# God's Boundless Welcome: Peter's Vision and Cornelius



Explore how Peter's vision and Cornelius's story show God breaking cultural walls to invite all people into His kingdom.





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#### Introduction

Welcome to this transformative 21-day Bible study on Peter's vision and Cornelius's story—a powerful narrative of God dismantling cultural barriers to embrace all people into His kingdom. In Acts 10-11, we encounter a pivotal moment when God reveals that the gospel transcends human divisions, calling us to a new understanding of inclusion and grace.

Peter's vision of the unclean animals and his subsequent encounter with Cornelius, a Gentile centurion, challenge the traditional Jewish customs concerning purity and fellowship. This divine revelation helped the early church realize that God's salvation is for everyone, regardless of cultural background, ethnicity, or social status.

Through this study, you will journey not only through the historical and theological implications of these events but also through practical applications for your own life. You'll see how God calls us to live lives that reflect His radical love, breaking down walls of prejudice and embracing the rich diversity of His family. Each day will guide you through scripture, devotional reflections, thoughtful questions, journaling prompts, and prayers to deepen your understanding and experience of God's inclusive kingdom.

As you engage with this plan, invite the Holy Spirit to open your heart and mind to recognize the barriers you may unknowingly uphold. Be encouraged that God is the ultimate barrier-breaker, welcoming all who respond in faith. Prepare to be challenged, uplifted, and transformed by the story of Peter and







Cornelius and the ongoing invitation to participate in God's expansive, welcoming kingdom. Let's begin this journey with expectant hearts!

















#### Your Verse

Acts 10:1-8 NIV "Cornelius, a centurion...a devout man who feared God with all his household."

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Deuteronomy 7:6 "You are a people holy to the LORD your God."
- Isaiah 56:7 "My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations."







#### Devotional: God's Invitation Reaches Beyond Boundaries

In Acts 10:1–8, we meet Cornelius, a Roman centurion described as devout and God-fearing, yet a Gentile outsider. Despite his sincere faith, cultural and religious divides separated him from the Jewish people and the God of Israel's covenant promises. This passage sets the stage for a remarkable revelation: God's salvation extends beyond Israel to the Gentiles as well.

God doesn't confine His love to a select group but actively seeks to include everyone who truly worships Him. Cornelius's attentive heart and prayers attract God's notice, demonstrating that God honors sincere faith regardless of cultural background. This challenges us to reflect on any barriers we place between ourselves and others before God's kingdom.

We often limit God's work to our own cultural or doctrinal understanding, forgetting that His grace is expansive. This passage invites us to embrace a broader vision of God's inclusive love. **Are we open to the ways God might be calling people different from us into His family?** 







# Reflect and Apply

What cultural or social barriers do you notice in your community or church?
How can you cultivate a heart like Cornelius, open and seeking God
beyond traditional boundaries?
In what ways might God be calling you to partner in His work of welcoming all people?







# **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Write about a time you experienced cultural or spiritual barriers in faith.
	List ways your faith community practices inclusion or misses opportunities to do so.
	Reflect on how your own background shapes your view of God's kingdom.







## Prayer for Today

Father, thank You for Your boundless love that sees beyond human divisions.

Help me to recognize and dismantle the barriers I hold in my heart or community. Teach me to welcome others with open arms as You welcome me. May my life reflect Your inclusive kingdom, embracing people from every nation and background. Guide me to be an instrument of Your peace and unity. *In Jesus' name, Amen.*  $\bigwedge$   $\bigcirc$   $\bigvee$ 







# Day 2: J Peter's Vision: Divine Challenge









Day 2: J Peter's Vision: Divine Challenge

#### Your Verse

Acts 10:9-16 NIV "Peter went up on the roof to pray... 'Do not call anything impure that God has made clean.'"

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Leviticus 11:4 "Of the animals that chew the cud or that have divided hooves... they are unclean for you."
- Romans 14:14 "I am convinced, being fully persuaded in the Lord Jesus, that nothing is unclean in itself."







Day 2: Peter's Vision: Divine Challenge

#### Devotional: Breaking Old Laws by God's New Command

Peter's vision is a striking moment where God challenges deeply ingrained cultural and religious laws. He sees a sheet with all kinds of animals, including those considered unclean under Jewish law, and a voice commands, 'Do not call anything impure that God has made clean.'

