

Don't Just Stand There—Go! - A 5-Day Devotional Guide

Day 1 – Jesus Is Enthroned, Not Absent

Scripture: Acts 1:6–11; Ephesians 1:20–22

For many people, the ascension feels like Jesus leaving the story. The disciples watched Him rise into heaven and disappear behind the clouds. But the ascension was not Jesus stepping away—it was Jesus taking His throne.

The disciples hoped for a political kingdom. Jesus gave them something much bigger: a Kingdom over every power, authority, and ruler.

Jesus is not distant. He is reigning.

Sometimes we live as if God is hard to reach—as if prayer is a customer service line with endless hold music. But the ascension reminds us that we have direct access to the King of the universe.

You are not praying to a memory.

You are praying to the reigning Christ.

Reflection Questions

- Do I live like Jesus is truly King over my life?
- What areas am I struggling to surrender to His authority?

Practice

Pray one bold prayer today—something you would only ask a King who has all authority.

Prayer

Jesus, thank You for reigning over all things. Help me trust Your authority and live confidently under Your rule. Amen.

Day 2 – Jesus Is Praying for You

Scripture: Romans 8:34; Hebrews 7:25

The ascension did not end Christ's work—it expanded it. Scripture says Jesus now intercedes for us at the right hand of the Father.

That means right now, Jesus is speaking your name before heaven.

You may feel weak, uncertain, or exhausted, but you are not alone. Jesus Himself is your advocate.

There is no gatekeeper between you and God.

No voicemail.

No office hours.

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Because of Jesus, you can approach God boldly and honestly.

Reflection Questions

- What burdens have I been carrying alone?
- How would my prayer life change if I truly believed Jesus is interceding for me?

Practice

Write down one struggle or weakness and intentionally pray over it today, trusting that Jesus is already interceding for you.

Prayer

Lord, thank You for praying for me even when I don't know what to say. Give me confidence to approach You with honesty and faith. Amen.

Day 3 – The Holy Spirit Lives in You

Scripture: Acts 1:4–8; John 16:7

Jesus told the disciples it was actually better for Him to go away because the Holy Spirit would come.

Imagine how confusing that must have sounded.

But the ascension made Pentecost possible. The Holy Spirit is not a backup plan or consolation prize—He is God's presence living within believers.

You do not need a temple to meet with God.

You do not need a perfect spiritual record.

You are now a dwelling place for His Spirit.

The same Spirit who empowered the early Church now lives in you.

Reflection Questions

- Do I begin my days aware of the Holy Spirit's presence?
- Where do I need the Spirit's guidance and strength today?

Practice

Before checking your phone tomorrow morning, spend ten quiet minutes inviting the Holy Spirit to guide your day.

Prayer

Holy Spirit, fill my heart and lead my steps today. Teach me to listen, obey, and walk closely with You. Amen.

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Day 4 – Stop Staring at the Sky

Scripture: Acts 1:8–11

After Jesus ascended, the disciples stood staring into the sky until angels asked:
“Why do you stand here looking into heaven?”

In other words:

“Don't just stand there—go!”

The ascension is not meant to paralyze the Church. It is meant to mobilize it.

Jesus gave His followers a mission:

“You will be My witnesses.”

We are not called to hide from the world.

We are called to engage it with hope, truth, and love.

Direct access to God should lead to direct engagement with people.

Reflection Questions

- Who around me needs hope or encouragement?
- Am I actively living as a witness for Christ?

Practice

Share something God has done in your life with one person this week.

Prayer

Jesus, help me stop standing still spiritually. Give me courage to live boldly and lovingly as Your witness. Amen.

Day 5 – Jesus Is Coming Back

Scripture: Acts 1:11; Revelation 2:10

The angels gave the disciples a promise:

“This same Jesus... will come back.”

The ascension is not the end of the story—it is the setup for Christ's return.

Because Jesus is coming back:

- We can endure suffering
- We can remain faithful

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- We can live with hope
- We can persevere in prayer

The return of Christ is not meant to create fear—it is meant to inspire faithfulness.

We live between the ascension and the return, carrying hope into the world until the King comes again.

Reflection Questions

- If Jesus returned today, what would I want to change?
- How can I live more intentionally with eternity in mind?

Practice

Do one act of obedience today that you've been delaying—offer forgiveness, encourage someone, or respond to God's prompting.

Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank You for the promise that You are coming again. Help me live faithfully, hopefully, and courageously until that day. Amen.