

After forty years in the wilderness, the Israelites are brought from their wandering into a land flowing with milk and honey. They are offered for this moment, something that satisfies and settles them. We, too, are offered a land flowing with milk and honey—salvation in Jesus Christ. What does it mean to have this kind of satisfaction? How can we experience the assurance of God’s provisions before His work comes to completion? Use the devotional this week to bring confidence to your own salvation or explore what could be available to you if you made a decision for Jesus.

New to daily devotionals? Here are a few tips for this week:

- Before you begin your devotional time, spend some time in prayer. So much of following God is making yourself available to God, to receive what He might have for you.
- Let Scripture change your understanding of God. Ask, “What did I think about God before I read this?” and, “What might be a new revelation to me?”
- Consider using the devotionals with your family or group—what would it look like for your family to set aside time each day to remember who God is and what He has provided for us?
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Monday, April 22nd

Read Ephesians 1:13-14

¹³ In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

What verbs (action words) do you notice in this passage?

What do you think it means to “hear the word of truth”? How might one hear the truth? What steps does it take to believe it?

What does it mean to be sealed with the Holy Spirit? Why do you think hearing and believing leads to being sealed with the Holy Spirit? What is the inheritance that is guaranteed (promised) to us?

What might be important about this passage ending with “to the praise of his glory”? If you have heard, believed and been sealed—how does that give glory to God? How might that change the way you see your faith?

Tuesday, April 23rd

Read Isaiah 55:6-9

*⁶ “Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call upon him while he is near;
⁷ let the wicked forsake his way,
and the unrighteous man his thoughts;
let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
⁸ For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.
⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.*

What does it look like to seek or call upon the Lord? What confidence do these verses give you?

What is encouraging about verse 8? Why should we not limit ourselves to human understanding? What might be frustrating about that?

How might these verses change your understanding of what it means to follow God? Is it difficult for you to follow God even if you don’t always understand Him? Why or why not? How can we grow in following Him even when we don’t understand?

Wednesday, April 24th

2 Corinthians 5:16-18

¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. ¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. ¹⁸ All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation

What do you think Paul means when he refers to “the flesh”? Why would we not be considered/regarded based on our flesh?

What does it mean to be a new creation? Do you think Paul is talking about now or something that will happen later? How could it be both? If we are a new creation, how might that change the way we live our lives?

What does it mean that Christ has reconciled or restored relationship with us? What does that mean we are to do in the ministry of reconciliation?

Thursday, April 25th

Read Philippians 1:6, 9-11

⁶ And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. ...⁹ And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰ so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹ filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

When have you experienced longing to be “finished” or to feel “arrived”? What encouragement does verse 6 offer you?

How do we grow in love, knowledge and discernment? What steps might you need to take to pursue that growth?

What does it mean to have righteousness or right relationship through Jesus? Why would the result or fruit of our growth be righteousness? How does righteousness bring God’s work closer to completion? How does it offer glory and praise to God?

Friday, April 26th

Read 2 Peter 3:8-9

⁸ But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. ⁹ The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

When have God’s transformation in your life felt slow? What is perplexing about verse 8? What is encouraging about it? How might it change your expectation or perception of God’s timing?

When have you felt caught up in how God is moving in your life instead of how God is moving in others’ lives or the broader world? How does verse 9 change your understanding of patience? How does it draw your attention to all people instead of just yourself?

Have you ever thought of your salvation as something that could encourage other people to receive God’s promises? How might you live your life in such a way that you could join God, longing for all people to reach repentance (turning back to God)?



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