

# Journey to The Edges



A 10-Day Easter Devotional

Youth For Christ USA invites you to venture into a journey of discovery.

## A 3Story®Journey to The Edges

## This Easter season, we invite you on a unique journey—one that goes beyond the familiar Easter narratives and takes us to The Edges of God's story.

### Jesus offers hope to us all, especially to those on The Edges.

What are The Edges? The Edges are the places we feel on the outside looking in. If you have ever wondered:

"Do I belong?"

"Do I have anything to offer?"

"Have I sinned too much for God to love me?"

"Life feels hopeless."

then you've been on The Edges.

And really, at some point in each journey, haven't we all felt like we are on the edges and that we need hope?

No matter where you've been or how you're feeling today, your story matters. You have a significant place in God's unfolding story. Jesus brings hope to everyone, especially those who feel hurt, unseen, or overwhelmed, reminding us that we are deeply loved and never alone.

## How To Enjoy This Devotional

This devotional is for any age group. It's a journey that invites each one of us into the story of Jesus, where we discover His hope, new beginnings, and the call to bring that hope to others.

#### Jesus was always relational and moved towards people at the edges.

At YFC, we reach young people through our 3Story® relational ministry model which highlights God's Story, my story, and the story of a young person. Through this approach, we witness how God's story of grace and redemption can intersect with our own, and with the stories of others. The more the three stories begin to overlap, the deeper the relationship grow and the more life transformation occurs.

Our prayer for this Easter experience is twofold: First, that the redeeming love of Jesus would draw you closer to Him, deepening your relationship and understanding of His grace.

Second, that **out of that love**, He would **awaken** a fresh call on your life to move out toward people and places of deep need, joining the Risen Lord in His redemptive work.

What might God be resurrecting in your life in this new season that once felt buried?

It's a joy and humbling privilege to journey with you,

The Youth For Christ USA Team

#### Hope for the Overlooked and Forgotten

Luke 19:10
"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

#### Have you ever wished to be truly seen and understood by others?

Jesus came for the overlooked, the forgotten, and the lost. He didn't stay with the "religious" people; He reached out to those on The Edges, the people others didn't see. Jesus understood that every person matters deeply to God. This is a crucial part of God's Story – He came for all of us, especially those who feel left out.

In the same way, your story matters to God too. Have you ever thought about how God might be calling you to reach out to someone who feels invisible? As you journey through Easter, consider how your story can help someone else feel seen and loved.

#### **Discovery for Kids**

Who do you know that feels left out? How can you show them kindness today?

#### Discovery for Teens/Adults

Who do you know who feels overlooked? How can you be a friend to someone who might feel lost or forgotten?

#### **Prayer Prompt**

Jesus, thank You for seeing us even when we feel invisible. Help us to see those around us the way you see them. Help us to reach out to those who may be hurting or overlooked and give us the courage to reach out with Your love. **Awaken our hearts to speak words of life and kindness** to people who need to know they matter, just as we matter to You.

In Your name, Amen.

#### A King Who Serves

#### Mark 10:45

"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."

#### Have you ever been in a situation where you had to help someone, even when you didn't feel like it?

Jesus came as a King, but He didn't act like other kings. He came to serve, to give, and to love. His story was about serving the least, the broken, and those in great need. In His life, He built relationships with those on The Edges and always pointed to God's Story of selfless love.

When we think about our story, we see that we are called to be like Jesus. The way we live, serve, and love, reflects God's love for us. As Jesus served, we are called to serve others, especially those who need it most.

#### Discovery for Kids

How can you help someone today, even if it's something small?

#### Discovery for Teens/Adults

In what ways can you serve others, especially those who are in need or hurting?

#### **Prayer Prompt**

Lord Jesus, thank You for showing us what true greatness looks like—serving others in love. Help us to follow Your example by serving those in need, even when it's hard. **Awaken in us a heart of humility** and guide us to reflect Your love in every act of service.

In Your name, Amen.

#### The Invitation to Hope

#### John 3:16

"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."

#### How does it feel to know that someone loves you so deeply they would do anything to help you?

God's love is limitless and unconditional, extending to everyone—no matter who they are or what they've done. His story is one of unwavering hope, a hope He offers freely to all people

Though all of us have sinned and fallen short of God's glory (Romans 3:23), we are reminded that, despite our failures, Jesus chose to lay down His life for us. In doing so, He made a way for us to be reconciled to God. Even when we were lost on The Edges, He reached out, pursued us, and offered us a rescue, drawing us into His loving embrace. No one is too far gone, no one is beyond redemption, for His saving grace is always within reach.

Your story and the stories of the young people around you matter because we are all part of God's larger narrative of hope. Jesus came so that we can have life, and He invites us to extend that hope to others.