This divine command uproots centuries of dietary and purity restrictions, symbolizing God's broader plan to erase barriers that separate people from one another and from Himself in Christ. *God is inviting Peter—and all of us—to move beyond legalistic approaches to faith and embrace a transformative understanding of purity, based on God's grace.* 

Peter initially resists, illustrating how difficult it can be to challenge traditions and the fear of the unknown. But God's patience and persistence show that He prepares His people to embrace new realities.

What traditions or beliefs might God be calling you to re-examine to better align with His expansive love?







Day 2: 🜙 Peter's Vision: Divine Challenge

# Reflect and Apply

How do you respond when God challenges your long-held beliefs or traditions?
What fears come up when you consider stepping beyond your comfort zone in faith?
How can you balance respect for tradition with openness to God's leading?







Day 2: 🜙 Peter's Vision: Divine Challenge

## **Journaling Prompts**

	Describe a tradition or mindset you've had to change because of God's leading.
2.	Write about how you feel when confronted with unfamiliar or challenging spiritual ideas.
	Identify areas in your spiritual life where openness to God's new ways might bring growth.







Day 2: Peter's Vision: Divine Challenge

#### Prayer for Today

Lord, open my eyes and heart as You did Peter's. Help me to release old limitations and embrace Your new ways, even when they disrupt my comfort zones. Teach me to trust that Your plans extend beyond my understanding and carry freedom and life. Strengthen me to say yes to Your transformative work. *In Jesus' name, Amen.* 🙌 🐒

















#### Your Verse

Acts 10:17-23 NIV "Peter was greatly perplexed... 'Cornelius sent for you.'"

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Isaiah 6:8 "Here am I. Send me!"
- John 15:16 "You did not choose me, but I chose you..."







#### Devotional: Answering God's Surprising Invitations

After the vision, Peter wrestles with confusion and doubt but soon learns of Cornelius's invitation from God. This is not just a random call but a divine appointment to step into unfamiliar territory.

God's call often surprises us, asks for courage, and challenges comfort. Like Peter, we might hesitate or resist what feels risky. Still, God's plan pushes beyond ease to bring about His greater purposes.

Peter's willingness to answer despite uncertainty models faith in action—walking forward even when the path isn't fully clear. It invites us to trust that God prepares every step and invites us to part in His redemptive story.

Are you willing to answer God's surprising calls today, however uncertain they seem?







# Reflect and Apply

	When has God called you to do something unexpected? How did you respond?
	What holds you back from following God into new and uncomfortable places?
3.	How can faith help you move forward despite doubt and fear?







# **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Write about a time you said yes to God despite feeling uncertain.
	List ways God might be nudging you toward new opportunities or relationships.
3.	Reflect on what helps you trust God when the future seems unknown.







#### Prayer for Today

Father, give me courage to say yes to Your calls, even when I don't understand the full picture. Help me trust Your guidance and provision each step of the way. Teach me to step outside my comfort zone and be part of Your kingdom's expansion. I surrender my doubts and fears to You. *In Jesus' name, Amen.*















#### Your Verse

Acts 10:24–33 NIV "Cornelius was expecting them and had called together his relatives and close friends."

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Hebrews 13:2 "Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers."
- Romans 15:7 "Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you."







# Devotional: The Power of Welcoming Others Faithfully

When Peter arrives at Cornelius's house, he is met with hospitality and expectation from Cornelius and his household. This meeting signifies a breakthrough—Gentile and Jewish believers coming together in a spirit of unity and worship.

Hospitality here is not mere etiquette; it is a divine act reflecting God's inclusive kingdom, where differences are set aside to honor God together. It reminds us that opening our homes and hearts is pivotal in God's plan to build community across cultures and backgrounds.

Cultivating such hospitality may challenge us to confront our prejudices and extend grace beyond familiar circles. God's kingdom flourishes through relationships built on acceptance, mutual respect, and love.

How can you actively practice hospitality and inclusion in your community this week?







# Reflect and Apply

	Who are the 'outsiders' in your faith community you are called to welcome?
	What fears or reservations do you feel about extending hospitality to unfamiliar people?
3.	How does showing hospitality reflect God's heart to the world?







# **Journaling Prompts**

	Recall a time someone welcomed you in a meaningful way and how it impacted you.
2.	Make a list of practical ways to demonstrate hospitality in your daily life.
	Write a prayer asking God to soften your heart toward those different from you.







