

A ROOTED LIFE DISCIPLESHIP SERIES

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# Rooted in Christ

21 Days in the Gospel of John

Experience the light of Christ and grow deeply rooted in His truth as you journey through the Gospel of John and encounter the life-giving words of Jesus.



**rootedlife.**

*Deeply Rooted, Fully Alive*

# ROOTED LIFE DEVOTIONAL SERIES

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ROOTED IN CHRIST - 21 Days in the  
Gospel of John

Ugo Okonkwo



Rooted Life Discipleship Ministry



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This devotional is intended for personal study, discipleship, and spiritual growth. Scripture quotations are provided to encourage deeper engagement with the Word of God.

Published by:

Rooted Life Discipleship Ministry

San Antonio, Texas

Website: [rootedlife.org](http://rootedlife.org)

#### SCRIPTURE VERSION

Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations in this devotional are taken from the English Standard Version (ESV) of the Bible.

Scripture quotations marked otherwise are taken from the respective indicated translations.

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# Dedication

This devotional is dedicated first and foremost to the Lord Jesus  
Christ.

The true Vine, the eternal Word, and the source of all life.  
To Him who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light,  
who has rooted us in His grace, established us in His truth,  
and continues to sustain us by His Spirit.

This book exists because of You, through You, and for You.  
I also dedicate this work to every believer who desires to grow deeper  
in Christ.

To those who hunger for truth, who long to know God more inti-  
mately,  
and who are committed to living lives that are firmly rooted in Him.

May your life be deeply grounded in His word.  
steadfast in faith and fruitful in every good work.

And to those I have been called to serve through  
Rooted Life Discipleship Ministry,  
that you may be strengthened in your walk with Christ,  
established in your identity,  
and equipped to live out your faith with clarity, conviction, and pur-  
pose.

Deeply Rooted, Truly Alive.

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# Introduction

The Christian life is meant to be deeply rooted in Christ. Just as a tree draws life and nourishment from its roots, believers draw spiritual life from their relationship with Jesus.

The Gospel of John was written so that we may believe that Jesus is the Son of God and that by believing we may have life in His name. Over the next twenty-one days, we will walk through the Gospel of John chapter by chapter. Each day will invite you to reflect on who Jesus is and how your life can become more firmly rooted in Him.

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# The Word Became Flesh

## **S**cripture

John 1:1, 14

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

## **Devotional**

John begins his Gospel with a profound declaration about Jesus. Before creation existed, Christ already was. He is the eternal Word who was with God and who is God.

This means that our faith is not rooted in a human teacher or religious idea. It is rooted in the eternal Son of God who entered human history.

When the Word became flesh, God revealed Himself personally. Jesus came so that we could know God, experience His grace, and walk in His truth.

*A rooted life begins with recognizing who Jesus truly is.*

## **Reflection**

What does it mean for your faith that Jesus is the eternal Son of God rather than merely a teacher or prophet?

## **Prayer**

Lord Jesus, open my heart to see You clearly. Help my life be firmly rooted in the truth of who You are.

## **Daily Action**

Spend five minutes thanking God for sending Christ into the world, and ask Him to deepen your understanding of Jesus.

**A rooted life begins with recognizing who Jesus truly is.**

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# The Lamb of God

## **S**cripture

John 1:29

“**Behold, the Lamb of God**, who takes away the sin of the world.”

## Devotional

When John the Baptist saw Jesus approaching, he introduced Him with a powerful statement: Jesus is the Lamb of God.

In the Old Testament, lambs were sacrificed as offerings for sin. These sacrifices pointed forward to the ultimate sacrifice that would one day remove sin completely.

Jesus came to accomplish what those sacrifices could only symbolize. Through His death, He bore the weight of human sin and made reconciliation with God possible.

*A rooted life grows from the foundation of redemption. We stand before God not because of our own righteousness but because Christ has taken away our sin.*

## Reflection

How does the sacrifice of Christ shape your gratitude toward God?

**Prayer**

Father, thank You for sending Jesus as the Lamb who takes away my sin. Help me live in the freedom of Your grace.

**Daily Action**

Take a few moments today to reflect on the cross and thank God for His forgiveness.

