

# April Devotions

## Jesus Is Alive

“...The Lord is risen indeed.” (Luke 24:34)

Jesus did exactly what He said He would do...rise again. He told the disciples this several times and the Old Testament prophesies the death and resurrection of Jesus. At the Passover meal, the night before His crucifixion, when Jesus was talking to His disciples He said, “But after I have risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee.” (Mark 14:28 NIV) Then, after the death of Jesus at the burial tomb, an angel confirmed to Mary and Mary Magdalene about the resurrection of Jesus. An angel spoke to them, “... Don’t be alarmed. You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He isn’t here! He is risen from the dead! Look, this is where they laid His body.” (Mark 16:6 NLT) Jesus rose from the dead and because He did, we who have faith in Jesus Christ as our savior, shall also “...become like Him in His death.”(Philippians 3:10) Our faith points us to the resurrection of Jesus. Paul said: “And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith.” (1 Corinthians 15:14 NIV) Jesus is alive. Jesus, who died for everyone, took the punishment for our sins. He bled and died for us on the cross. God’s power raised Him to life on the 3rd day. Jesus defeated sin, death and the grave. Jesus said, “I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold I am alive forever more. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death.” (Revelation 1:18) “The Lord is risen.” (Luke 24:34) He is risen indeed. “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in Me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in Me will never die. Do you believe this? (John 11:25-26 NIV)

Ezekiel 37, Isaiah 53:11-12, Hosea 13:14

## Living in Resurrection Power: Freedom, Authority, and Kingdom Impact

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is not just a moment in history—it is a present reality available to every believer. The same power that raised Christ from the dead now lives in us (*Romans 8:11*). This resurrection power breaks chains, restores what is broken, and empowers us to live in freedom, authority, and abundance.

Through Christ, we are no longer bound by sin, fear, or defeat. *2 Corinthians 5:17* declares that we are new creations; the old has gone, and the new has come. This transformation is not meant to stay hidden—it flows into every area of our lives. Marriages can be restored through grace and forgiveness. Families can be healed as love replaces division. Finances can come under God's order as we trust Him as our provider. Communities and even nations can be impacted when believers walk boldly in truth and love.

We are not powerless against the enemy. *Luke 10:19* reminds us that we have authority to overcome all the power of the enemy. When we walk in resurrection power, we resist fear and stand firm in faith, knowing that Christ has already secured the victory. The enemy may try to deceive or discourage, but he cannot overcome a life surrendered to Jesus.

As we seek first the kingdom of God (*Matthew 6:33*), we align our hearts with heaven's priorities. God's love and grace begin to transform us from the inside out, and His presence flows through us into the world around us. This is how heaven touches earth—through lives yielded to Him.

*Ephesians 3:20* reminds us that God is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine according to His power at work within us. That power is alive in you today. Walk in it. Live in it. Release it.

### Prayer Points:

1. Lord, help me to walk daily in Your resurrection power, living in freedom and victory over every work of the enemy.
2. Jesus, transform my relationships, finances, and influence so that Your love and grace overflow into every area of my life.
3. Holy Spirit, align my heart with Your kingdom purposes and use me to bring heaven's reality into my family, community, and beyond.

## Give It to God

As a new day begins, do you notice how quickly anxiety tries to rush in? And how loud your thoughts grow when prayer is delayed?

Our minds often replay conversations, attempt to predict outcomes, and prepare for problems that haven't happened yet. We brace for worst-case scenarios, carrying burdens that we were never meant to hold alone. **(Galatians 6:2)**

Do you realize how often we reach for control, and how much peace it costs us?

Let's learn a different rhythm: Pause. Pray. Give it to God.

Prayer doesn't always change our circumstances, but it changes us. It shifts our focus from fear to faith, from gripping tightly to releasing and letting go. **(1 Peter 5:7)**

Worry drains our strength. Prayer restores it. The more we place our concerns in God's hands, the quieter anxiety becomes in our hearts.

Scripture reminds us that when we release our burdens to the Lord, He is the One who sustains us. **(Psalm 55:22)**

### Prayer:

Father God, as I step into this day, quiet my mind and steady my heart. Right now, I place these anxious thoughts that try to follow me before You. I don't want to carry what I can't fix or control. Teach me to trust You in all things. Help me walk in Your light, live by Your truth, and face this day with complete confidence in Your faithfulness. In Jesus' name, Amen

## He Hears, He Answers, He Delivers

“He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honor him.” — Psalm 91:15

There is a deep comfort in knowing that when we call upon the Lord, He hears us. Not partially, not distantly—but fully and attentively. Psalm 91:15 is a promise rooted in the faithfulness of God: He answers, He is present, and He delivers. Yet, the tension often lies in how and when He answers.