## Prayer for Today

Lord, thank You for the gift of welcoming and community. Help me to open my heart and home to others, reflecting Your love and acceptance. Teach me to see beyond differences and cherish every person You bring into my life. May I become a vessel of Your peace and hospitality. In Jesus' name, Amen.























Day 5: **●** Peter Proclaims the Gospel

#### Your Verse

Acts 10:34–43 NIV "Then Peter began to speak: 'I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism..."

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- John 3:16 "For God so loved the world..."
- Galatians 3:28 "There is neither Jew nor Gentile... for you are all one in Christ Jesus."







Day 5: **●** Peter Proclaims the Gospel

#### Devotional: The Gospel for All People

Peter's message to Cornelius and his household is revolutionary: God does not show favoritism but accepts anyone who fears Him and does what is right. This truth is foundational to the Christian faith and central to the mission of the church.

The gospel offers hope beyond ethnicity, status, or past mistakes. Jesus Christ's life, death, and resurrection open the door for all to receive forgiveness and fullness of life.

Peter's bold proclamation models how we too must share this inclusive message, breaking old prejudices and inviting all people into God's saving grace.

Who around you needs to hear this liberating truth that transcends cultural and social barriers?







Day 5: **♦** Peter Proclaims the Gospel

# Reflect and Apply

1.	How does knowing God shows no favoritism affect your view of others?
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	Who in your life needs to hear the gospel presented in a clear and loving way?
	What can you do to share God's inclusive message boldly and compassionately?







Day 5: **♦** Peter Proclaims the Gospel

# **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Write your own summary of the gospel message in your words.
2.	Reflect on how the gospel has broken barriers in your own life.
3.	Plan one way you can share God's love with someone different from you.







Day 5: **●** Peter Proclaims the Gospel

#### Prayer for Today

**Father, thank You that Your love and salvation are for all people.** Fill me with boldness to share the gospel without fear or favoritism. Help me see and love others as You do. Let Your inclusive message shine through my words and actions. *In Jesus' name, Amen.* 







# Day 6: The Holy Spirit Falls on Gentiles









#### Your Verse

Acts 10:44–48 NIV "While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message."

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Joel 2:28 "I will pour out my Spirit on all people..."
- Ephesians 2:19 "You are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens..."







## Devotional: God's Spirit Breaks All Walls

As Peter preaches, the Holy Spirit falls upon Cornelius and his household—an unmistakable sign of God's acceptance. This event confirms that salvation and the Spirit's empowering presence are not limited by ethnic or cultural lines.

The Spirit acts to unite, empower, and affirm all believers as one family in Christ. This moment ushers in a new era where God's kingdom transcends divisions and unites diverse peoples.

The Spirit's outpouring also challenges us to live in harmony with others, celebrating our differences as gifts rather than threats.

Are you open to receiving and sharing the Spirit's unifying power in your relationships and community?







# Reflect and Apply

	How have you experienced the uniting work of the Holy Spirit in your life?
2.	What divisions need the Spirit's healing power in your community?
3.	How can you seek to be an instrument of reconciliation and unity?







# **Journaling Prompts**

	Describe a time you felt deeply connected to other believers despite differences.
2.	Write about how the Holy Spirit leads you toward unity and peace.
3.	List ways you can foster spiritual unity within your church or family.







# **Prayer for Today**

Holy Spirit, come and fall afresh upon me and my community. Break down walls of division and fill us with love, unity, and power. Empower us to be agents of Your peace and reconciliation. May Your presence transform hearts and bring Your kingdom fully here on earth. *In Jesus' name, Amen.* 

















#### Your Verse

Acts 11:19-26 NIV "Those who had been scattered preached the word... And the disciples were called Christians first at Antioch."

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Matthew 28:19 "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations..."
- Colossians 3:11 "Here there is no Gentile or Jew... but Christ is all..."







#### Devotional: A New Inclusive Community Emerges

Following Peter and Cornelius's encounter, believers scattered by persecution brought the gospel to Antioch, creating a uniquely diverse faith community. This church marked the first time the followers of Jesus were called 'Christians'—a label embracing all ethnic groups and backgrounds.

This milestone reveals God's heart for a unified, multiethnic church that models heaven's diversity on earth, embodying reconciliation and mutual respect.

Antioch's church became a beacon of hope and mission, showcasing believers living beyond cultural barriers.

