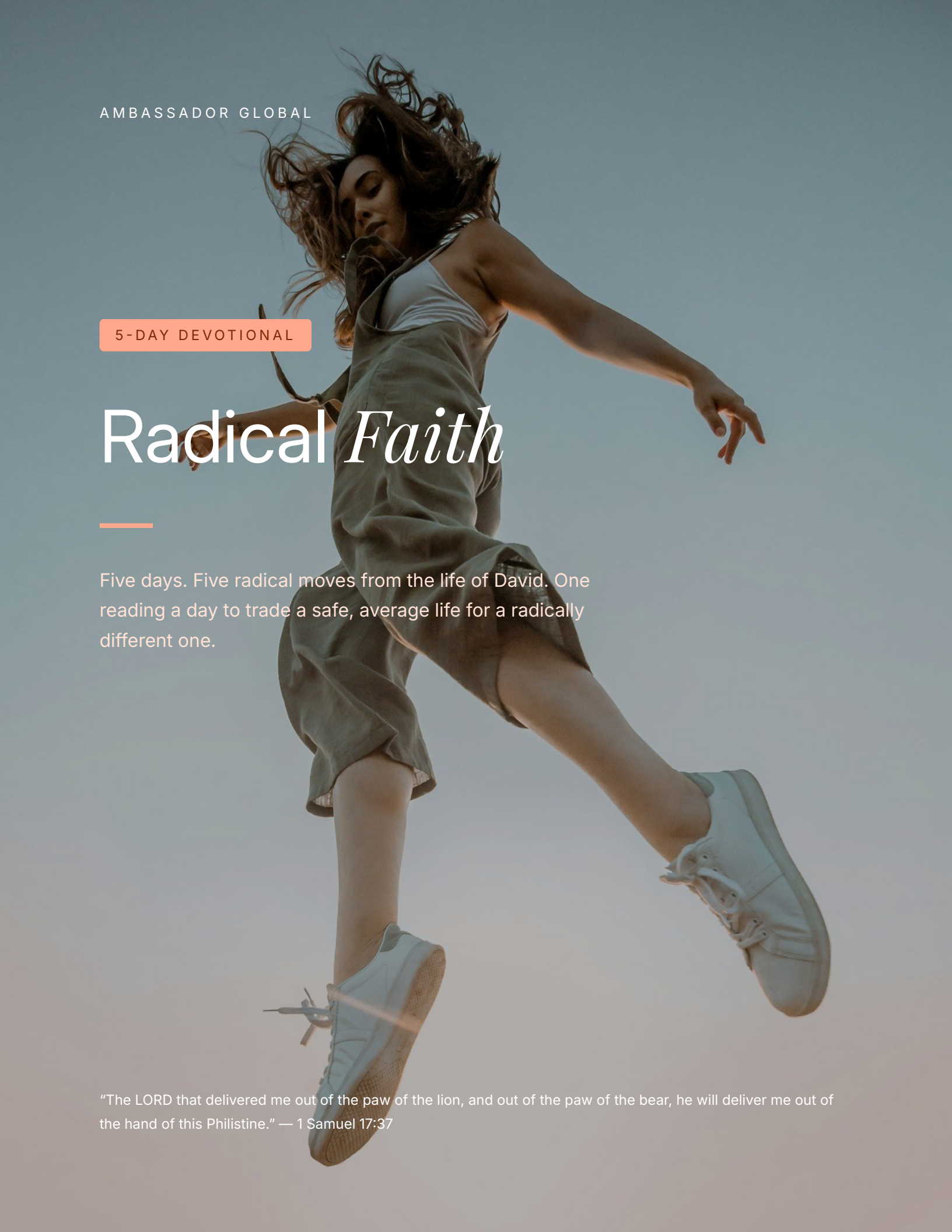




AMBASSADOR GLOBAL

5-DAY DEVOTIONAL

Radical *Faith*

Five days. Five radical moves from the life of David. One reading a day to trade a safe, average life for a radically different one.

"The LORD that delivered me out of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear, he will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine." — 1 Samuel 17:37

How to use this *devotional*

First, settle this: you are going to make it. Whatever you're carrying into these five days, whatever burden, whatever circumstance — God sees you through the eyes of faith. He sees you victorious. He sees you an overcomer. He sees you changing your city, your family, your town.

But here's the line this whole devotional hangs on: a believer that plays it safe will maintain an average, normal life. A believer who takes a chance, steps out, and believes God in faith will have a radically different life. We all know the story of David and Goliath. But when you actually read 1 Samuel 16 and 17, you see there was more going on than somebody chucking a rock. There were things that happened in the field before David ever entered the fight. Over the next five days, we're going to walk through five radical moves David made — and you're going to make them too.