**A rooted life grows from the foundation of redemption.**

---

# Born Again

## **S**cripture

John 3:3

“Truly, truly, I say to you, **unless one is born again**, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

## **Devotional**

Nicodemus was a religious leader who understood the Scriptures, yet Jesus told him that knowledge alone was not enough.

*To enter God’s kingdom, a person must be born again.*

This new birth is not something we achieve through effort or discipline. It is a work of God’s Spirit that transforms the human heart.

*A rooted life begins with this spiritual renewal. When God gives us new life, our desires change, our priorities shift, and we begin to grow in our relationship with Him.*

## **Reflection**

Have you personally experienced the transforming work of God in your life?

**Prayer**

Holy Spirit, continue to renew my heart and shape my life so that I grow in Christ.

**Daily Action**

Spend time reading John, chapter 3, and reflect on what it means to experience spiritual renewal.

**A rooted life begins with this spiritual renewal.**

---

# Living Water

## **S**cripture

John 4:14

“**Whoever** drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again.”

## **Devotional**

Jesus met a Samaritan woman who had spent years searching for satisfaction in relationships and circumstances.

Christ offered her something greater: living water.

This living water represents the spiritual life that only God can give. Many people pursue fulfillment through success, possessions, or approval from others, yet these things cannot satisfy the deepest needs of the heart.

*A rooted life learns to draw its satisfaction from Christ.*

## **Reflection**

Where do you most often look for fulfillment in life?

**Prayer**

Lord, teach me to find my satisfaction in You rather than in temporary things.

**Daily Action**

Spend time today reading John, chapter 4, and reflecting on how Jesus brings lasting fulfillment.

**A rooted life learns to draw its satisfaction from  
Christ.**

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# Faith That Leads to Life

## **S**cripture

John 5:24

“Whoever **hears my word and believes him** who sent me has eternal life.”

## **Devotional**

Faith in Christ is the doorway to eternal life.

Jesus explains that those who hear His word and believe in God move from spiritual death into life. Faith is more than intellectual agreement. It is trusting Christ completely.

*A rooted life grows as we learn to trust God's promises and walk in obedience.*

## **Reflection**

What area of your life requires deeper trust in God?

**Prayer**

Lord, strengthen my faith so that I rely on Your promises with confidence.

**Daily Action**

Write down one promise from Scripture and meditate on it throughout the day.

**A rooted life grows as we learn to trust God's promises and walk in obedience.**

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# The Bread of Life

## **S**cripture

John 6:35

**“I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger.”**

## **Devotional**

Just as bread nourishes the body, Christ nourishes the soul.

Many people attempt to sustain their lives through temporary pursuits, but spiritual life can only be sustained through a relationship with Jesus.

*A rooted life feeds daily on God’s word and grows through fellowship with Christ.*

## **Reflection**

How regularly do you nourish your spiritual life through Scripture?

**Prayer**

Lord Jesus, help me hunger for Your word and depend on You daily.

**Daily Action**

Spend ten minutes reading Scripture and asking God to speak to your heart.

**A rooted life feeds daily on God's word and  
grows through fellowship with Christ.**

---

# Rivers of Living Water

## **S**cripture

John 7:38

“**Whoever believes in me**, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.”

## **Devotional**

Jesus promises that those who believe in Him will experience the life of the Spirit flowing within them.

The Christian life is not meant to be dry or stagnant. When believers walk closely with Christ, the presence of God produces joy, peace, and spiritual vitality.

*A rooted life becomes a source of encouragement and blessing to others.*

## **Reflection**

How can the life of Christ flow through you to impact others?

**Prayer**

Holy Spirit, fill my life and help me become a blessing to those around me.

**Daily Action**

Encourage one person today through a word of kindness or prayer.

**A rooted life becomes a source of encouragement  
and blessing to others.**

---

# The Light of the World

## **S**cripture

John 8:12

“Again, Jesus spoke to them, saying, **‘I am the light of the world.** Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life.’”

## **Devotional**

Light reveals what darkness hides. When Jesus calls Himself the Light of the world, He is declaring that He alone reveals the truth about God and the true path for human life.

Without Christ, people often walk in confusion, searching for direction and meaning. But those who follow Jesus begin to see life differently. His truth exposes sin, clarifies purpose, and guides our decisions.

