



YOU HAVE HEARD IT SAID

A five-day devotional

SHILOH METHODIST CHURCH

DEVOTIONAL

DAY 1: SEEING THROUGH GOD'S EYES READING: MATTHEW 5:21-48

Jesus challenges us to see the world through His eyes, not just adhering to surface-level rules but understanding the heart behind God's commands.

As you read today's passage, reflect on areas where your perspective might differ from Christ's. Are there people or situations you've judged harshly, failing to see them as Jesus does? Ask God to help you view others with His compassion and love, even those you find difficult to understand or accept.

Consider one practical way you can demonstrate Christ-like love to someone you've struggled to embrace.



DEVOTIONAL

DAY 2: THE KINGDOM'S UPSIDE-DOWN VALUES READING: MATTHEW 5:1-12

The Beatitudes present a radically different view of blessing than the world offers.

Jesus exalts those who are poor in spirit, who mourn, and who are persecuted. Today, meditate on how God's kingdom values differ from societal norms. Where in your life have you been pursuing worldly success at the expense of kingdom priorities? Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal areas where you need to realign your values with Christ's teachings.

Choose one "upside-down" value to focus on embodying today, whether it's showing mercy, pursuing peace, or embracing humility.



DEVOTIONAL

DAY 3: BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS READING: JOHN 4:1-42

Jesus' interaction with the Samaritan woman demonstrates His willingness to cross social, cultural, and religious boundaries to reach people.

Reflect on the barriers you've constructed in your own life – prejudices, fears, or comfort zones that prevent you from fully engaging with others as Jesus did. Are there "Samaritans" in your life – people or groups you avoid or judge? Ask God for the courage to step beyond these self-imposed limitations.

Consider initiating a conversation or extending kindness to someone you've previously kept at arm's length.



DEVOTIONAL

DAY 4: THE POWER OF TOUCH READING: MARK 1:40-45

When Jesus healed the leper, His touch was as significant as the miracle itself.

In a world that often isolates the suffering, Christ's physical contact communicated acceptance, love, and restoration. Today, consider how you can be the hands and feet of Jesus to those around you. Who in your life needs the healing touch of compassion? While respecting boundaries, look for ways to offer tangible expressions of God's love – perhaps through a hug, a handwritten note, or an act of service.

Pray for opportunities to bring Christ's healing presence into situations of pain or loneliness.



DEVOTIONAL

DAY 5: LIVING OUT "BUT I SAY TO YOU" READING: MATTHEW 7:24-29

Jesus concludes the Sermon on the Mount by emphasizing the importance of not just hearing His words, but putting them into practice.

Reflect on the teachings of Christ that challenge you most. Where do you find yourself resisting His "But I say to you" statements? Acknowledge the areas where aligning your life with Jesus' teachings feels difficult or frustrating. Ask God for the strength and wisdom to move beyond mere intellectual agreement to lived obedience.

Choose one specific teaching from the Sermon on the Mount to intentionally practice today, trusting that as you do, you are building your life on the solid foundation of Christ.