#### Discovery for Kids:

What is something that makes you feel hopeful? How does Jesus's gift of forgiveness and grace give you hope?

#### Discovery for Teens/Adults:

What does it mean to you that Jesus came to offer hope to everyone, even those who are often overlooked?

#### **Prayer Prompt**

God, we are humbled by the hope You offer through Jesus. Thank You for loving us so much that You gave Your Son to save us. **Awaken in us the desire to know, experience and share Your Story of hope with others,** offering the same love You have given to us.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

#### Jesus Understands Your Pain

#### Isaiah 53:3

"He was despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain."

#### Have you ever been rejected or hurt by someone?

Jesus knows exactly what it's like to feel pain. He was despised, rejected, and abandoned. But He did it all so we would know that we are never alone. God's Story is one of suffering and love –

Jesus entered our pain to heal us.

In our own stories, we too experience pain. Jesus' story teaches us that even in our suffering, God is near, understanding, and offer us comfort. As you walk through this journey, think about the pain you've experienced and how Jesus offers comfort and healing.

#### **Discovery for Kids**

When you feel sad or hurt, how can you remember that Jesus understands?

#### Discovery for Teens/Adults

How does knowing that Jesus understands your pain, help you feel less alone?

#### **Prayer Prompt**

Jesus, thank You for entering into our pain and showing us we are never alone. Help us to lean on You in our suffering and find healing in Your love.

Awaken our hearts to comfort those who are hurting,

just as You have comforted us. In Your name, Amen.

#### The Power of Forgiveness

Luke 23:34

"Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."

#### Can you think of a time when it was hard to forgive someone?

Jesus, in His final moments, showed us the incredible power of forgiveness. Even as He was dying, He forgave the very people who hurt Him. God's Story shows us that forgiveness is the key to freedom, and it is through Jesus' forgiveness that we are set free.

In your own story, there may be people you need to forgive. Jesus offers that same forgiveness to each of us, and as we forgive others, we reflect His love to the world.

#### **Discovery for Kids**

Is there someone you need to forgive today? Can you ask Jesus to help you let go of the hurt?

#### Discovery for Teens/Adults

Is there anyone you need Jesus's help to forgive? What does Jesus' forgiveness teach you about forgiving others?

#### **Prayer Prompt**

Jesus, thank You for showing us the power of forgiveness, even in the face of hurt. Help us to forgive others as You have forgiven us, releasing the chains of bitterness. **Awaken a spirit of grace in us**, that we might reflect Your love in our relationships.

In Your name, Amen.

#### The Hope of Light after Darkness

Matthew 27:45
"From noon until three in the afternoon darkness came over all the land."

#### Have you ever been in a situation where you had to help someone, even when you didn't feel like it?

When Jesus died on the cross, everything seemed hopeless. But in that darkness, something beautiful was happening. Jesus' death was the beginning of new life for all of us. God has a bigger plan than the circumstances that we see.

This is part of God's Story – how light comes from darkness, and how we can experience new life even after the darkest moments.

#### **Discovery for Kids**

When you feel sad or scared, how can you remember that God is with you and brings light into the dark?

What reminds you to have faith in God's plan?

#### Discovery for Teens/Adults

Have you ever experienced a dark moment in your life that later became a turning point? How does this help you see God working in your life?

In your own story, how has God brought light into your life after a dark season, even when things seemed hopeless?

#### **Prayer Prompt**

God, in moments of darkness, help us to trust that You are always at work, even when we can't see it. Thank You for bringing light out of the darkest places. **Awaken in us a hope that never fades** and remind us that new life is always possible with You.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

#### The Resurrection: The Hope of a New Beginning

Matthew 28:6 "He is not here; He has risen, just as He said."

#### What does it feel like to experience a fresh start, a new beginning after something difficult?

The resurrection of Jesus is a powerful reminder that no matter how hopeless things may seem, there is always hope. In Jesus' victory over death, we see that new life is always possible. This is not just part of God's Story – it's also part of your story and the story of the young people you encounter.

Because Jesus rose from the dead, we have the chance to begin again, to experience fresh hope, and to step into new life by accepting Jesus' gift of salvation. Jesus invites us to leave behind our past and walk forward into the future He has for us.

#### **Discovery for Kids**

What would you like to start fresh with today? How can you trust that Jesus can help you begin again?

#### **Discovery for Teens/Adults**

How does the resurrection of Jesus give you hope for your future?
What new beginning do you need in your life today? Is there something you see God beginning to resurrect in your life that used to feel,
"hopeless", "dead" or "buried"?

#### **Prayer Prompt**

Jesus, thank You for the new life You offer through Your resurrection. Help us to embrace the fresh starts You offer, leaving behind what no longer serves us and stepping into the future You have for us.

Awaken in us a deeper trust in Your transformative power.

In Your name, Amen.