***A rooted life grows as we continually walk in the light of Christ. His Word becomes the lens through which we understand our choices, our relationships, and our calling.***

**Reflection**

What area of your life needs the light and truth of Christ today?

**Prayer**

Lord Jesus, shine your light into every area of my life. Help me walk in Your truth and follow You faithfully.

**Daily Action**

Spend time reading John, chapter 8, and ask God to reveal one truth you need to apply today.

**A rooted life grows as we continually walk in the  
light of Christ.**

---

# The Good Shepherd

## **S**cripture

John 10:11

“**I am the good shepherd.** The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.”

## **Devotional**

Throughout Scripture, God describes His relationship with His people using the image of a shepherd caring for sheep.

Jesus declares that He is the Good Shepherd. Unlike a hired worker who might abandon the flock when danger comes, the Good Shepherd sacrifices Himself for the safety of His sheep.

**Christ not only guides His followers but also protects, provides, and leads them toward life. *A rooted life grows in trust toward the leadership of Christ.***

When we listen for His voice through Scripture and prayer, we learn to follow His direction with confidence.

**Reflection**

How have you experienced Christ's care and guidance in your life?

**Prayer**

Lord, help me recognize Your voice and trust Your guidance each day.

**Daily Action**

Spend a few minutes in prayer asking God to guide one decision you are currently facing.

**A rooted life grows in trust toward the leadership of Christ.**

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# The Resurrection and the Life

## **S**cripture

John 11:25

“Jesus said to her, **I am the resurrection and the life.** Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live.”

## **Devotional**

When Lazarus died, it seemed that hope had disappeared. Yet Jesus revealed a powerful truth: He is the resurrection and the life.

Christ does not merely give life. He is life itself. His authority extends even over death.

For believers, this truth transforms how we see the future. Physical death is not the end. Because Jesus lives, those who trust Him will share in His eternal life.

***A rooted life is anchored in this hope. Our confidence is not in temporary circumstances but in the eternal life that Christ has secured.***

**Reflection**

How does the promise of resurrection change your perspective on life and death?

**Prayer**

Lord Jesus, thank You for the hope of eternal life. Help me live each day with confidence in Your promises.

**Daily Action**

Reflect on the hope of eternity and thank God for the life He has given through Christ.

**A rooted life is anchored in this hope.**

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# The King Worthy of Worship

## **S**cripture

John 12:13

“So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, ‘Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even **the King of Israel.**”

## **Devotional**

When Jesus entered Jerusalem, crowds welcomed Him as King. Yet many misunderstood the nature of His kingdom.

Christ did not come to establish a political kingdom but a spiritual one. His rule transforms hearts rather than merely governing nations.

***A rooted life acknowledges Christ not only as Savior but also as Lord. Following Jesus means allowing His authority to shape our values, priorities, and decisions.***

**True worship recognizes Christ as the rightful King of our lives.**

**Reflection**

Is there any area of your life where you struggle to surrender fully to Christ's authority?

**Prayer**

Lord Jesus, I acknowledge You as King. Help me submit every part of my life to Your rule.

**Daily Action**

Identify one area where you can intentionally honor Christ's leadership today.

**A rooted life acknowledges Christ not only as  
Savior but also as Lord.**

---

# Love One Another

## **S**cripture

John 13:34–35

“**A new commandment** I give to you, that you **love one another**: just as **I have loved you**, you also are to love one another.”

## **Devotional**

On the night before His crucifixion, Jesus gave His disciples a defining command: love one another as He loved them.

The love of Christ is sacrificial, patient, and sincere. It seeks the good of others and reflects the character of God.

***A rooted life expresses itself through love.*** Spiritual maturity is not measured merely by knowledge but by the way our lives reflect Christ’s compassion toward others.

**When believers love one another genuinely, the world begins to see the reality of Christ through them.**

**Reflection**

How can you demonstrate Christ-like love to someone in your life today?

**Prayer**

Lord, fill my heart with Your love so that I reflect Your character in my relationships.

**Daily Action**

Perform one intentional act of kindness or encouragement for someone today.

**A rooted life expresses itself through love.**

---

# The Way, the Truth, and the Life

## **S**cripture

John 14:6

“Jesus said to him, **‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father **except through me.**’**”

## **Devotional**

Jesus makes one of the most profound declarations in Scripture. He is not merely a guide who shows the way to God. **He is the way.**

Christ reveals the truth about God and provides the only path to reconciliation with Him. Through His life, death, and resurrection, Jesus opens the door for humanity to know the Father.

