innocent pays the price. This wasn't just a historical event—it's a personal invitation. The same exchange that freed Barabbas is offered to you today. Your sin, your guilt, your shame—Jesus will take it all if you let Him.

Bible Verse: 'For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.' - Romans 3:23

Reflection Question: What would it mean for your life today to truly accept that Jesus has taken your place and paid your penalty?

Quote: It's either us or Jesus Christ. Just like the picture there. It's either Barabbas or it's Jesus. One of them is going to be on that cross.

Prayer: Jesus, thank You for taking my place on the cross. Help me live in the freedom You've given me and never take Your sacrifice lightly.

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Day 4: The Weight of Sin

Devotional: We often minimize sin, calling it a mistake, a slip-up, or just human nature. But sin is what put Jesus on that cross. Every lie, every selfish act, every moment of pride—it all contributed to the weight He carried. Jesus, who knew no sin, became sin for us. He was beaten beyond recognition, not because of what He did, but because of what we've done. This should break our hearts and change our perspective. Sin isn't just breaking rules—it's breaking the heart of God. When we truly understand the cost of our redemption, we can't treat sin lightly anymore. The cross shows us both the horror of sin and the incredible love of God. He paid the ultimate price because He couldn't bear to lose us.

Bible Verse: 'But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.' - Isaiah 53:5

Reflection Question: How does understanding the true cost of your sin change the way you view both your mistakes and God's forgiveness?

Quote: We have to realize how dirty and rotten sin is. We have to realize that Jesus, the one who knew no sin, just as we sang, the one who knew no sin, carried our sin.

Prayer: God, forgive me for taking sin lightly. Help me see it as You do and live in gratitude for the price Jesus paid for my freedom.

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Day 5: Today Is the Day

Devotional: Pilate asked the question that echoes through eternity: 'What will you do with Jesus?' This isn't a question you can avoid forever. Every day you delay is a choice in itself. Tomorrow isn't promised, and salvation can't be postponed indefinitely. The enemy whispers that you have time, that tomorrow will be better, that you'll be more ready later. But today is the day of salvation. Right now, Jesus stands ready to forgive, to save, to transform your life completely. You don't have to clean up your act first—He'll do that. You don't have to understand everything—faith is enough. The same choice offered to that crowd 2,000 years ago is offered to you today. Will you choose Jesus, or will you choose to remain in your sin? The cross is empty, the tomb is empty, and His arms are open wide.

Bible Verse: 'How shall we escape if we ignore so great a salvation?' - Hebrews 2:3

Reflection Question: If you knew today was your last chance to accept Jesus' gift of salvation, what would you choose and why?

Quote: Today is the day of salvation.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, I don't want to wait another day. Come into my heart, forgive my sins, and make me new. I choose You today and always.

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