

AT THE CROSS

Delivered, Dedicated, Determined

A 5-Day Devotional from "A Devoted Servant"

John 19:25

A five-day devotional journey tracing how Jesus restores broken lives, redirects them into service, and strengthens them to remain faithful at the cross.

Introduction

This week, you will walk with Mary Magdalene from darkness to devotion. Sunday's message showed how Jesus restores what is broken, redirects what is surrendered, and steadies what is tested. These readings will help you reflect on His grace, your calling to serve, and the strength to stay near Him.

This Week's Journey

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Monday - When Jesus Meets You in Your Brokenness

Christ meets you in real brokenness and brings freedom where you could never free yourself.

Tuesday - Grace Gives You a New Direction

Grace does more than rescue you from guilt; it redirects your life toward faithful daily following.

Wednesday - Serve with What You Have

Devotion becomes visible when what God has placed in your hands is surrendered for His kingdom.

Thursday - Stay When It Gets Hard

Faithful love remains near Jesus even when life feels painful, costly, or confusing.

Friday - Faith Holds On Before It Understands

You can keep trusting Christ when you do not yet see what He is doing.

Day 1 - Monday

When Jesus Meets You in Your Brokenness

Scripture Reading: *Ephesians 2:1-5*

Reflection

Mary's story begins where many honest stories begin: in brokenness. Scripture says Jesus delivered her from deep bondage, and that reminds you that your need is never too deep for His grace. You may not carry Mary's exact history, but you know what it means to feel tangled, weary, ashamed, or stuck. The good news is that Jesus does not wait for you to become whole before He comes near. He steps into real pain, real sin, and real helplessness with mercy. That means you do not have to hide what is broken in you. You can bring it into His presence and trust Him there. Deliverance begins when you stop pretending and start surrendering. Today, remember this: your deepest need is not self-improvement but a Savior. Jesus still meets people in dark places, and He still has power to bring them into light, freedom, and new life through grace.

Application Question: What broken place in your life do you need to stop managing alone and honestly bring before Jesus today?

Day 2 - Tuesday

Grace Gives You a New Direction

Scripture Reading: *2 Corinthians 5:14-19*

Reflection

Mary was not only delivered from something; she was delivered for something. After Jesus changed her life, she followed Him. That is an important reminder for you. Grace does more than rescue you from guilt; it redirects your life toward Christ. Real devotion is not perfection. It is direction. It means your heart, choices, priorities, and habits begin bending toward Jesus instead of away from Him. Some days that change feels dramatic. Other days it looks quiet and steady, like choosing obedience when no one notices. But it is still grace at work. When Christ saves you, He does not simply clean up your past; He reshapes your future. He gives new desires, new loyalties, and a new path to walk. Ask yourself not only whether you have been helped by Jesus, but whether your life is being aimed at Him. Grace leaves clear footprints pointing toward faithful daily following.

Application Question: In what area of your life is Jesus calling you to move from admiration to actual obedience?

Day 3 - Wednesday

Serve with What You Have

Scripture Reading: *1 Peter 4:7-11*

Reflection

Luke tells us Mary and the other women supported Jesus' ministry out of their own means. That simple detail says a great deal. Mary did not treat grace like a private blessing to enjoy and keep. She responded by serving. You may sometimes wonder whether what you have is enough to matter—your gifts, time, experience, resources. But God does not ask you to begin with what you do not have. He asks you to place what you do have in His hands. Devotion becomes visible when love for Christ moves from feeling to action. Sometimes service is public. Often it is quiet, practical, and unnoticed. Yet the Lord sees it all. The question is not whether your offering seems impressive, but whether it is surrendered. Saved people become serving people. Ask the Lord to show you one practical way to use what He has entrusted to you wisely today. faithfully.

Application Question: What has God already placed in your hands that you need to start using more intentionally for His kingdom?

Day 4 - Thursday

Stay When It Gets Hard

Scripture Reading: *John 19:23-27*

Reflection

Mary stood near the cross when others had stepped back. She could not change the moment, remove the pain, or fix what she did not understand. But she stayed. That kind of presence is a form of faith. You may walk through seasons when prayers seem unanswered, life feels heavy, and God's work appears hidden. In those moments, devotion is tested. Will you stay close when you cannot see clearly? Will you remain when following Jesus costs you comfort, reputation, or ease? Staying does not mean you are never afraid. It means fear does not get the final word. Faithfulness is often quiet. It looks like showing up, praying again, worshiping through tears, and refusing to walk away from Christ when life hurts. Mary reminds you that love remains. Do not measure devotion only by what you feel. Measure it also by where you stand today, with courage and love.

Application Question: What difficult circumstance is testing your closeness to Jesus, and how can you choose to stay near Him in it?

Day 5 - Friday

Faith Holds On Before It Understands

Scripture Reading: *Hebrews 11:1-6*

Reflection

Mary did not understand everything happening at the cross, but she remained there anyway. That is a needed word for you. Faith is not having every answer before you obey. Faith is staying with Jesus when you cannot yet see what He is doing. There are seasons when God's work feels hidden behind sorrow, delay, or confusion. In those moments, you may be tempted to interpret silence as absence. But the cross teaches a different lesson. What looked like defeat was actually redemption unfolding. What seemed like darkness was God accomplishing salvation. So when life stops making sense, your call is not to solve every mystery before trusting Him. Your call is to keep looking to Jesus. Hold on by faith until understanding catches up. The Lord is working even when you cannot trace Him. He will sustain you as you remain with Him, through every unanswered question and delay.

Application Question: Where do you need to trust Jesus today without demanding that He explain everything first?

Weekend Reflection

As you look back over this week, notice the path of grace: Jesus meets you in brokenness, redirects your life, calls you to serve, and strengthens you to stay near Him. Bring that journey with you into gathered worship this weekend, and thank God with His people that the same Savior who delivered Mary still restores and sustains devoted servants today.