1

Read the scripture out loud

All scripture is KJV. Faith comes by hearing, and the best voice of faith you can hear is your own.

2

Read the devotional slowly

Take your time. Let the word come alive on the inside of you, not just pass over you.

3

Speak the declaration

Out loud. God likes loud mouths. You'll feel silly the first time. Say it anyway.

4

Answer the reflection question

Write it down. Be honest. Nobody is grading this but you and the Lord.

5

Make the radical move

Each day ends with one action. Don't skip it. Faith is believing, speaking, and acting. All three.

“And all this assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the LORD’s, and he will give it into our hands.”

1 SAMUEL 17:47

DAY

1

Radical *Believing*

“Thy servant slew both the lion and the bear: and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be as one of them, seeing he hath defied the armies of the living God. David said moreover, The LORD that delivered me out of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear, he will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine.”

1 SAMUEL 17:36-37 · ALSO READ 1 SAMUEL 16:7

David understood something: it doesn't matter who I am, it matters who He is. While the entire army saw a nine-foot champion, David saw an uncircumcised Philistine, not in covenant with his God. In David's mind, that giant couldn't even stand on the same ground as him.

And his believing wasn't empty. He had a history with God, and he rehearsed it out loud. The lion. The bear. The God who delivered him then would deliver him now.

You need to root this deep, not only in your heart but in your mind: you are not normal. You are not meant to just be the person everybody has always known. You are called and anointed of God. Faith is believing in your heart what God said. Not what you think. Not what you hope. What God said. Your ideas, your expectations, and other people may fail, but God's word will never fail.

Believing God is not walking around denying what you see. It's seeing something bigger in your spirit. You may not like what you see in the mirror. Look in that mirror anyway and say, “I am made in the image of God. I am who I am, and God made me like this for a reason.” That's what separated David from his brothers. The brothers had the position, the looks, the spot in the army. David had the believing.

S

SPEAK THIS

“I am who God says I am. It doesn't matter who I am, it matters who He is. The God who brought me through before will bring me through again.”

R

REFLECT

What has God said about you that you've been filtering through what people said about you?

M

RADICAL MOVE

Write down three “lion and bear” moments God has already brought you through. Rehearse them out loud, like David did.

DAY

2

Radical *Speaking*

“Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied. This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee.”

1 SAMUEL 17:45-46 · ALSO READ 2 CORINTHIANS 4:13

Faith is not just believing in your heart. It's speaking with your mouth. “I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak” (2 Corinthians 4:13).

God likes loud mouths. David was a loud mouth. He didn't quietly grab his stones and go. He announced the outcome before the fight ever started. Everybody around him thought he was crazy. He said it anyway, before anything happened. And it happened exactly as he said, with no sword in his hand (1 Samuel 17:50).

I'll be honest: I once realized I was believing in my heart and taking steps, but I had closed my mouth. I kept asking, “God, why am I not seeing it?” And the Lord said, “It's because you stopped speaking.” Believing and acting are two parts of faith. Speaking is the other part.

You could be doing everything right, but if you refuse to open your mouth, you will not see the fullness of all you could have. Healing, finances, your marriage, your family, your children. You have to speak it, even when it doesn't look like it. You may have a negative bank account right now. Say it anyway: “All my bills are paid.” You'll feel like an idiot saying it. Say it anyway. Violent faith is activated by violent speaking.

S

SPEAK THIS

“I believe, therefore I speak. This day the Lord delivers my situation into my hand. I say it before I see it.”

R

REFLECT

Where have you been believing and acting, but keeping your mouth closed?

M

RADICAL MOVE

Write one faith declaration over your biggest situation. Speak it out loud every morning for the rest of this devotional.

DAY

3

Radical *Engagement*

“And it came to pass, when the Philistine arose, and came and drew nigh to meet David, that David hasted, and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine.”

1 SAMUEL 17:48 · ALSO READ 1 SAMUEL 17:16, 24

For forty days, that giant strutted in front of the army of Israel, morning and evening (1 Samuel 17:16). And the Bible says all the men of Israel, when they saw him, fled from him and were sore afraid (1 Samuel 17:24). Everybody ran from Goliath. David ran at him.

Same giant. Same battlefield. One boy engaged, and the whole nation's story changed.

Run toward the thing that everyone is avoiding. Run toward the thing in your life that you don't want to confront. That's how you grow. That's how things change. When you run toward something that's bigger than you, that costs more than what's in your bank account, and you say, “But I know my God,” that's radical engagement.