***A rooted life rests confidently in Christ as the source of truth and the path to eternal life.***

**Reflection**

How does knowing that Christ is the way shape your confidence in your faith?

**Prayer**

Father, thank You for providing the way through Jesus. Help me trust Him completely.

**Daily Action**

Spend time reading John, chapter 14, and reflect on Jesus' promises to His followers.

**A rooted life rests confidently in Christ as the source of truth and the path to eternal life.**

---

# Abide in the Vine

## **S**cripture

John 15:5

**“I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit.”**

## **Devotional**

Jesus uses the image of a vine and branches to describe the relationship between Himself and His followers.

A branch cannot produce fruit on its own. It must remain connected to the vine that provides nourishment and life.

**In the same way, believers cannot grow spiritually apart from Christ. *A rooted life is sustained by daily connection with Him through prayer, Scripture, and obedience.***

**As we abide in Christ, our lives begin to bear fruit that reflects His character.**

## **Reflection**

What habits help you remain spiritually connected to Christ?

**Prayer**

Lord, help me remain close to You and depend on Your strength each day.

**Daily Action**

Set aside time today to read Scripture and quietly reflect on God's presence.

**A rooted life is sustained by daily connection  
with Him through prayer, Scripture, and obedi-  
ence.**

---

# The Spirit of Truth

## **S**cripture

John 16:13

“When the Spirit of truth comes, **He will guide you into all the truth.**”

## **Devotional**

Before His crucifixion, Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit would come to guide believers.

The Spirit works within the hearts of followers of Christ, helping them understand God’s Word, convicting them of sin, and leading them toward truth.

***A rooted life grows through the work of the Spirit. As we listen to His guidance, we become more sensitive to God’s direction.***

## **Reflection**

How have you experienced the guidance of the Holy Spirit in your life?

**Prayer**

Holy Spirit, guide my thoughts and decisions so that I walk in truth.

**Daily Action**

Pause several times today to ask God for wisdom and guidance.

**A rooted life grows through the work of the  
Spirit.**

---

# Knowing the Father

## **S**cripture

John 17:3

**“And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.”**

## **Devotional**

In His prayer for His disciples, Jesus explains that eternal life is not simply a future reality. It begins now through a relationship with God.

To know God is more than possessing information about Him. It means living in a relationship characterized by trust, obedience, and love.

*A rooted life grows as we deepen our relationship with the Father through Christ.*

## **Reflection**

What practices help you grow in your relationship with God?

**Prayer**

Father, draw me closer to You and help me know You more deeply.

**Daily Action**

Spend time today thanking God for His presence in your life.

**A rooted life grows as we deepen our relationship with the Father through Christ.**

---

# Faithfulness in Trials

## **S**cripture

John 18:11

“Shall I not drink the cup that the Father has given me?”

## **Devotional**

When Jesus was arrested, He faced betrayal, injustice, and suffering. Yet He remained faithful to the mission God had given Him.

Christ’s example reminds believers that faithfulness is often tested during difficult moments.

*A rooted life remains anchored in God even when circumstances are challenging. Trust in God allows us to endure trials with hope and perseverance.*

## **Reflection**

How can Christ’s example encourage you in difficult situations?

**Prayer**

Lord, strengthen my faith so that I remain faithful during trials.

**Daily Action**

Bring one challenge in your life to God in prayer today.

**A rooted life remains anchored in God even  
when circumstances are challenging.**

---

# The Cross of Christ

## **S**cripture

John 19:30

“When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, ‘**It is finished,**’ and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.”

## **Devotional**

The crucifixion of Jesus stands at the center of the Christian faith.

When Jesus declared, “It is finished,” He announced that the work of redemption was complete. Through His sacrifice, the penalty for sin was fully paid.

The cross reveals both the seriousness of sin and the depth of God’s love.

***A rooted life never moves beyond the cross. Instead, it continually remembers the grace and mercy displayed there.***

**Reflection**

How does the cross shape your understanding of God's love?

**Prayer**

Lord Jesus, thank You for Your sacrifice. Help me live in gratitude for what You have done.

