



Daily Devotionals – M, 2025

Day 1: When God Stops You in Your Tracks

Scripture:

“As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him.” — Acts 9:3 (NIV)

Reflection:

Sometimes God doesn't whisper. He intervenes. Saul was on a mission of destruction, certain he was doing the right thing. But God had other plans—and He didn't wait for Saul to figure it out. The light that stopped Saul wasn't just blinding; it was grace in motion. In one flash, God interrupted a broken path to begin a redemptive one. Maybe you've experienced that—a moment when everything stopped, and nothing could go forward until God had your attention. It may not have looked like a light from heaven, but it felt like one. Disruptions don't always mean something is going wrong. Sometimes they mean God is doing something holy.

Story:

Jasmine had built her life around control. Her planner was full, her goals were set, and she had no time for detours. Then her father had a stroke, and suddenly her world stopped. She paused her career to become his caregiver—something she never imagined. In the quiet hours of tending to his needs, Jasmine began to pray again. She opened her Bible not because she had to, but because she was desperate. One morning, she read Acts 9:3 and wept. Her plans had been interrupted, yes—but maybe it wasn't punishment. Maybe it was mercy. For the first time, Jasmine stopped fighting the stillness and started listening. That's when she began to feel peace.

Prayer:

God, I don't always welcome interruptions. But I know You see more than I do. If You need to stop me in my tracks, I trust You. Help me to recognize Your hand in the sudden light, in the unexpected stillness, in the moments I didn't plan for. Let those moments become sacred ground where my story begins to turn. Amen.

Day 2: Called by Name

Scripture:

“He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, ‘Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?’” — Acts 9:4 (NIV)

Reflection:

There’s something deeply personal about being called by name. When Jesus called out to Saul, it wasn’t a distant rebuke—it was intimate. The repetition, “Saul, Saul,” speaks not of anger, but of urgency and love. Jesus knew exactly who Saul was, what he had done, and what he would become. And still, He called him. The same is true for us. Even when we’re going in the wrong direction, God doesn’t shout at us in shame—He calls to us in love. Our name, spoken by our Savior, is a reminder that we are not forgotten, not beyond reach, and not beyond grace.

Story:

Carlos had walked away from faith years ago. Life had been hard—loss, disappointment, and choices he wasn’t proud of had piled up. He often said he was too far gone for God to care. One evening, flipping through channels, he paused on a Christian program mid-sentence: “You are not forgotten—God still knows your name.” It stopped him. Tears fell as he realized that all this time, God hadn’t turned away. He had been calling. That night, Carlos whispered a prayer he hadn’t said in years: “God, I’m listening.” And it was enough. The calling had begun.

Prayer:

Jesus, thank You for knowing my name and calling me, even when I’ve run the other way. Remind me that I matter to You—not because I’ve done everything right, but because You love without limits. Help me to hear Your voice above the noise, and to follow when You call. Amen.

Day 3: The God Who Takes It Personally

Scripture:

“‘I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting,’ he replied.” —Acts 9:5 (NIV)


Reflection:

Jesus doesn’t say, “You’re hurting my people.” He says, “You’re persecuting me.” That one sentence changes everything. It means that Jesus is not a distant observer of your pain—He is personally invested. When His followers are rejected, misunderstood, or wounded, He feels it. When you’re suffering, He’s not just watching; He’s walking with you. You are not invisible to God. He defends, He grieves, He stands beside you. This is a Savior who doesn’t just forgive from afar—He steps into our stories and says, “What happens to you matters to Me.”

Story:

Emily had been bullied at school for her faith. The teasing turned to isolation, and she began to wonder if following Jesus was worth the pain. One night at youth group, her leader shared this

verse from Acts 9. “Jesus takes it personally,” she said. “He stands with you in the fire.” Emily had never thought of it that way. That moment gave her strength—not just to endure, but to remember she wasn’t alone. Her pain wasn’t just hers. It belonged to the Savior who had already carried it.

 Prayer:

Jesus, thank You for taking my pain seriously. Thank You for being near when I feel hurt or misunderstood. Help me to remember that I am never alone—and that You walk every path with me. Strengthen me to stand firm, knowing You stand with me. Amen.

 **Day 4: Learning to Let Go of Control**

 Scripture:

“Saul got up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes he could see nothing.” —Acts 9:8 (NIV)

 Reflection:

One of the hardest things about following God is letting go of control. Saul opened his eyes and saw nothing—a humbling moment for someone who was used to leading with confidence. But it was also a gift. For the first time, Saul had to be led. Sometimes we don’t see what’s ahead because God is teaching us to trust. He doesn’t always give clarity first—He gives direction. And in the darkness, we learn to follow, not to fix. We learn to listen, not to lead. And that is where transformation begins.

