

# 5 Day Devotional

## Day 1: Grace That Changes Everything

### Devotional

Have you ever wondered what makes someone truly gracious? It's not about perfect manners or saying the right words—it's about having a heart transformed by God's incredible grace. When we truly understand how much God has forgiven us and how deeply He loves us despite our failures, it changes everything about how we interact with others.

Grace isn't just a theological concept to study; it's a living reality meant to flow through our daily relationships. Think about the last time someone was patient with you when you made a mistake, or when someone chose kindness over criticism. That's grace in action, and it has the power to bring hope to the hopeless and peace to chaotic situations.

The beautiful truth is that as believers, we have the Holy Spirit living within us—the very Spirit of grace. This means we have access to supernatural grace that can transform not only our own hearts but also the hearts of those around us. When grace captures our hearts, we naturally want to extend that same grace to others.

### Bible Verse

'When they heard this, they had no further objections and praised God, saying, "So then, even to Gentiles God has granted repentance that leads to life.'" - Acts 11:18

### Reflection Question

How has experiencing God's grace in your own life changed the way you treat others when they disappoint or hurt you?

### Quote

Christians should be known for being gracious because you have the Holy Spirit who is called the Spirit of grace living in you.

### Prayer

Lord, help me to truly grasp the depth of Your grace toward me. Transform my heart so that Your grace flows naturally through my words and actions to others.

## Day 2: Breaking Down the Walls

### Devotional

One of the biggest obstacles to living graciously is how we view other people. It's easy to fall into an "us versus them" mentality—dividing people into categories of those who agree with us and those who don't, those who look like us and those who don't, those who think like us and those who don't.

But grace sees things differently. Grace recognizes that God's plan includes everyone, and the cross of Jesus is sufficient for every person's sin. When Jesus died and rose again, He didn't just save some people—He made salvation available to all people. The walls that once separated us have been torn down.

This shift from "us versus them" to "we" is revolutionary. It means seeing your difficult coworker as someone Jesus loves. It means viewing that family member who drives you crazy as someone God wants to reach. It means recognizing that we're all sinners in need of the same grace, and we're all invited into God's family through Jesus.

### **Bible Verse**

'Peter began and explained everything to them precisely as it had happened: "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision..." - Acts 11:4-17

### **Reflection Question**

Who in your life do you tend to view as "them" rather than "we," and how might God be calling you to extend grace to that person?

### **Quote**

When you begin to see things as us versus them rather than we, it will hinder the grace of God flowing in your life.

### **Prayer**

Father, help me see people through Your eyes of love and grace. Break down any walls in my heart that prevent me from embracing others as part of Your family.

## **Day 3: Grace on Your Face**

### **Devotional**

Your face tells a story. When someone challenges you, criticizes you, or treats you unfairly, what story does your expression tell? Does it reflect frustration, anger, or defensiveness? Or does it somehow reflect the grace that God has shown you?

"Grace on your face" means allowing God's grace to be visible in your attitudes and words, especially when you're under pressure. It's easy to be gracious when everything is going well, but the real test comes when someone pushes your buttons or questions your decisions.

This doesn't mean being a doormat or never addressing problems. It means responding with the same patience and kindness that God shows you daily. When grace is on your face, people notice something different about you. They see Jesus reflected in your response, and it opens doors for meaningful conversations about faith.

Remember, grace wins hearts before it convinces minds. When people see authentic grace in your life, they're drawn to the source of that grace—Jesus himself.

### **Bible Verse**

'The Lord's hand was with them, and a great number of people believed and turned to the Lord.' - Acts 11:21

### **Reflection Question**

Think of a recent challenging interaction—how did your facial expressions and tone of voice reflect (or fail to reflect) God's grace?

### **Quote**

You need grace on your face means this. You need to live out grace that's seen in your attitudes and words towards those who challenge you.

### **Prayer**

Lord, let Your grace be evident on my face and in my words today. Help me respond to challenges with the same grace You show me every day.

## **Day 4: Building Others Up**

### **Devotional**

Grace isn't just about how we handle conflict—it's about how we actively build up the people around us. When Barnabas arrived in Antioch and saw what God was doing, he didn't criticize or try to control the situation. Instead, he encouraged everyone to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts.

This is what "grace in your pace" looks like—slowing down to help others become all that God wants them to be. It means celebrating others' successes instead of feeling threatened by them. It means offering encouragement when someone is struggling instead of judgment. It means investing in people's growth rather than just focusing on your own goals.

Barnabas was known as an encourager, and his gracious approach helped create an environment where people flourished. When we live with this kind of grace, we become like spiritual gardeners, helping others grow in their faith and discover their God-given potential.

The beautiful result is that when we focus on building others up, we create communities where everyone thrives, and God's love becomes visible to the watching world.

### **Bible Verse**

'When he arrived and saw what the grace of God had done, he was glad and encouraged them all to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts.' - Acts 11:23

### **Reflection Question**

Who in your life could use some encouragement right now, and what specific step can you take this week to help build them up?

### **Quote**

Grace is undergirding and serving. And it's very attractive.

### **Prayer**

God, show me how to be an encourager like Barnabas. Help me see the potential in others and find ways to help them grow in their relationship with You.

## **Day 5: Grace in Action**

### **Devotional**

True grace always leads to action. When the believers in Antioch heard about the famine that would affect their brothers and sisters in Judea, they didn't just pray about it—they took up a collection and sent help. This is "grace in your place"—blessing others without expecting anything in return.

Living out grace means looking for opportunities to be a blessing wherever God has placed you. It might be helping a neighbor with groceries, listening to a friend who's going through a tough time, or using your skills to serve your community. When we truly grasp God's favor toward us, we naturally want to extend that same favor to others.

This kind of grace catches people's attention. When they see believers genuinely caring for others without ulterior motives, they can't help but notice something different. They see Jesus reflected in practical love, and it opens their hearts to the Gospel message.

Grace makes us joyful instead of sour, serving instead of controlling. When the world looks at us, they should see little reflections of Christ—people who belong to the party of Jesus and live like citizens of His eternal kingdom.

### **Bible Verse**

'The disciples, as each one was able, decided to provide help for the brothers and sisters living in Judea.' - Acts 11:29

### **Reflection Question**

What practical way can you be a blessing to someone in your community this week, expecting nothing in return?

### **Quote**

Living out grace is seen in being a blessing to others however you can, however you can. And when you truly grasp God's favor for you, you want to extend that to others because you want them to say, wow, look at Jesus and how good he is to me.

### **Prayer**

Lord, open my eyes to opportunities to bless others around me. Help me live out Your grace in practical ways that point people to You.