

INSPIRE WITHIN // 5-DAY DEVOTIONAL

# GROWING IN CHRIST



DOES YOUR WALK WITH THE  
LORD NEED STRENGTHENING?

DO YOU WANT TO GET  
CLOSER TO GOD?



# Growing in Christ is an ongoing process.

Everyone, no matter where you are on your walk with the Lord, can grow more in Christ. In this life, nobody can reach maximum growth in Christ. With that being said, we should all be striving to grow more and more. There is always improvement to be made because we are all human. And that is okay because Christ meets us where we are.

Wherever you are in your walk with Christ, if it's still new to you or you have been walking with Him for 40 years, Christ meets you right where you are at. There is not one person who can say they are perfect. To grow in Christ is just like growing in anything else, intentional decisions, and gradual steps. The more you grow, the more you increase your knowledge of Jesus, your obedience to Jesus, and your love for Jesus.

For the next 5 days, you will have a short devotional to read to inspire growth in your walk with the Lord. At the end of each devotional, you will have a page dedicated to a brief Application Section. The Application Section is a great way to reflect and apply the lessons to your life. I'm so excited that you are participating in this devotional! I pray that God will speak to you in a personal way.

# DAY 1

## DRAW NEAR TO GOD



The desire to grow closer to Christ is a key part of becoming closer to Christ. If you did not have a desire to grow more, you would probably not even be reading this devotional. It is one thing to have a desire to know God, but the desire should be put into action. For instance, you are acting on your desire to grow in Christ by doing a devotional.

To grow in your walk with the Lord, you must draw near to God. In James chapter 4 it says, “Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.” The more you seek God the more He will be found in your life. Growth doesn’t have a stopping point. A relationship with Christ is the continual decision to draw near to Him. It is the constant, daily seeking of God.

There are times in your life that the “drawing near” isn’t as regularly, but the Lord understands that you are human. God sees and knows your heart. You just need to pick up where you left off if that means it has been a few weeks or several years. God always meets you in the spot that you are, wherever that spot is!

“You will seek Me and Find Me  
when you seek Me with all of  
your heart.”  
Jeremiah 29:13 NIV

# Day 1 - Application

Is there something that is keeping you from drawing near to God? If so, what can you do to change that?

How can you make God center of your daily life?

List FIVE ways you can seek God more in your life:

**1.**

**2.**

**3.**

**4.**

**5.**

# DAY 2

## PRAY WITHOUT CEASING



The New King James Version Bible says to “pray without ceasing,” in 1 Thessalonians 5:17. Praying without ceasing doesn’t mean praying nonstop without breaking. According to Strong’s Concordance, the Greek definition for “*without ceasing*” is *adialeptos*, which means “regularly, yet intermittent.” Prayer is communicating with the Lord continually throughout the days and weeks, whatever that may look like in your life.

Every day comes with its own set of challenges; therefore, each day of prayer is going to look different. Prayers are not about how long they are, nor reciting the Lord’s Prayer. Prayer is your personal, genuine conversation with the Lord your God. The Creator of all things wants to hear from *you*!

A conversation with the Lord is seeking Him during the good times and the bad, thanking Him for your blessings regardless of your circumstances, praising Him for His goodness, telling Him how you feel about a situation, asking Him for direction in all decisions. The Lord knows that life is busy and He understands when you have times where your prayers are not as often.

“Cast all your anxiety on Him  
because he cares for you.”  
1 Peter 5:7 NIV

# Day 2 - Application

What does your prayer life look like?

Do you feel like you need to grow in your prayer life? For example, do you need to start praying again, praying more frequently, praying from the heart, etc.?

List THREE ways to improve your prayer life:

**1.**

**2.**

**3.**



# DAY 3

## BE STILL AND KNOW



Sometimes God has great things that He wants to speak to you, which can require you to just be still. The Lord speaks to His Children in different and unique ways. A way that He speaks to one person may not be the way that He speaks to you. God knows the best, personal way to speak to you. If you know how God speaks to you, you might already know the best way to silence your mind to hear Him.

