



MON 9-5

- ▼ SCRIPTURE
- ▼ THOUGHT

Ephesians 4:22-24

"...change the former way of life that was part of the person you once were, corrupted by deceitful desires. Instead, renew the thinking in your mind by the Spirit and clothe yourself with the new person created according to God's image in justice and true holiness." [CEB] Consider the way you lived prior to knowing Christ. We are called to renew our thinking and reflect God's image as we live our new lives. Ask God for renewal!

- ▼ PRAYER

Holy God, I want to continually grow in the way that I think and live. Help me to not be satisfied with my old habits and patterns. Amen.

NOTES: _____

TUES 9-6

- ▼ SCRIPTURE
- ▼ THOUGHT

Revelation 21:5

"And the one sitting on the throne said, 'Look, I am making everything new!' And then he said to me, 'Write this down, for what I tell you is trustworthy and true.'" [NLT] Do you ever find yourself using the phrase *it is what it is*? Jesus nudges into something different. He is making everything new, restoring creation with his love. If things feel broken, remember that what *is* doesn't have to be what *will be*.

- ▼ PRAYER

Lord Jesus, thank you for the way you lovingly restore people, heal situations, and overcome obstacles. Help me to stay hopeful, even when things appear hopeless. I believe in your power to renew. Amen.

NOTES: _____

WED 9-7

- ▼ SCRIPTURE
- ▼ THOUGHT

Isaiah 43:18-19

"Don't remember the prior things; don't ponder ancient history. Look! I'm doing a new thing; now it sprouts up; don't you recognize it? I'm making a way in the desert, paths in the wilderness." [CEB] Do you ever feel preoccupied with past mistakes? Once you put your faith in Christ, dwelling on your past can get in the way of the new paths ahead. Receive God's grace each day!

- ▼ PRAYER

God of grace, sometimes I feel like my old self, and I get lost in regret or shame. Thank you for reminding me that you have forgiven me and do not see my mistakes when you look at me. Help me to boldly walk in the new direction you are revealing to me. Amen.

NOTES: _____



THURS 9-8

▼ **SCRIPTURE** John 5:24

▼ **THOUGHT** "Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life." [NIV] When we choose to follow Jesus, we choose real, lasting life. We are promised no judgment or condemnation but instead the chance to rest in grace and freedom. Praise God!

▼ **PRAYER** Lord of life, I give you praise today as I remember that my failures and flaws will not be counted against me. What a relief! Help me see each new day as a fresh and exciting chance to discover more of your love. Amen.

NOTES: _____

FRI 9-9

▼ **SCRIPTURE** Galatians 2:20

▼ **THOUGHT** "My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." [NLT] As new creations in Christ, we must allow the love of Christ to live in us, taking the place of our former selves. When we give up control, we make way for Jesus to work through us.

▼ **PRAYER** Lord Jesus, I surrender all that I am to you. My life is yours. When I begin to slip back into an old pattern of behavior, strengthen me to trust and let go of my need to control. I want you to direct my life. Amen.

NOTES: _____

SAT 9-10

▼ **SCRIPTURE** Romans 8:2

▼ **THOUGHT** "And because you belong to him, the power of the life-giving Spirit has freed you from the power of sin that leads to death." [NLT] We are free from the penalty that our wrongdoing deserves. Because of the spirit of Christ living in us, we do not need to fear. We don't have to be shackled to our sinful nature because Christ is with us, changing us and empowering us to live differently!

▼ **PRAYER** Loving Christ, help me walk in spirit and truth and resist reverting to the prison of my old ways. Use my life as a shining light for others so they would see you in me. Amen.

NOTES: _____

DIGGING DEEPER

- ▼ **Intro** **Sacraments are outward signs of the inward grace that we receive because of Christ. The idea is to use something ordinary like water as a vehicle for something extraordinary like the newness of life that follows baptism. There is an outward sign that something significant has taken place on the inside.**
- ▼ **Reflect**
- Have you ever decided to do something out of the ordinary to signify or celebrate a major event, milestone, accomplishment, or experience? Why was it important to you to do that?
 - Take a moment to share your personal experience with or understanding of the practice of baptism.
 - Baptism confirms that you are choosing to live your life as Christ did, as a child of God, on mission to show God's love to the world. Has there been a clear point in your life when you made that choice? Describe that moment and how it has shaped your life.
 - Matthew 3:13-17 tells us about the baptism of Jesus. What stands out to you in this passage?
 - Jesus was baptized, and though he was without sin, he was not afraid to get in the water with sinners. He identified with us, coming alongside us to show us the way. How have you led the way for others since deciding to follow Christ?
 - Romans 6:4 says, "Therefore, we were buried together with him through baptism into his death, so that just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too can walk in newness of life." [CEB] Is there a part of your life that could use some renewal?
- ▼ **Prayer** **Loving God, thank you that I have been made a new creation in Christ and have an eternal connection with God. I want my baptism to truly reflect the life change I have experienced, so I ask for your help. Help me each day to grow and become more like Christ and make a real impact on the people around me. Amen.**



DIGGING DEEPER

▼ What did I learn? _____

▼ How might it apply in my life? _____

▼ What is a next step I can take? _____