**Daily Action**

Spend time thanking God for the forgiveness made possible through Christ.

**A rooted life never moves beyond the cross.**

---

# The Empty Tomb

## **S**cripture

John 20:1

“Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb.”

## **Devotional**

The resurrection of Jesus changed everything.

The empty tomb confirmed that Christ had conquered sin and death. What seemed like defeat on the cross became victory through the resurrection.

For believers, the resurrection provides unshakable hope. Because Jesus lives, our faith is secure and our future is certain.

*A rooted life grows in confidence as we remember the power of the risen Christ.*

## **Reflection**

How does the resurrection strengthen your faith?

**Prayer**

Lord Jesus, thank You for the victory of the resurrection.

**Daily Action**

Share the hope of the resurrection with someone today.

**A rooted life grows in confidence as we remember the power of the risen Christ.**

---

# Blessed Are Those Who Believe

**S**cripture

John 20:29

“Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

## **Devotional**

Thomas struggled to believe the resurrection until he saw Jesus personally. When Jesus appeared to him, He gently reminded Thomas that faith does not always require physical sight.

Believers today follow Christ through faith in His Word.

*A rooted life trusts God's promises even when we cannot see the full picture.*

## **Reflection**

Where is God calling you to trust Him more deeply?

**Prayer**

Lord, strengthen my faith so that I trust Your promises completely.

**Daily Action**

Meditate on one promise from Scripture today.

**A rooted life trusts God's promises even when we  
cannot see the full picture.**

---

# Follow Me

## **S**cripture

John 21:19

“And after saying this he said to him, **‘Follow me.’**”

## **Devotional**

After His resurrection, Jesus restored Peter and renewed His call to discipleship.

The invitation of Christ is simple yet profound: follow Me.

***A rooted life ultimately expresses itself through daily obedience to Christ. Discipleship is not merely learning about Jesus but walking with Him and allowing His teachings to shape our lives.***

## **Reflection**

What step of obedience might Christ be inviting you to take?

**Prayer**

Lord Jesus, help me follow You faithfully each day of my life.

**Daily Action**

Take one intentional step today that reflects your commitment to follow Christ.

**A rooted life ultimately expresses itself through  
daily obedience to Christ.**

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# Final Reflection

Over these 21 days, we have walked through the Gospel of John and encountered Jesus as the eternal Word, the Lamb of God, the Bread of Life, the Good Shepherd, the Resurrection and the Life, and the True Vine.

This journey reminds us that the Christian life is not built on ideas or effort but on a living relationship with Christ. A rooted life is one that abides in Him, trusts His finished work, walks in His truth, and follows Him daily in obedience.

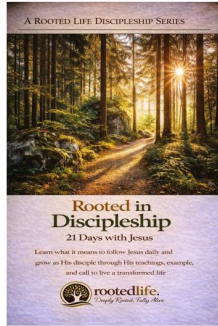
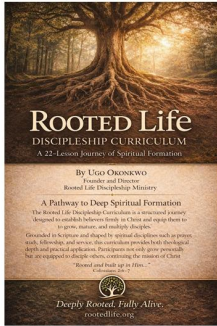
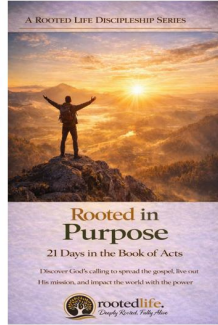
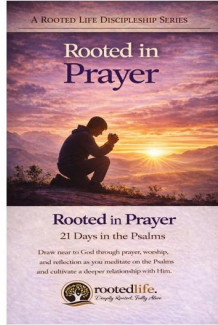
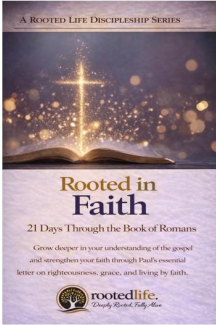
As Scripture makes clear, the purpose of John's Gospel is that we may believe in Jesus and have life in His name.

May what you have received not remain as knowledge but become transformation. Stay rooted in Him and let your life continually bear fruit.

## **Final Encouragement**

I pray this devotional has strengthened your faith, deepened your understanding of Christ, and drawn you into a closer walk with Him.

### Other Titles in This Series



**Rooted Life Discipleship Ministry**  
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