Consider how your faith community might embrace greater diversity and reflect God's kingdom reality.







# Reflect and Apply

	What groups or cultures are less represented in your church or community?
2.	How can you encourage intentional inclusion in your faith environments?
3.	What benefits and challenges arise from diverse communities united in Christ?







# **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Write about your experience in diverse faith communities.
	List practical ways your church can celebrate and include different cultures.
	Reflect on how diversity has enriched or challenged your spiritual journey.







## Prayer for Today

God of all nations, thank You for creating one body out of many peoples. Help us to celebrate diversity as Your gift. Guide Your church to be a true family reflecting Your inclusive kingdom. Remove prejudice and build unity among us all. May we bear witness to Your reconciling love. *In Jesus' name, Amen.* 



















#### Your Verse

James 2:1-9 NIV "Show no favoritism as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ..."

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Romans 2:11 "God does not show favoritism."
- Galatians 3:28 "There is neither Jew nor Greek... you are all one in Christ Jesus."







#### Devotional: Living Faith That Embraces All Equally

The early church's struggle with partiality continues to challenge believers today. James exhorts us to show no favoritism because faith is properly expressed when it embraces equality before God and among people.

True faith breaks down barriers of race, status, and background, reflecting the character of Christ who welcomes all. Favoritism often blinds us to the dignity of others and undermines the unity God desires.

This passage calls us to examine how our faith manifests in inclusive love—not just in belief but in action.

In what ways can you actively pursue impartiality in your relationships and community?







# Reflect and Apply

1.	Where have you noticed favoritism or bias within your faith context?
2.	How does favoritism hinder God's kingdom work?
	What steps can you take toward embracing and embodying impartial love?







# **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Write about moments you felt excluded or privileged in spiritual spaces.
2.	List attitudes or habits you need to change to overcome favoritism.
3.	Describe ways your faith can more genuinely reflect God's impartiality.







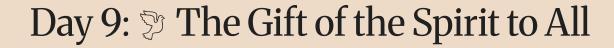
### Prayer for Today

**Jesus, help me reject favoritism and embody Your impartial love.** Open my heart to see and value every person as You do. Teach me to live a faith that is inclusive, just, and merciful. May my actions draw others into Your kingdom without judgment or bias. *In Your name, Amen.* ☒☒☒

















Day 9: " The Gift of the Spirit to All

#### Your Verse

Acts 2:1-4 NIV "All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues..."

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Joel 2:28-29 "I will pour out my Spirit on all people..."
- 1 Corinthians 12:13 "For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body."







Day 9: " The Gift of the Spirit to All

#### Devotional: Spirit-Filled Unity Beyond Boundaries

The outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost signals God's intention to empower all believers regardless of background. This gift unites diverse followers of Christ into one body with unique yet complementary gifts.

The Spirit equips and transforms, breaking down walls of division and inspiring bold witness and love. This foundational event grounds the church's mission to be inclusive and empowered.

Like the early believers, we receive the Spirit not only for personal blessing but to contribute toward a united, diverse community displaying God's glory.

Are you open to the Spirit's power to unify and empower you in advancing God's kingdom?







Day 9: "> The Gift of the Spirit to All

# Reflect and Apply

	In what ways has the Holy Spirit helped you overcome differences with others?
2.	How can you be more attentive to the Spirit's leading in community life?
3.	What spiritual gifts do you see in yourself that serve God's diverse family?







Day 9: "> The Gift of the Spirit to All

# **Journaling Prompts**

	Describe an experience of the Spirit's power uniting a group you were part of.
	List your spiritual gifts and consider how to use them for God's inclusive mission.
3.	Write a prayer inviting the Spirit's fresh work in your life and community.







Day 9: "> The Gift of the Spirit to All

## Prayer for Today

Holy Spirit, come fill me anew with Your power and unity. Help me embrace Your gifts and use them for building Your diverse but united family. Break any walls in my heart and foster love that reflects heaven's harmony. Guide me to serve with joy and boldness. *In Jesus' name, Amen.* \(\bigce\) \(\colon\)

















Day 10: 🍑 Fellowship Across Cultures

#### Your Verse

Ephesians 2:11–22 NIV "Therefore... you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people."

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Galatians 3:28 "There is neither Jew nor Greek... all are one in Christ Jesus."
- 1 Corinthians 12:12 "Just as a body, though one, has many parts..."