On the other hand, if you have never heard the Lord speak to you, you may have no clue. Before you start, just ask the Lord to speak to you in some manner that you will hear Him. It can be through sitting silently, reading the Bible, worship music, or praying and listening to hear God's response. God is not limited to how He can speak personally to you.

Times in silence can help you hear the voice of the Lord. Life can be busy, overwhelming, and stressful. Silence can help you to reflect on the Lord and allow Him to fill you with His presence. The more you dwell on God and listen for His voice, the more you will be able to hear God tenderly speaking to your spirit.

"He says, 'Be still, and know  
that I am God; I will be exalted  
among the nations, I will be  
exalted in the earth."

Psalm 46:10 NIV

# Day 3 - Application

How can you be still in God's presence today?

Has God ever spoken to you? If so, how did He speak to you?

If you have never heard God speak to you, list FIVE ways that you are going to listen to His voice:

**1.**

**2.**

**3.**

**4.**

**5.**



# DAY 4

## MEDITATE ON GOD'S WORD



What does it mean to meditate on God's Word? Meditate means "to focus one's thoughts on, reflect on, or ponder over." Meditating on the Word of God can also be described as storing God's Word within your heart. Each time you reflect and focus on scripture, you are feeding your heart, soul, spirit, and mind with the Truth.

When you are filled with scripture, the Holy Spirit can reference you the truth which is stored within you. If your mind is full of truth, then it makes less room for the lies of the enemy. You feel better when you are dwelling on good things, not the worries, stresses, and pains of this world. Philippians 4:8 offers a great reminder to think about whatever is true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable, excellent, or praiseworthy. That is what meditating on God's Word helps you attain... God's Truth!

Psalms 1:1-2 describes a blessed man as one who does not walk in the way of the wicked, but who "delights in the law of the Lord, and on His law he meditates day and night." Think about your own life and what truths you need to be reminded of today or in this season of your life. Pray about it and ask God to show you how to handle it. Look up scriptures to meditate on to encourage you in this season and fill your mind with the Truth.

**"Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful."**  
Joshua 1:8 NIV

# Day 4 - Application

Is there an area in your life that needs to be replaced with God's Truth?

Search and list THREE Bible verses to meditate on:

**1.**

**2.**

**3.**

Pick ONE Bible verse from your list above to commit to memorizing.  
Memorizing scripture is a great way to store God's Word within your heart!

*Write the full Bible verse below, then write it on a note to practice memorizing....*

# DAY 5

## WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH



King David is known as the man after God's own heart who worshiped God with hymns and songs, which are found throughout Psalms. David had a heart for worship; He worshiped God from a sincere heart. Worship is not just praising through songs, for it can also be defined as reverence and adoration.

What exactly does worship in the Spirit and Truth mean? Worship in Spirit comes from the heart and is motivated by your love for God, your gratitude for who God is, and all He has done in your life. When you worship in truth, your worship or reverence is anchored on the truth of God, His Word, His character, His works, and His Truth.

Worship should come from a place of surrendering and bowing down in the awe of God. Worship without a sincere heart is not worship. Full surrender produces sincere worship. Surrender means "to give oneself up into the power of another." So, when you surrender to God, you acknowledge that you belong to God. God desires sincere worship, which is why He created mankind with free will. He is the One and only God, and for that fact alone He deserves all praise.

**"God is spirit, and his worshipers  
must worship in the Spirit and truth."  
John 4:24 NIV**

# Day 5 - Application

What is the Holy Spirit speaking to about sincere worship?

Is there something in life that you need to surrender?

List THREE things about God that make you want to praise Him:

**1.**

**2.**

**3.**

Take a few minutes to worship God through song or prayer. Praise God for all that He is and all that He has done!