

### **3 day Self care devotional: God of the new beginnings.**

*Our Bible App. May.2019*

Timothy Arliss O'Brien.

Day one.

#### ***Casting off shame, for a new beginning.***

The activity of casting off our shame and choosing to love ourselves as God loves us is severely important. Loving yourself and those around you are at the core of God's desire for us. It lays us in God's palm and renews us. It draws others close and heals them. This renewal and care is imperative to blossoming our heart to reflect God's heart: A heart for justice, love and mercy to fill the world overflowing.

*Isaiah 61:6-7(niv)*

***6 And you will be called priests of the Lord,  
you will be named ministers of our God.***

***You will feed on the wealth of nations,  
and in their riches you will boast.***

***7 Instead of your shame***

***you will receive a double portion,  
and instead of disgrace***

***you will rejoice in your inheritance.***

***And so you will inherit a double portion in your land,  
and everlasting joy will be yours.***

As we become for others the love of Jesus, God promises that same love to us every day, no matter our circumstances. The only way to miss out on the ever flowing love of God is to not partake, for God's love and God's rest is for all. God promises to love us, and to continue to love us, no matter how we respond or act in this life.

Looking for God's love in all of our interactions is actively looking for the mysterious miracles of God everyday, in every moment. Challenge yourself to find God's small miracles in the life you give to yourself, and all those you interact with.

Day two.

#### ***Finding the new beginnings of God's love.***

We can see the renewing of God's Love come to pass as we trust in the love we have received. We see the God of love all around us. The God of faithful love in those long founded relationships that bear the strength of the years.

*1 Corinthians 3:9-10 (NLT)*

***9 For we are both God's workers. And you are God's field. You are God's building.***

***10 Because of God's grace to me, I have laid the foundation like an expert builder. Now others are building on it.***

We also see the God of miraculous love in those we meet unexpectedly, yet feel as though we have cared for one another for years prior. Hospitality and love for every neighbor is what ignites the heart of God, that way God might move love through us.

Look for those opportunities to plant seeds of love in those relationships around you, and look for those spontaneous manifestations of love surrounding you from our gracious God.

Day three.

***Finding our new beginnings.***

The difficulties of constant renewal happens as we wrestle with not loving the person we perceive ourselves to be. This person we see ourselves as, we so often wrongfully judge and criticize. We judge ourselves too often out of fear, and the fight against inadequacy. As loving ourselves and others becomes priority, we all become lifted up, and honored as God created us.

***1 Corinthians 12:22-27 (NLT)***

***22 In fact, some parts of the body that seem weakest and least important are actually the most necessary. 23 And the parts we regard as less honorable are those we clothe with the greatest care. So we carefully protect those parts that should not be seen, 24 while the more honorable parts do not require this special care. So God has put the body together such that extra honor and care are given to those parts that have less dignity. 25 This makes for harmony among the members, so that all the members care for each other. 26 If one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it, and if one part is honored, all the parts are glad.***

***27 All of you together are Christ's body, and each of you is a part of it.***

We must love ourselves as the person God sees. The person with increasing potential and the person withstanding of trials and tribulations. Someone stirred up in faith and hope, prepared to fight hard to make the world a better place. A place where people can learn how to love themselves, as well as others. This is the foundation for a revolution to make the world a better place, where all parts are glad to be apart of the whole. Start a revolution of love today.