Day 10: 🎔 Fellowship Across Cultures

## Devotional: Unity as God's Household

Paul teaches that through Christ, the dividing wall between Jews and Gentiles is broken so all become 'fellow citizens' and 'members of God's household.'

What was once a barrier is replaced by unity and belonging.

This passage invites us to see every believer as family and build relationships reflecting that identity. True fellowship crosses cultural lines and creates a new, unified family in Christ.

Harmony requires intentional effort and humility, but is a powerful testimony of God's reconciling work.

How can you intentionally foster fellowship that bridges cultural divides?







Day 10: 🍑 Fellowship Across Cultures

# Reflect and Apply

1.	What walls have you experienced or built that hinder close fellowship?
2.	How does seeing others as family change your interactions?
3.	What practical steps can foster unity and fellowship across differences?







Day 10: 🍑 Fellowship Across Cultures

# **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Write about friendships or relationships with people of different cultural backgrounds.
2.	List barriers you or your community face in building inclusive fellowship.
3.	Brainstorm ways to bridge gaps and create a sense of family with others.







Day 10: 🎔 Fellowship Across Cultures

### Prayer for Today

God of unity, help me to embrace all believers as family. Tear down walls of division in my heart and community. Foster fellowship that reflects Your love and peace. Guide me to be patient, loving, and proactive in building Your household. *In Jesus' name, Amen.* 















#### Your Verse

Romans 12:1-2 NIV "Be transformed by the renewing of your mind..."

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Ephesians 4:22–24 "Put off your old self... be made new in the attitude of your minds."
- Colossians 3:10 "Put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator."







### Devotional: Renewing Mindsets to Embrace All

God calls us to a continual transformation—renewing our minds so that we can discern His perfect will. In the context of cultural barriers, this means shifting away from old prejudices, stereotypes, and misconceptions.

Transformation starts within, reshaping how we think about others and ourselves as part of God's family. Only then can we faithfully live out practices of inclusion and love.

This inner renewal empowers freedom from fear, judgment, and exclusion to embody God's accepting heart.

Are you open to God transforming your mind to see and welcome all people as He does?







# Reflect and Apply

1.	What thoughts or beliefs need renewing to better align with God's love?
2.	How can renewed thinking influence your daily interactions with others?
	What spiritual disciplines help foster transformation of the mind and heart?







# **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Identify limiting mindsets you want to surrender to God.
2.	Write about a time a renewed perspective helped you grow in faith.
3.	Compose a prayer inviting God to renew your thinking and attitude.







## Prayer for Today

**Lord, renew my mind and transform my heart.** Help me to discard prejudices and embrace Your inclusive love. Teach me to think and act according to Your will, welcoming all people as You do. Make me an agent of Your transformative grace. *In Jesus' name, Amen.*







# Day 12: 💋 Living Out God's Inclusive Love









#### Your Verse

John 13:34–35 NIV "Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another."

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- 1 John 4:7 "Love one another, for love comes from God."
- Romans 13:10 "Love does no harm to a neighbor."







## Devotional: Reflecting Christ's Love Everywhere

Jesus commands a new kind of love—one that reflects His sacrificial and inclusive heart. Loving one another becomes the defining mark of His followers.

This love tears down walls of exclusion and embraces all people as neighbors and friends. It demands more than feelings; it calls for active, tangible expressions of kindness and acceptance, crossing cultural, racial, and social barriers.

As we live out God's inclusive love, we become visible witnesses of His kingdom on earth.

How are you embodying this command to love inclusively in your relationships?







# Reflect and Apply

1.	How does Jesus' example challenge your current way of loving others?
2.	In what ways can love actively dismantle cultural barriers?
3.	What practical steps will you take to love inclusively this week?







# **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Recall examples of sacrificial love you have experienced or given.
2.	List people you find hard to love and pray for softening of your heart.
3.	Plan a loving action toward someone different from you.







# Prayer for Today

**Jesus, teach me to love as You love—bravely and without restriction.** Help me to reflect Your heart of inclusion in my words and deeds. May my life be a testimony of Your inclusive and powerful love. *In Your name, Amen.*  $\heartsuit$   $\circlearrowleft$ 















#### Your Verse

Ephesians 2:14 NIV "For He himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier..."

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- 2 Corinthians 5:18 "All this is from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ..."
- Matthew 5:9 "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God."







