

Day 3: Crowded Out

Devotional

Here is a struggle that does not get talked about enough. You love God. You come to church. You read your Bible. But somehow, life keeps getting in the way. The bills, the schedule, the notifications, the noise. Before you know it, the things that once felt urgent about your faith have quietly moved to the back burner.

This is thorny ground, and it might be the most common battle for people who are genuinely trying to follow Jesus. It is not rebellion. It is not rejection. It is distraction. The cares of the world slowly crowd out the space God needs to work, and the fruit that was beginning to grow never quite makes it.

The thorns do not announce themselves. They just grow. And over time, what was meant to be a flourishing garden starts to look more like an overgrown lot.

But here is the encouragement. You can pull a thorn. You can make a choice today to clear some space. It might mean saying no to something good so you can say yes to something better. God is not asking for perfection. He is asking for priority. Give Him room, and watch what He grows.

Bible Verse

"The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful." - Mark 4:18-19

Reflection Question

What is one thing in your life right now that has been quietly taking up space that belongs to God?

Quote

"It's not that you don't like the word of God and it's not like you resist the word of God. It's that there's so much stuff in our life that has become more important to us than seeing the promise."

Prayer

Father, show me the thorns I have allowed to grow in my heart. Give me the courage to pull them up and make room for what You want to grow in me. Amen.