

Devotional Guide for July 13th Sermon: “You Belong Here”

Day 1: Embracing God's Righteousness Reading: Romans 3:21-26 Devotional: Today's passage reveals the heart of the gospel - God's righteousness freely given to us through faith in Jesus Christ. As you reflect, consider how you may have tried to earn God's favor through your own efforts. Remember that our righteousness comes not from our own works, but as a gift from God. How does this truth change your perspective on your relationship with God? Take time to thank Him for His incredible grace and the gift of His righteousness.

Day 2: The Faithfulness of God Reading: Romans 3:1-4 Devotional: Even when we are unfaithful, God remains faithful. This truth echoes throughout Scripture and is beautifully illustrated in Israel's history. Consider moments in your own life when you've wandered from God or doubted His presence. How has God demonstrated His faithfulness to you despite your shortcomings? Take time to thank God for His unwavering love and commitment to you. Let this assurance of His faithfulness empower you to trust Him more deeply in your current circumstances.

Day 3: The Universality of Sin and Salvation Reading: Romans 3:9-20 Devotional: These verses highlight the universal nature of sin - no one is righteous on their own. This sobering truth sets the stage for the good news of salvation. As you meditate on this passage, acknowledge areas in your life where you struggle with sin. Then, shift your focus to the hope we have in Christ. How does recognizing your need for a Savior deepen your appreciation for God's grace?

Day 4: Faith that Transforms Reading: Romans 3:27-31 Devotional: These verses emphasize that salvation comes through faith, not works. Yet, this faith isn't passive - it's transformative. How has your faith in Christ changed you? Are there areas of your life where you're still trying to earn God's favor rather than living from His love? Ask God to deepen your faith and to show you how to live more fully from His grace rather than your own efforts.

Day 5: Living in God's Presence Reading: Psalm 16:8-11 Devotional: The psalmist speaks of setting the Lord always before him and experiencing fullness of joy in God's presence. In light of the sermon's emphasis on surrendering control to God, consider how you can more intentionally invite God's presence into every aspect of your life. What practices or habits can you develop to maintain an awareness of God throughout your day? Commit to taking one practical step today to cultivate a deeper sense of God's presence in your daily routine.