



TRANSFORMED

DEVOTIONS CONNECTING TEENS TO CHRIST

The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband’s will, but born of God.

John 1:9-13

Rejection

Rejection is a natural part of our lives. You are rejected when you don’t make the team or get a call back for a second audition. You get rejected while dating and in so many other situations in life. Everyone experiences rejection in their life.

There is one person, who did not deserve any kind of rejection—Jesus. He was there at the creation of our world. He willingly chose to become a human being out of love for you and me. He chose to take our place and to take our sin on himself in order to suffer the death we deserved to give us the life he earned.

Yet from the very start of his life, Jesus faced rejection and ridicule. Even his own family rejected him. As Jesus grew up, some of his brothers didn’t believe he was the Son of God.

As Jesus began his ministry, he had quite a following. People saw the miracles he performed and expected him to become their earthly king. But this was not God’s plan. When Jesus made it clear that he wasn’t an earthly king, they left him. Jesus was rejected throughout his entire life.

That’s why Jesus came. He came to be rejected by men, so that we would be accepted by God. He came to be condemned by God for our sins, so that we would be forgiven. He even came to be rejected by God, so that we would be accepted by God. Because of Jesus and his rejection, God receives us as children of God. We will not be turned away or rejected by him.

Dear friend, receive the Word of God this Christmas. Don’t reject his word by staying away from it. Don’t reject his word by rebelling against it. Jesus has come to give you life and to bring you into the family of God. Receive his Word, and rejoice that you are a child of God.

Prayer: Father, we confess that we rejected and rebelled against your Word. Forgive us and restore us as your children again. Restore us and receive us as your children. Amen.