

# 5 Day Devotional

## Day 1: Day 1: Trusting in God's Faithfulness

### Devotional

When we embark on a journey to follow God's plan, we often face obstacles that can discourage us. The story of rebuilding the temple in Ezra 5-6 teaches us that God is faithful to complete His work despite opposition. The people of God stood firm on His promises and continued the work, even when faced with challenges. This reminds us that our progress doesn't depend on our own strength but on our trust in God's faithfulness.

'God's work done God's way will never lack God's supply.' - Hudson Taylor

As we start this devotional journey, let's remember that God is faithful to finish what He has begun in us. No matter the obstacles, we can trust that He will provide everything we need to accomplish His work.

'Ezra 5:1 - Now Haggai the prophet and Zechariah the prophet, a descendant of Iddo, prophesied to the Jews in Judah and Jerusalem in the name of the God of Israel, who was over them.'

Question: What obstacles are you currently facing that require you to trust in God's faithfulness?

Prayer: Dear Lord, thank You for Your faithfulness. Help me to trust in Your promises and rely on Your strength as I face the challenges before me. Remind me that You will provide everything I need to accomplish Your work. In Jesus' name, Amen.

### Bible Verse

Ezra 5:1 - Now Haggai the prophet and Zechariah the prophet, a descendant of Iddo, prophesied to the Jews in Judah and Jerusalem in the name of the God of Israel, who was over them.

### Reflection Question

What obstacles are you currently facing that require you to trust in God's faithfulness?

### Quote

God's work done God's way will never lack God's supply.

### Prayer

Dear Lord, thank You for Your faithfulness. Help me to trust in Your promises and rely on Your strength as I face the challenges before me. Remind me that You will provide everything I need to accomplish Your work. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## Day 2: Day 2: Standing Firm in Unity

### Devotional

The rebuilding of the temple was not a solo effort; it required the unity of God's people. Prophets Haggai and Zechariah encouraged the people, and together they worked towards a common goal. This unity was crucial in overcoming the opposition they faced. When we work together in unity, we can achieve great things for God's kingdom.

'When confronted by the enemies, you find the people of God stood on the promise of God and did the plan of God in the face of the enemies of God.'

As we continue our devotional journey, let's focus on the importance of unity. Whether in our families, churches, or communities, working together with a common purpose strengthens us and helps us overcome challenges.

**Bible Verse**

Ezra 6:16 - Then the people of Israel—the priests, the Levites and the rest of the exiles—celebrated the dedication of the house of God with joy.

**Reflection Question**

How can you contribute to unity in your community or church to accomplish God's work?

**Quote**

When confronted by the enemies, you find the people of God stood on the promise of God and did the plan of God in the face of the enemies of God.

**Prayer**

Lord, thank You for the gift of community. Help me to work in unity with others to accomplish Your purposes. Give us the strength to stand firm on Your promises and work together for Your glory. In Jesus' name, Amen.

**Day 3: Day 3: Living Truthfully and Trusting God****Devotional**

In the face of opposition, the leaders of Israel were honest about their mission and trusted God to protect their work. They didn't hide their intentions but explained their purpose truthfully to the authorities. This honesty, coupled with their trust in God, allowed them to continue the work despite challenges.

'What God promises, God performs what God has said. He will complete the work in you, but he also wants to complete the work through you all to his glory.'

Today, let's focus on living truthfully and trusting God. When we are honest about our intentions and trust in God's protection, we can overcome any opposition we face.

'Ezra 6:11-12 - Furthermore, I decree that if anyone defies this edict, a beam is to be pulled from their house and they are to be impaled on it. And for this crime their house is to be made a pile of rubble. May God, who has caused his Name to dwell there, overthrow any king or people who lifts a hand to change this decree or to destroy this temple in Jerusalem. I Darius have decreed it. Let it be carried out with diligence.'

Question: Are there areas in your life where you need to be more truthful and trust God more fully?

Prayer: Lord, help me to live truthfully and trust in Your protection. Give me the courage to be honest about my intentions and the faith to rely on Your promises. In Jesus' name, Amen.