#### Devotional: Becoming Peacemakers and Bridge Builders

God has made peace through Christ, breaking down barriers between groups. As believers, we are called to continue this work of reconciliation in practical ways.

Being peacemakers means actively seeking to understand, forgive, and build bridges between divided communities. It also involves confronting injustice and prejudice that uphold walls of separation.

This is not easy but essential for reflecting God's peace and advancing His kingdom.

What practical actions can you take to dismantle walls in your spheres of influence?







# Reflect and Apply

1.	What barriers need to be broken in your personal relationships or community?
2.	How can you foster peace and reconciliation amid conflict or prejudice?
3.	Are you willing to take risks for the sake of unity and healing?







# **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Identify one specific barrier you want to work at dismantling.
2.	Write about a past conflict and how God might use it for reconciliation.
3.	List opportunities to be a peacemaker in your church or neighborhood.







# **Prayer for Today**

Prince of Peace, equip me to be a bridge builder and reconcil er. Grant me courage and wisdom to reach across divides and foster unity. Let Your peace reign in my heart and relationships. Use me to break down walls and reconcile others to You. *In Jesus' name, Amen.* 















#### Your Verse

1 Corinthians 9:19–23 NIV "I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some."

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Colossians 4:5-6 "Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity."
- Proverbs 15:1 "A gentle answer turns away wrath..."







# Devotional: Communicating Across Differences

Paul models adaptability in evangelism, becoming 'all things to all people' to share the gospel effectively. This underscores the importance of understanding others' cultures and communicating in ways that connect without compromising the message.

Love guides how we speak, listen, and relate, bridging divides with gentleness and respect. Being culturally sensitive and empathetic opens doors for relationship and transformation.

Consider how your words can build up or tear down walls.

How can you better communicate God's love across cultural or social differences?







# Reflect and Apply

1.	How do you adapt your communication to relate to different people?
2.	What attitudes or habits hinder effective loving communication?
3.	How can listening improve your understanding and connection with others?







# **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Reflect on a time your words helped heal or hurt a relationship.
	List ways to become a better listener and communicator in diverse settings.
	Plan a conversation where you can practice speaking the language of love.







# Prayer for Today

**Lord, teach me to speak with love, wisdom, and empathy.** Help me to listen well and adapt my words to reach hearts. Use my speech to build bridges and reflect Your grace. May my communication bring life and healing. *In Jesus' name, Amen.* 







# Day 15: P Seeing Through God's Eyes









Day 15: 
Seeing Through God's Eyes

#### Your Verse

1 Samuel 16:7 NIV "The LORD does not look at the things people look at... The LORD looks at the heart."

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- John 7:24 "Stop judging by mere appearances, but instead judge correctly."
- Psalm 139:1-4 "You have searched me... and know my heart."







Day 15: 
Seeing Through God's Eyes

## Devotional: Valuing Hearts Over Appearances

God judges differently than humans; He looks at the heart rather than outward appearances. This challenges us to question our biases and the assumptions we make about others based on culture, race, or status.

Seeing through God's eyes means perceiving the unique value, struggles, and potential within each person. It invites greater compassion and reduces judgment.

Ask God to help you see others as He does—with love and grace, not prejudice.







Day 15: 🖓 Seeing Through God's Eyes

# Reflect and Apply

1.	In what ways do you sometimes judge others based on appearance or background?
2.	How can focusing on the heart change your perspective and actions?
3.	What steps will you take to align your view with God's heart for people?







Day 15: 🖓 Seeing Through God's Eyes

# **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Recall a person you misjudged initially and how your view changed.
2.	Write about what it means to you to be known by God's heart.
3.	Pray for the grace to see others with God's compassion and understanding.







Day 15: Seeing Through God's Eyes

## Prayer for Today

**Lord, open my eyes to see people as You do.** Help me to look beyond the surface and value hearts. Remove any prejudice or judgment from me, replacing it with Your love and grace. Transform my vision to reflect Your heart. *In Jesus' name, Amen.* • • • •







# Day 16: The Standing Firm Against Prejudice









Day 16: 🖰 Standing Firm Against Prejudice

#### Your Verse

Galatians 5:1 NIV "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then..."

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Ephesians 6:11 "Put on the full armor of God..."
- James 4:7 "Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."







