

# 5 Day Devotional

GRACE  
COMMUNITY CHURCH

## **Day 1: The Compassionate Heart of God**

**Reading:** Exodus 34:5-7

God's self-revelation to Moses begins with a striking declaration: He is compassionate. This isn't a distant, cold deity, but a God whose very nature is compared to a mother's love for her child. As you read this passage, reflect on how this image of God challenges or confirms your current understanding of Him. How might your life change if you truly believed in God's deep, visceral compassion for you? Today, try to notice moments where you experience or witness compassion. Consider how these moments might be reflections of God's character in the world.

## **Day 2: Running to the Prodigal**

**Reading:** Luke 15:11-32

The story of the prodigal son vividly illustrates God's compassionate nature. The father in this parable, representing God, doesn't wait stoically for his son to return - he runs to him, filled with compassion. This action was considered undignified for a man of his status, yet he does it without hesitation. How does this depiction of God's eagerness to reconcile with us impact your view of your relationship with Him? Reflect on times in your life when you've felt distant from God. Can you imagine Him running towards you in those moments? Today, consider if there's any area of your life where you need to "return home" to God, trusting in His compassionate welcome.

## **Day 3: Compassion in Action**

**Reading:** Matthew 9:35-38

Throughout the Gospels, we see Jesus moved with compassion, healing the sick and ministering to the needy. This compassion wasn't just a feeling - it propelled Him to action. As followers of Christ, we're called to embody this same compassionate spirit. Reflect on how you respond to the needs you see around you. Are you moved to action, or do you find

yourself becoming numb or indifferent? Ask God to give you His eyes to see the needs around you and His heart to respond with compassion. Consider one practical way you can show Christ-like compassion to someone today.

#### **Day 4: Trusting in God's Unchanging Nature**

**Reading:** Psalm 51:1-12

When David committed grave sins, he appealed to God's unfailing love and great compassion. Despite his failures, David trusted in the unchanging nature of God's character. This psalm reminds us that God's compassion isn't dependent on our performance, but on His unchanging nature. Reflect on areas in your life where you struggle to believe in God's compassion. Are there sins or failures that make you feel unworthy of His love? Spend time meditating on the truth that God's compassion for you never changes. How might fully embracing this truth transform your relationship with God and others?

#### **Day 5: Becoming Channels of God's Compassion**

**Reading:** Colossians 3:12-17

As we come to know and trust in God's compassionate nature, we are called to become like Him. Paul urges us to "clothe" ourselves with compassion, among other virtues. This imagery suggests that compassion isn't just a feeling, but a choice we make daily. Reflect on how your understanding of God's compassion has grown over this week. How can you intentionally "put on" compassion in your interactions today? Consider specific situations or relationships where you struggle to show compassion, and ask God to help you see others through His compassionate eyes. Remember, as you cultivate compassion, you become a living testimony of God's character to the world around you.