

# 5 Day Devotional

## Day 1: The Ancient Promise

### Devotional

Imagine standing before a line of torn animals, knowing that walking between them meant your life was on the line. This was how ancient covenants were made - a solemn, terrifying commitment where breaking your word meant death. When God made His covenant with Abraham, He could have demanded the same from him. But instead, something beautiful happened. God put Abraham to sleep and walked through the pieces alone. Why? Because God knew what we all know deep down about ourselves - we fail. We break promises. We fall short. But God's love for Abraham, and for us, was so great that He chose to take on both sides of the agreement. This wasn't just a contract; it was a declaration of unconditional love. God was saying that His commitment to His people wouldn't depend on their perfection, but on His faithfulness.

### Bible Verse

'After the sun had set and darkness had fallen, a smoking firepot with a blazing torch appeared and passed between the pieces.' - Genesis 15:17

### Reflection Question

What promises have you struggled to keep, and how does knowing God keeps His promises despite our failures change your perspective?

### Quote

God goes through, not because he knows he will break the covenant, but because he knows Abram will.

### Prayer

Lord, thank You for Your faithfulness when we are faithless. Help us to trust in Your promises rather than our own ability to be perfect.

## Day 2: When We Fall Short

### Devotional

We've all felt that sinking feeling when we realize we've failed someone we love. Maybe it was a broken promise to a friend, a commitment we couldn't keep, or simply falling short of our own expectations. In those moments, we might think, 'I need to tear myself in two because of my sin.' The weight of our failures can feel crushing. But here's the remarkable truth: God knew from the beginning that we would fail. When He made His covenant with Abraham, He didn't put Abraham to sleep because He doubted Abraham's sincerity. He did it because He knew Abraham's humanity. The same is true for us. God doesn't love us because we're perfect; He loves us knowing we're not. His covenant isn't based on our performance but on His grace. This doesn't excuse our failures, but it does free us from the crushing weight of trying to earn God's love through perfect behavior.

### Bible Verse

'If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.' - Galatians 3:29

### Reflection Question

How might your relationship with God change if you truly believed His love isn't dependent on your perfect performance?

### Quote

I need to tear myself in two. I could tear myself in two because of my sin.

### Prayer

Father, help me to rest in Your grace rather than striving to earn Your love. Thank You for loving me as I am while calling me to grow.

# Day 3: The Sleeping Disciples

## Devotional

The night before the crucifixion, Jesus asked His closest friends to stay awake and pray with Him. But they couldn't do it. In His moment of greatest need, they fell asleep. How heartbreaking that must have been for Jesus. Yet there's a beautiful parallel here to Abraham's story. Just as Abraham slept while God made the covenant, the disciples slept while Jesus prepared to fulfill it. Their sleep wasn't just human weakness; it was a picture of our inability to participate in our own salvation. We can't stay awake when it matters most. We can't pray hard enough, be good enough, or try hard enough to bridge the gap between us and God. But that's exactly why Jesus came. While we sleep in our spiritual weakness, He stays awake. While we fail in our most important moments, He succeeds. The disciples' failure that night wasn't the end of the story - it was part of God's plan to show us that salvation comes through His strength, not ours.

## Bible Verse

'Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.' - Hebrews 10:19-22

## Reflection Question

When have you felt like you've let God down in a crucial moment, and how does Jesus's faithfulness in those moments encourage you?

## Quote

The disciples are sound asleep the night before, when he suffered the agony of knowing what was going to come, he couldn't keep them awake.

## Prayer

Jesus, thank You for staying faithful even when we fall asleep on the job. Help us to find comfort in Your strength when we feel weak.

## Day 4: God Torn in Two

### Devotional

At the cross, the unthinkable happened. For the first time in eternity, the perfect unity between Father and Son was broken. When Jesus cried out, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' it wasn't just emotional anguish - it was the moment God literally tore Himself in two to keep His ancient promise. The Father turned away from the Son as Jesus bore our sin. This was the ultimate fulfillment of that covenant ceremony with Abraham. God had promised to pay the penalty if the covenant was broken, and at Calvary, He did exactly that. The temple veil tearing from top to bottom wasn't just symbolic - it was God announcing that the barrier between Him and humanity was permanently removed. No more animal sacrifices. No more separation. The way to God was now open because God Himself had paid the ultimate price. This is the heart of the gospel: God didn't just forgive our debt; He paid it Himself.

### Bible Verse

'After the sun had set and darkness had fallen, a smoking firepot with a blazing torch appeared and passed between the pieces.' - Genesis 15:17

### Reflection Question

How does understanding the cost of your salvation - God tearing Himself in two - impact how you view your relationship with Him?

### Quote

Jesus, the Son of God, says, God in heaven, Almighty God, my Father, you've cut yourself off from me. And in that moment God rent himself in two.

### Prayer

Lord, we are overwhelmed by the price You paid for our freedom. Help us to never take Your sacrifice for granted.

## Day 5: Heirs of the Promise

### Devotional

Look up at the stars tonight. According to God's promise to Abraham, one of those stars represents you. Walk along a beach and remember that one grain of sand in that vast expanse is you. This isn't poetic exaggeration - it's your spiritual reality. Through Christ, you've become part of Abraham's family, an heir to promises made thousands of years ago. You didn't earn this inheritance through good behavior or religious performance. You received it because God tore Himself in two to make it possible. The covenant of grace means you can approach God not as a beggar hoping for scraps, but as a beloved child coming home. You don't have to tear yourself in two because Jesus already did. You don't have to make peace with God because He's already made peace with you. This is the good news that changes everything: you belong to the family of God not because of what you've done, but because of what He's done for you.

### Bible Verse

'If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.' - Galatians 3:29

### Reflection Question

What would change in your daily life if you truly lived as an heir of God's promises rather than someone trying to earn His approval?

### Quote

One of those stars in the sky is you. One of those sands on the seashore is me.

### Prayer

Father, help us to live with the confidence and joy that comes from knowing we are Your beloved children and heirs of Your promises.