We live in the space between the cry and the response. In that waiting, our faith is stretched. We may expect immediate rescue, a clear direction, or a specific outcome—but God, in His wisdom, responds according to His perfect will and timing. Isaiah 55:8-9 reminds us that His thoughts and ways are higher than ours. What feels like delay is often divine preparation.

Consider David, who cried out repeatedly in the Psalms while hiding in caves, pursued and weary. Though anointed king, he waited years before stepping into the promise. Yet he could still declare, “I waited patiently for the Lord; and He inclined to me, and heard my cry. He also brought me up out of a horrible pit...” (Psalm 40:1-2). God did not fail him—He formed him in the waiting.

Or think of Peter in prison in Acts 12. The church prayed earnestly, and though it seemed impossible, God sent an angel to deliver him. The answer came—not only powerfully—but precisely on time.

The same God is faithful to you. When you call, He answers. When you walk through deep waters, He is with you (Isaiah 43:2). When you feel overwhelmed, He is your deliverer—lifting you out, restoring your footing, and honoring your trust in Him.

Be encouraged: your prayers are not unheard. Your waiting is not wasted. God is moving—even now. Trust His heart when you cannot trace His hand. He is faithful to complete what He has begun.

**Prayer:** Father, strengthen me in the waiting. Help me trust Your timing and Your ways. Remind me that You hear me and are working on my behalf. Lift me out of every deep place and let me see Your faithful hand at work. In Jesus’ name, amen.

## Who Can Satisfy

“Then Jesus declared, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to Me will never go hungry, and whoever, believes in Me will never be thirsty.” (John 6:35 NIV)

Jesus is saying “I am the one who can satisfy.” The world tells us satisfaction is found in this new thing or in rising to the top, having social media likes, making lots of money and owning houses, cars and having a display of wealth. The search for satisfaction is relentless. When one new toy, new job, new relationship, influence and money doesn’t bring satisfaction the search continues. There is an unhappiness deep in the soul that drives us to keep searching. This is really a spiritual longing that only Jesus can satisfy. Jesus satisfies the deepest longing in our soul. When we are separated from God, the Father, we hunger and thirst and try to fill it with that which does not satisfy. Jesus answered (Thomas) “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.” (John 14:6 NIV) Jesus is the Bread of Life that satisfies our spiritual hunger and thirst. “For the bread of God is that which comes down out of heaven and gives life to the world.” (John 6:33) Jesus can satisfy every longing you have ever hungered after. Are you satisfied? Jesus died and took the punishment for your sins and mine. Why? So, we could come into a relationship with our Heavenly Father by receiving Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. Jesus is standing at the door of your heart with open arms, and nail scarred hands, no matter what your past has been, He offers forgiveness. If you don’t know Jesus, you can pray the following prayer and invite Christ into your life.

**Prayer:** Dear God, thank you that Jesus died for me, for my sins. I ask you to forgive my sins. I believe Jesus Christ is your Son and I want to receive Him as my Lord and Savior this day. Amen.

Psalm 107:9, 1 Peter 2:24, Revelation 3:20

## Freedom and Discipline

At first glance, freedom and discipline sound contradictory. Freedom feels inviting and refreshing, while discipline often sounds demanding—not freeing at all.

Yet in our Christian walk, these two are deeply connected. Freedom is our liberation from sin while discipline is the spiritual training that enables us to live in that freedom. True freedom isn't doing whatever we want — it's about having the power to do what is right through the Holy Spirit.

As believers, we are freed from the fear of condemnation and the heavy weight of sin. “For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.” **John 3:17**

Biblical discipline is the consistent practice of prayer and studying the Word to cultivate intimacy with God while shaping our hearts to reflect His truth. Discipline isn't restrictive. It's what allows us to fully enjoy the freedom He gives us.

Without discipline, we could easily fall back into our sinful habits and patterns. We aren't meant to rely on our own strength but to depend on Holy Spirit by allowing Him to guide our thoughts, choices and actions. **Galatians 5:16**

It's important to recognize and surrender old habits that can trip us up. And by surrounding ourselves with other believers who can encourage us and hold us accountable, we strengthen our ability to walk in freedom and remain grounded in God's truth.