Day 16: O Standing Firm Against Prejudice

# Devotional: Resisting the Forces That Divide

Christ's freedom is both a liberation from sin and a call to resist divisions that enslave us to fear and prejudice. Spiritual warfare is real, and prejudice often reflects underlying spiritual battles.

Equipping ourselves with God's armor—truth, righteousness, peace, faith, salvation, and the word—helps us stand firm against lies that separate. Resisting prejudice is an act of faith and obedience to God's call for unity.

Are you committed to standing firm against any prejudices or divisions that threaten God's kingdom?







Day 16: 🗀 Standing Firm Against Prejudice

# Reflect and Apply

1.	What inner battles do you face relating to bias and inclusion?
2.	How can spiritual disciplines help strengthen you against prejudice?
	What role does community play in maintaining unity and resisting division?







Day 16: 🗀 Standing Firm Against Prejudice

# **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Write about a time you overcame prejudice in your heart.
2.	List spiritual resources (prayer, scripture, fellowship) that help in this battle.
3.	Pray for strength and vigilance to resist division and promote unity.







Day 16: 🗆 Standing Firm Against Prejudice

# Prayer for Today

**Lord, strengthen me to stand firm against prejudice and division.** Clothe me in Your armor and equip me to resist any lies that separate Your family. Help me live in the freedom Christ won and promote love and unity. *In Jesus' name, Amen.*

















Day 17: 😂 Welcoming the Stranger

#### Your Verse

Leviticus 19:34 NIV "The foreigner residing among you must be treated as your native-born."

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Hebrews 13:2 "Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers."
- Matthew 25:35 "I was a stranger and you invited me in."







Day 17: 😂 Welcoming the Stranger

## Devotional: Hospitality as Kingdom Practice

God's commands to Israel included clear instructions to welcome strangers as neighbors. These instructions reflect God's heart of hospitality and foreshadow the church's role as a welcoming family to all.

Welcoming the stranger is an expression of God's love and an invitation into His kingdom community. This practice is countercultural in a world often defined by fear and exclusion.

Our faith calls us to embody this radical hospitality daily.

How can you practice welcoming strangers and embody Christ's compassion today?







Day 17: 🔅 Welcoming the Stranger

# Reflect and Apply

1.	How does hospitality challenge societal norms of exclusion?
2.	Who are the 'strangers' you find difficult to welcome?
3.	What blessings have come through unexpected relationships or encounters?







Day 17: 🐯 Welcoming the Stranger

# **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Describe an experience of welcoming or being welcomed as a stranger.
2.	List ways to extend hospitality beyond your comfort zone.
3.	Pray for a heart of compassion toward outsiders and strangers.







Day 17: 😂 Welcoming the Stranger

## Prayer for Today

**Lord, help me to welcome strangers as You welcome me.** Give me a generous and compassionate heart. Let my home and life be places of refuge, kindness, and love, reflecting Your kingdom. Teach me to see everyone as Your beloved child. *In Jesus' name, Amen.*







# Day 18: Day 18: Learning From Peter's Example









#### Your Verse

2 Peter 3:18 NIV "But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Acts 11:15 "As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit came on them as he had come on us at the beginning."
- Luke 22:32 "I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail."







#### Devotional: Growing in Grace and Understanding

Peter's journey from prejudice to inclusive faith is a model of spiritual growth and grace. He learned to embrace God's expanding revelation and live it out courageously.

His example encourages us to continually grow in grace and knowledge, willing to be transformed by God's truth. Learning and humility lead to fuller participation in God's kingdom work.

Are you cultivating a posture of growth, openness, and dependence on God like Peter?







# Reflect and Apply

1.	When have you experienced significant spiritual growth like Peter?
	What challenges do you face in embracing new understandings of God's kingdom?
3.	How can you pursue growth in grace and knowledge daily?







## **Journaling Prompts**

	Write about a lesson God is teaching you now that challenges old thinking.
2.	List habits or practices that foster spiritual growth for you.
3.	Pray for a humble heart and desire to grow alongside God.







#### Prayer for Today

Father, help me grow in grace and deepen my knowledge of You. Teach me to be humble and teachable like Peter, open to Your new revelations. Guide me to live courageously for Your kingdom. *In Jesus' name, Amen.* 









# Day 19: O God's Global Family









Day 19: OGod's Global Family

#### Your Verse

Revelation 7:9 NIV "A great multitude that no one could count... from every nation, tribe, people and language."