Not every Christian has the same life. God loves every Christian, but why is it that one person is successful and one isn't? Why does one struggle and one doesn't? Ask yourself why. Your mouth. Your decisions. Your believing. Your engagement. God likes when you win. God loved it when David cut the head off that giant. He said, “That's my boy.” Are you God's girl? Are you God's guy?

S

SPEAK THIS

“I will not play it safe. I am making radical decisions from today. I run at my giant, because I know my God.”

R

REFLECT

What is the one thing in your life that everyone, including you, has been avoiding for “forty days”?

M

RADICAL MOVE

Name your giant on paper. Then take one concrete step at it today. Not tomorrow. Today.

DAY

4

Radical Obedience

“And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments... all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God.”

DEUTERONOMY 28:1-2 · ALSO READ 1 SAMUEL 17:20, 39-40

Look at how David even ended up on that battlefield. His father asked him to run bread and cheese to his brothers. A grocery errand. And the Bible says David rose up early in the morning and went “as Jesse had commanded him” (1 Samuel 17:20). Obedience in the small thing put him in position for the giant.

And when it was time to fight, Saul tried to dress David in his own armor. Man's way said armor and a sword. David refused it: “I cannot go with these; for I have not proved them” (1 Samuel 17:39). He took a sling and five smooth stones instead. He did it God's way.

Do it God's way, not man's way. Not what you think. Not your plan. I can spend five hours on my plan, and the Lord takes thirty seconds: “Actually, you're going to do this.” His plan always outdoes mine.

Deuteronomy 28 says diligently. Not if you listen a little bit. Not if you pick and choose the parts you like. Delayed obedience is disobedience. Half obedience is disobedience. Partial obedience is still disobedience. And when you live radically obedient, you don't get the whole roadmap. The Lord tells you one thing. “But Lord, what next?” It doesn't matter what's next. He tells you as you go. It's in the moving.

S

SPEAK THIS

“I hearken diligently to the voice of the Lord. I do it God's way, fully, today. Blessings are overtaking me.”

R

REFLECT

What was the last thing God told you to do? Are you doing it fully, or partially?

M

RADICAL MOVE

Do the last thing God told you to do. All the way. Today is the day the delay ends.

DAY

5

Radical *Giving*

“Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom.”

LUKE 6:38 · ALSO READ ROMANS 10:17

We've been taught to say, “Bless those who have to give and those who do not.” That doesn't work. There are principles in the word of God. Give, and it shall be given unto you. You want to not be broke? Give. Everything in the kingdom is opposite of what you'd think. You want to grow? Humble yourself, sit under somebody, and listen.

Now, many Christians lean to one side or the other. They think if I just give, money will find me. Or if I just speak, my situation will turn around. It's the combination. You believe in your heart, you speak with your mouth, and you act on it. That's the whole devotional in one sentence. Faith is believing what God said, speaking what God said, and acting on what God said.

And where does faith come from? “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Romans 10:17). If any of this week still isn't making sense, start there. Open your Bible and find every scripture on the thing you're believing for. Fill yourself with the word until faith rises up.

Don't give reluctantly, and don't give as charity to a need. Give in faith, in obedience, in expectation, unto the Lord. That's the giving that has a harvest attached to it.

S

SPEAK THIS

“I am a giver. As I sow in faith, good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over comes back to me.”

R

REFLECT

Are you leaning on one part of faith instead of the combination of believing, speaking, and acting?

M

RADICAL MOVE

Ask the Lord what He would have you sow this week. Then do it, in faith and expectation, without delay.

YOU DID IT

Five days *stronger*

You made five radical moves. Now you're accountable. God loves you, but you are going to give an account for your life, and the knowledge you've received this week is the knowledge you're accountable for. You can put this down and do bits and pieces, and you'll experience bits and pieces. But if you go wholly, fully into being a radical Christian, your life will never be the same. You're not called to be small. You're not called to just make it. You are called to have a radical life. All gas, no brakes.

B

Get baptized

Go public with your faith and take your next step of obedience.

C

Start Core Foundations

Build strong Biblical roots and get planted in the house.

D

Join the Dream Team

Find your fit and serve — everyone is a contributor to the move of God.

KEEP SPEAKING — ONE DECLARATION A DAY, OUT LOUD

1. *"I am who God says I am. It doesn't matter who I am, it matters who He is."*
2. *"I believe, therefore I speak. I say it before I see it."*
3. *"I will not play it safe. I run at my giant, because I know my God."*
4. *"I hearken diligently to the voice of the Lord. Blessings are overtaking me."*
5. *"I am a giver. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over comes back to me."*

"Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord."

MATTHEW 25:21