Always remember your identity. In Christ, you are made new—the old life no longer defines you, and a new life has begun. Walk confidently in who God says you are. **2 Corinthians 5:17**

**Prayer:** Father God, thank You for the freedom You have given me through Jesus. Help me embrace spiritual discipline, not as a burden, but as a gift that draws me closer to You. Teach me to rely on the Holy Spirit, to surrender old habits, and to walk daily in the new life You've given me. Strengthen my heart to choose what is right and to live in the freedom You designed. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## Anointed to Restore: Living the Mandate of Isaiah 61

“The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me...” (*Isaiah 61:1*). This declaration is not only the mission of Christ—it is now the calling of every believer filled with His Spirit. Through Jesus, this Scripture is fulfilled (*Luke 4:18*), and through the Holy Spirit within us, it continues to be lived out today.

You are anointed. The same Spirit that rested upon Jesus now dwells in you (*Romans 8:11*). You are empowered to bring good news to the poor, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom to captives, and to release those held in darkness. This is not by human strength, but by the power of God working through a yielded life (*Zechariah 4:6*).

Where there has been sorrow, God declares joy. Where there has been devastation, He brings restoration. *Isaiah 61:3* speaks of exchanging ashes for beauty, mourning for gladness, and despair for praise. This is the divine exchange—and you are a vessel of it. As you walk in step with the Holy Spirit, your life becomes evidence that God restores, heals, and redeems.

You are called an “oak of righteousness,” firmly planted to display His glory (*Isaiah 61:3*). This means your life carries weight, stability, and visible transformation. Through you, broken places can be rebuilt (*Isaiah 61:4*), and hope can rise again in hearts, families, and communities.

*2 Corinthians 3:17* declares that where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. That freedom lives in you. You are not a passive observer of God’s work—you are an active participant. *Ephesians 2:10* reminds us that we are God’s workmanship, created for good works prepared in advance. Every act of love, every word of truth, every step of faith releases His kingdom on earth.

So rise in confidence. Walk in your anointing. Speak life, bring hope, and carry His presence boldly. The Spirit of the Lord is upon you—not just to change you, but to transform the world around you.

**Prayer:** Holy Spirit, empower me to walk boldly in Your anointing—bringing healing, freedom, and restoration wherever I go. Let my life reflect Your glory as You work through me to transform hearts and reveal Your kingdom on earth. Amen.

## **“Call To Me”**

“Call to me, and I will answer you and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.” Jeremiah 33:3

When you call on the name of the Lord, He will answer you. You can hear His voice. Jesus said, “My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.” (John 10:27) Sometimes, you hear His voice in “...a gentle whisper” (1 Kings 19:12 NLT) He speaks to us in His word. His word is His will. Believers have been given the Holy Spirit “... He shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said to you.” (John 14:26b) Our personal circumstances will, at times, point us to God’s word and we can “hear” what God is saying. God can speak to us in our trials. Through spiritual eyes you can not only see, but you can hear God speaking in nature. Creation is speaking but we must listen. When you need wisdom God says to ask Him and He will give it to you. God is always speaking but to hear Him we have to get rid of all our distractions and just be still in His presence, getting our mind quiet so we can hear what the spirit is saying. Yes, you can hear the voice of God. “Your own ears will hear Him. Right behind you a voice will say, “This is the way you should go,” whether to the right or to the left.” (Isaiah 30:21) So, we must put our phones down and other distractions away and LISTEN if we want to hear Him speak to us. “Be still, and know that I am God...” (Psalms 46:10)

**Prayer:** Dear Lord, thank you for guiding me. You said your sheep hear your voice. Help me to find more quiet time with you so I can hear your voice. Amen

Isaiah 55:12, James 1:5

## **“Speak to the Mountain: Renew and Fixing Our Thoughts on Christ”**

When life feels overwhelming, it’s easy to let the “mountains” before us dominate our thoughts. Challenges are real, and the weight of them can pull our minds into cycles of fear, doubt, and negativity. But God calls us to a higher way of thinking—one that is rooted not in chaos, but in truth.

Scripture reminds us in *Romans 12:2* to “be transformed by the renewing of your mind.” Renewal is not passive; it is intentional. It means choosing to align our thoughts with God’s promises rather than our problems. *2 Corinthians 10:5* urges us to “take every thought captive to obey Christ.” When anxious or defeating thoughts arise, we don’t have to accept them—we can challenge and replace them with truth.