 Story:

Monica was always the strong one—the planner, the fixer, the one others leaned on. But when her health took an unexpected turn and answers didn’t come, she felt lost. Blind, in a way. For weeks, she prayed for healing but felt only silence. One afternoon, in the stillness, she felt a nudge: Stop trying to lead—just follow Me. It wasn’t the answer she wanted, but it was the one she needed. She began to rest, breathe, and let others help. Slowly, peace returned. Not because her situation changed, but because she did.

 Prayer:

Lord, I don’t like feeling out of control. But I know that when I can’t see, You still can. Teach me to trust You when the path is unclear. Lead me when I feel lost, and help me release my grip on things You never asked me to carry. Amen.

Day 5: Joy Is Coming

Scripture:

“Weeping may stay for the night, but rejoicing comes in the morning.” —Psalm 30:5 (NIV)

Reflection:

Pain can feel permanent in the middle of the night. The silence is heavier. The questions feel louder. But Psalm 30 reminds us that night is not forever. Mourning may visit, but it’s not a permanent resident. Joy is already on the horizon—even if you can’t feel it yet. God’s promises don’t vanish in the dark. They wait patiently for morning light. When you’re stuck in sorrow, trust the God who holds the sunrise. He hasn’t forgotten you. Joy is coming.

Story:

After her miscarriage, Rachel couldn’t imagine ever feeling joy again. Each morning felt heavier than the last. One day, a friend sent her Psalm 30:5 with a note: “You don’t have to feel joy today. Just know it’s coming.” She didn’t believe it at first. But she clung to the verse. Months passed, and the grief softened. One morning, watching the sunrise with a cup of tea in her hand and peace in her heart, Rachel whispered through tears, “It came. Joy came.” Not all at once—but enough to breathe again.

Prayer:

God, thank You for being the keeper of my mornings. When the night feels long, help me remember that You are still working. Bring joy again—quietly, patiently, and faithfully. Remind me that hope doesn’t expire in the dark. Amen.

Day 6: From Sackcloth to Singing

Scripture:

“You removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, that my heart may sing your praises and not be silent.” —Psalm 30:11–12 (NIV)


Reflection:

Sackcloth was the clothing of grief—scratchy, rough, uncomfortable. It symbolized mourning and sorrow. But David says God took it off and gave him joy to wear instead. What a picture of grace. God doesn’t just patch up our pain—He replaces it with something beautiful. He doesn’t demand we hide our sorrow; He transforms it. And the result? Praise. Not forced. Not fake. But overflowing from a heart that knows what it means to be rescued.

Story:

Brian was depressed after a painful divorce. He barely prayed, barely smiled. Music used to bring him joy, but even that felt distant. One day, cleaning out old boxes, he found a journal with Psalm 30 highlighted. “Clothed me with joy.” He hadn’t felt that in a long time. That night,

he dusted off his guitar. One chord turned into a song. And slowly, music returned. Not because everything was fixed, but because God was healing what was broken.

 Prayer:

Lord, thank You for trading my sorrow for joy. For not asking me to pretend, but for lifting me from grief into praise. Clothe me today with hope. Let my life be a song of the goodness You've shown me, even through the hardest chapters. Amen.

 **Day 7: A New Step Forward**

 Scripture:

"Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do." —Acts 9:6 (NIV)

 Reflection:

God rarely gives us the full map. He gives us the next step. For Saul, it was simple: Get up and go. No promises, no details—just obedience. Sometimes we're waiting for clarity before we act, but God is waiting for movement before He speaks. Faith isn't about having all the answers. It's about saying yes to the next thing. Don't let fear of the unknown keep you stuck. The same God who calls you forward will meet you there.

 Story:

Julia felt stuck in her job and prayed for direction. She wanted God to give her the entire five-year plan. Instead, she felt a gentle nudge to enroll in a weekend class. That was it. Just one step. She signed up. In that class, she met a mentor who opened doors to new opportunities. It all started with one yes. Looking back, Julia realized that God hadn't been silent—He had just been asking her to trust the next step.

 Prayer:

God, help me take the step You've placed in front of me—even if it feels small or unclear. Give me faith to move when I don't have all the answers. Remind me that You walk with me, and You'll lead me to what's next. Amen.