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Psalm 68:31 "...all kings will bow down to him, and all nations will serve him."
- Isaiah 49:6 "...I will also make You a light for the Gentiles..."







Day 19: O God's Global Family

# Devotional: Welcoming the Full Diversity of God's Kingdom

The vision of heaven is a vast, diverse worshiping community, reflecting the fullness of God's creation. This image is a hope and a call: God's family embraces every nation and culture.

Our earthly participation in this vision includes welcoming all into faith and relationship with Christ. The gospel disrupts exclusivity and heralds a new humanity united in worship and service.

How can you live in anticipation of and preparation for this glorious, diverse family?







Day 19: OGod's Global Family

## Reflect and Apply

1.	What excites or challenges you about God's global family vision?
2.	How does this vision affect your daily attitudes toward cultural differences?
3.	What role can you play in expanding God's kingdom inclusively?







Day 19: Odd's Global Family

## **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Write about your hopes for a diverse, united church.
2.	Reflect on the cultures and peoples God has brought into your life.
3.	Pray for the growth and integration of God's global family.







Day 19: O God's Global Family

#### Prayer for Today

God of all nations, thank You for calling a diverse family to worship You. Help me to embrace and celebrate this unity in diversity. Prepare my heart and community to reflect Your heavenly kingdom here on earth. *In Jesus' name, Amen.* 









# Day 20: \times Hands Ready to Serve









#### Your Verse

1 Peter 4:10 NIV "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others..."

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Galatians 5:13 "Serve one another humbly in love."
- Mark 10:45 "...the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve."







Day 20: \bigotheta Hands Ready to Serve

#### Devotional: Serving Across Boundaries in Love

Faith is made visible through acts of service that cross cultural and social boundaries. Using our gifts in love builds bridges and demonstrates God's kingdom tangibly.

Serving others humbly is a powerful way to break down walls and express Christ's inclusive heart. Even small acts can have profound kingdom impact.

What gifts has God given you to serve others, especially those different from you?







## Reflect and Apply

1.	How do you currently use your gifts to serve your community or church?
	What new opportunities might God be leading you to serve outside your usual circles?
3.	How does serving others change your heart and mindset?







# **Journaling Prompts**

1.	List your spiritual gifts and talents.
	Describe a time when serving someone different from you brought growth or blessing.
	Plan a practical act of service this week for someone outside your usual group.







#### Prayer for Today

**Lord, open my hands and heart to serve others in love.** Help me use the gifts You have given me to build unity and advance Your kingdom. Teach me humility and joy in serving across all barriers. *In Jesus' name, Amen.* 💭 💙







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Day 21: 🕭 Celebrating God's Inclusive Kingdom

#### Your Verse

Psalm 133:1 NIV "How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!"

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Romans 15:5-6 "May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you unity of mind..."
- John 17:21 "That all of them may be one... so that the world may believe."







Day 21: 🕭 Celebrating God's Inclusive Kingdom

#### Devotional: Joy in Unity and Diversity

As we conclude this journey, we celebrate the beauty and joy of God's people living together in unity despite differences. Such unity is a powerful witness and a foretaste of heaven.

We rejoice in the story of Peter, Cornelius, and the early church that teaches us God's kingdom welcomes all—breaking down walls of division and prejudice. Our call is to live this truth daily, celebrating diversity and building bridges.

May your heart overflow with gratitude and resolve to be a faithful ambassador of God's inclusive kingdom.







Day 21: 🏂 Celebrating God's Inclusive Kingdom

## Reflect and Apply

1.	What has been the most significant insight you've gained about inclusivity?
	How will you continue to practice and promote unity in your faith journey?
3.	What celebration or commitment will you make as you move forward?







Day 21: 🏂 Celebrating God's Inclusive Kingdom

## **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Write a letter to God expressing gratitude for inclusivity in His kingdom.
	List commitments you want to hold for promoting unity and breaking barriers.
3.	Describe a vision for your role in God's diverse church family.







Day 21: 🏂 Celebrating God's Inclusive Kingdom

#### Prayer for Today

Father, I celebrate Your kingdom where all are welcome and united. Thank You for breaking down walls through Jesus and the Spirit. Help me live as an ambassador of unity and love. May my life reflect Your joy and peace in diversity. *In Jesus' name, Amen.* 







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