Jesus has given us authority, and instead of being intimidated by the mountain, we can speak to it in faith. We declare what God is doing, not what the enemy is attempting. While the enemy tries to trap us in confusion and despair, God invites us into clarity and peace. *Philippians 4:8* calls us to focus on whatever is true, noble, right, pure, lovely, and praiseworthy. This is where renewal begins—by fixing our minds on Him.

*Ephesians 4:23* speaks of being “renewed in the spirit of your mind,” and *Psalms 1:2* shows us the path: meditating on God’s Word day and night. As we do, our hearts are guarded, as *Proverbs 4:23* instructs, and we become steady even in storms.

Troubles may persist, but they do not define us. Jesus has already overcome. Our role is to fix our eyes on Him, allowing His Spirit to refresh and strengthen us daily.

### **Prayer Points:**

1. Lord, renew my mind daily and help me reject every thought that does not align with Your truth.
2. Holy Spirit, teach me to meditate on Your Word and fill my heart with peace and clarity.
3. Jesus, give me boldness to speak to the mountains in my life and stand firm in the authority You have given me.

## Refresh and Renew

Scripture reminds us that God never changes. *“I, the Lord, do not change,”* He declares. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. He is our Rock and our Fortress—steady, faithful, and unshakable. While our lives are full of change, His presence remains constant. He promises to be with us always.

Change itself is not the enemy. In fact, healthy change often means we are growing—developing a deeper relationship with Christ and becoming more like Him. There is nothing more life-giving than abiding in His presence and sensing His Spirit at work within us, shaping our hearts and renewing our minds.

Yet not all change leads us closer to God. Sometimes, without even realizing it, we drift. We make excuses for why we haven't opened our Bible, or we justify why our prayer life has become routine rather than refreshing. Spiritual habits can turn into obligations, and passion can quietly fade. When our relationship with Christ feels stagnant, we must remember this truth: **He has not changed.**

So how do we turn it around?

We don't hide from God in shame—we run to Him in humility. We come honestly, asking Him to forgive us and praying, *“Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.”* We lay every distraction, failure, and burden at His feet, trusting in His mercy and grace.

The Lord your God is with you. He is mighty to save. He delights in you, rejoices over you with singing, and quiets you with His love. He longs to refresh your soul and renew your strength—not because you earned it, but because He loves you.

If you feel weary or distant today, let this be the moment you return. Step back into His presence. He is ready to renew what feels dry and revive what feels lost.

**Malachi 3:6; Hebrews 13:8; Psalm 18:2; Matthew 28:20; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Psalm 51:10; Zephaniah 3:17**

**Prayer:** Father God, forgive me for allowing distractions to come between You and me. I need You, and I surrender my life again into Your hands. Renew my heart, revive my faith, and draw me into a deeper encounter with You. Let my desire for You grow stronger each day, and help me build a relationship with You that lasts. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## **“When Fear Knocks, Let Praise Answer”**

“When I am afraid, I put my trust in You. In God, whose word I praise—in God I trust and am not afraid.” — **Psalm 56:3-4**

Fear is a familiar visitor. It shows up in quiet thoughts, uncertain futures, and moments we feel out of control. Yet this passage doesn't deny fear—it redirects it. “When I am afraid...” means fear may come, but it doesn't get the final say. Trust does. Praise does.

David anchors himself in two powerful responses: trusting God and praising His Word. Praise shifts our focus from the problem to the Promise. Trust roots us in God's unchanging nature, not our changing circumstances.

Let's name a few common fears and exchange them for truth:

Fear of the future > Truth: God is already there.

“For I know the plans I have for you...” — **Jeremiah 29:11**

Fear of lack or provision > Truth: God is your provider.

“My God will supply all your needs...” — **Philippians 4:19**

Fear of failure or inadequacy > Truth: God strengthens and equips you.

“I can do all things through Christ...” — **Philippians 4:13**

Fear of people or rejection > Truth: God is for you.

“If God is for us, who can be against us?” — **Romans 8:31**

Each time fear whispers, answer with praise. Speak God's Word aloud. Declare who He is. This is not denial—it is alignment with truth.

Trust is not passive; it is a decision. Praise is not optional; it is a weapon. As you lift your voice in praise, fear loses its grip, and faith rises.

Today, don't wait for fear to leave—choose trust in the middle of it. Let your heart say: “In God I trust; I will not be afraid.”

### **Prayer Points**

Father, I choose trust over fear today. Teach me to anchor my heart in Your Word and not my emotions.

Lord, help me respond with praise. When fear arises, remind me to declare Your truth boldly.

Holy Spirit, replace every fear with truth. Strengthen my faith and fill me with peace that overflows.