**Bible Verse**

Ezra 6:11-12 - Furthermore, I decree that if anyone defies this edict, a beam is to be pulled from their house and they are to be impaled on it. And for this crime their house is to be made a pile of rubble. May God, who has caused his Name to dwell there, overthrow any king or people who lifts a hand to change this decree or to destroy this temple in Jerusalem. I Darius have decreed it. Let it be carried out with diligence.

**Reflection Question**

Are there areas in your life where you need to be more truthful and trust God more fully?

**Quote**

What God promises, God performs what God has said. He will complete the work in you, but he also wants to complete the work through you all to his glory.

## **Prayer**

Lord, help me to live truthfully and trust in Your protection. Give me the courage to be honest about my intentions and the faith to rely on Your promises. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## **Day 4: Day 4: God's Supernatural Intervention**

### **Devotional**

The story of the temple's rebuilding is a powerful reminder of God's supernatural intervention. When local officials questioned the project, God worked through King Darius, who not only permitted the work to continue but also commanded opponents to fund it. This divine intervention ensured the completion of the temple despite numerous challenges.

'We don't want to panic that somehow God's going to lose. We need to be still and know that he is God and he's working in ways you can't see.'

Today, let's focus on recognizing and trusting in God's supernatural intervention in our lives. Even when we can't see how things will work out, we can trust that God is working behind the scenes for our good.

'Proverbs 21:1 - In the Lord's hand the king's heart is a stream of water that he channels toward all who please him.'

Question: Can you recall a time when you experienced God's supernatural intervention in your life?

Prayer: Lord, thank You for Your supernatural intervention in my life. Help me to trust that You are always working behind the scenes for my good. Give me the faith to be still and know that You are God. In Jesus' name, Amen.

### **Bible Verse**

Proverbs 21:1 - In the Lord's hand the king's heart is a stream of water that he channels toward all who please him.

### **Reflection Question**

Can you recall a time when you experienced God's supernatural intervention in your life?

### **Quote**

We don't want to panic that somehow God's going to lose. We need to be still and know that he is God and he's working in ways you can't see.

## **Prayer**

Lord, thank You for Your supernatural intervention in my life. Help me to trust that You are always working behind the scenes for my good. Give me the faith to be still and know that You are God. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## **Day 5: Day 5: Surrender and Trust**

### **Devotional**

The completion of the temple after 23 years of challenges is a testament to the power of surrender and trust in God's faithfulness. The people of Israel didn't rely on their own strength but surrendered their plans to God and trusted Him to provide. This surrender and trust allowed them to witness God's miraculous provision and protection.

'It's not up to your wits and willpower. It's not up to your stresses and strategies and straining. It's up to you. Just saying, Lord, here's my heart. I surrender to you. I'm trusting in you. Let's keep going forward.'

As we conclude this devotional journey, let's focus on surrendering our plans to God and trusting Him to

**Bible Verse**

Ezra 6:19-22 - On the fourteenth day of the first month, the exiles celebrated the Passover. The priests and Levites had purified themselves and were all ceremonially clean. The Levites slaughtered the Passover lamb for all the exiles, for their relatives the priests and for themselves. So the Israelites who had returned from the exile ate it, together with all who had separated themselves from the unclean practices of their Gentile neighbors in order to seek the Lord, the God of Israel. For seven days they celebrated with joy the Festival of Unleavened Bread, because the Lord had filled them with joy by changing the attitude of the king of Assyria, so that he assisted them in the work on the house of God, the God of Israel.

**Reflection Question**

What areas of your life do you need to surrender to God and trust Him to provide?

**Quote**

It's not up to your wits and willpower. It's not up to your stresses and strategies and straining. It's up to you. Just saying, Lord, here's my heart. I surrender to you. I'm trusting in you. Let's keep going forward.

**Prayer**

Lord, I surrender my plans to You and trust You to provide. Help me to rely on Your strength and not my own. Thank You for Your faithfulness and provision. In Jesus' name, Amen.