#### A Hope that Never Fails

#### Romans 8:38-39

"For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God..."

#### Have you ever longed for a solution to a problem, believing things could get better?

God's love is unbreakable. Nothing in this world – no challenge, no hurt, no loss – can ever separate us from His love. God's Story reminds us that His love is constant and unchanging, and it never leaves us. This love is the foundation of our own story, and it's the love that we get to share with others.

When we share our stories, we share the hope of God's unchanging love. Think about how you can reflect that love to others, especially those who feel disconnected or without hope.

#### **Discovery for Kids:**

What is one thing you can do today to show someone that you love them, just like God loves you? How can you remind them that God's love never leaves us?

#### Discovery for Teens/Adults:

What is one thing that has made you feel distant from God? What does it mean to you that nothing can separate you from His love?

#### **Prayer Prompt:**

Lord, thank You for Your never-ending love and for always being there for us, no matter what. We're grateful for Your constant presence and faithfulness. Please help us to share Your love with others, especially those who are in need of hope. Guide us to reflect Your love in everything we do.

Awaken in us a heart that overflows with Your love.

Amen.

#### A Living Hope

#### 2 Corinthians 5:17

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"

#### How would it feel if you could start fresh today, without any of the mistakes from your past?

Jesus' resurrection means that we are new creations. Because of Jesus, we don't have to be defined by our mistakes, our failures, or our past. We are free to live a new life – a life that reflects the hope, forgiveness, and love that we have received.

Your story, shaped by Jesus' resurrection, can bring new life to others who need it. As you share your story with those on the margins, you invite them into God's new beginning for them too.

#### **Discovery for Kids:**

How would you feel if you could start fresh and not worry about your past mistakes? How can Jesus help you be the best version of yourself today?

#### **Discovery for Teens/Adults:**

What does it look like for you to live as a new creation in Christ? What change do you want to make in your life because of Jesus' resurrection?

#### **Prayer Prompt:**

God, thank You for making us new creations in Jesus and for the fresh start and hope we have in Him. Help us embrace this new life, reflecting Your love, grace, and forgiveness to those around us. May our lives testify to Your transforming power and draw others closer to You. Awaken in us a deep desire to live out Your love in all we do.

Amen.

#### The Call to Go and Tell

Matthew 28:19 "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations..."

#### Have you ever heard something so exciting that you couldn't wait to share it with others too?

Jesus' resurrection isn't just for us to keep to ourselves – it's for everyone! Jesus calls us to share His story of hope with others, especially those who are struggling, overlooked, or hurting. This is the heart of 3Story® ministry: living out God's story in our own lives and sharing that story with others.

#### **Discovery for Kids:**

Is there someone you know who needs to hear about Jesus? How can you share His love with them today?

#### **Discovery for Teens/Adults:**

Who do you know that needs to hear the good news of Jesus? How can you bring hope to someone who feels like they're on the margins?

#### **Prayer Prompt:**

Lord, thank You for the call to share Your story with the world. Help us to be bold in spreading the hope of the resurrection to those who need to hear it. **Awaken our hearts to the needs around us** and lead us to be Your messengers of hope, love, and new beginnings.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

#### **Living the Easter Message**

As we celebrate Easter, we hope you remember that Jesus came for those who are on The Edges, often overlooked and left out.

His love is for everyone, and He calls us to share that love with others.

Through 3Story®, we live out God's story, share our own, and invite others into God's story of hope, life, and new beginnings that Jesus offers.

No matter where you are or what you've been through, you are never beyond God's reach. Jesus brings hope, life, and transformation for all who want to receive it.





Youth For Christ engages young people ages 11-19 to share God's story of hope, sometimes in unlikely places. Over 112 YFC Chapters across the nation collectively host 1,260+ ministry sites.

We go to kids wherever they are...and pursue authentic Christ-centered relationships through our six Ministry Models:

Campus Life® serves middle school and high school students on campuses throughout the United States.

Campus Life is our largest ministry model.

Campus Life Military® ministry reaches military-connected youth on and off military installations across the US and beyond.

City Life™ is a relational, holistically based ministry that desires to see deep change in under-resourced neighborhoods by mentoring and raising up leaders from within that community.

Juvenile Justice Ministry® strives to respond to the needs of justice-involved youth and offers a hopeful future that is rooted in Christ.

Parent Life™ connects pregnant and parenting young people with leaders that help them see God's Story in the middle of their story.

Deaf Teen Quest™ seeks to break down language barriers by building relationships with deaf and hard of hearing young people.



#### MISSION STATEMENT

YFC reaches young people everywhere, working together with the local church and other like-minded partners to raise up lifelong followers of Jesus who lead by their godliness in lifestyle, devotion to prayer and the Word of God, passion for sharing the love of Christ and commitment to social involvement.