

# 5 Day Devotional Guide

*Elders and Younger*

## ***Day 1: Humble Leadership***

Scripture: 1 Peter 5:1-4

Devotional: Peter's words to church elders resonate with all who lead, whether in ministry, work, or family. True leadership isn't about power or prestige, but about humbly serving those entrusted to our care. As we read this passage, let's reflect on our own leadership roles. Are we leading out of compulsion or eagerness? Do we lord over others or lead by example? Remember, these aren't "our" people - they belong to God. We're simply stewards, entrusted with a sacred responsibility. Today, ask God to shape your heart as a leader. Pray for humility, wisdom, and a servant's heart. Consider one way you can lead by example today, pointing those you influence towards Christ rather than yourself.

## ***Day 2: The Grace of Submission***

Scripture: 1 Peter 5:5-7

Devotional: Submission can be a challenging concept in our individualistic culture. Yet Peter calls younger believers to submit to elders, and all believers to clothe themselves with humility. This isn't about blind obedience, but about recognizing God's authority structure and His work through others in our lives. Reflect on your attitude towards those in authority over you - in church, work, or other areas of life. Are you quick to criticize or complain? Remember, how we follow shapes how we lead. Cultivating a humble, submissive spirit doesn't mean we never respectfully voice concerns, but it does mean we trust God's sovereignty even when we disagree with decisions. Today, practice casting your anxieties on God instead of complaining. Choose to speak well of a leader you struggle with, trusting that God is working.

## ***Day 3: Confidence in Christ***

Scripture: Philippians 3:7-14

Devotional: While pride is destructive, godly confidence is essential for effective leadership and discipleship. Paul's words in Philippians show us the source of true confidence - knowing Christ and the power of His resurrection. Consider the difference between worldly pride and Christ-centered confidence. Pride says "I can do this on my own." Confidence in Christ says "I can do all things through Him who strengthens me." Where are you tempted towards self-reliance? Where do you need to cultivate more confidence in Christ's work in and through you? Today, identify one area where you feel inadequate. Instead of giving in to insecurity or false pride, pray for a deeper experience of Christ's resurrection power in that area of your life.

## ***Day 4: Be A Parrot***

Reading: John 5:19; John 12:49-50

Devotional: Pastor Cam didn't want to be a "parrot" in middle management. You've probably felt the same way from time to time. Reflect on the words of Jesus, his humility, and his desire to be, well a parrot. Pray for the Lord to cultivate this humility within you, to only say what he tells you to say and do what he tells you to do.

## ***Day 5: Anchored in Hope***

Reading: Romans 5:1-5

Devotional: As we conclude this week's reflections on leadership and "followership", we turn to Jesus - the ultimate example of both. He is the Good Shepherd who lays down His life for the sheep. He leads with sacrificial love, intimate knowledge of His flock, and unwavering commitment to the Father's will. How does Jesus' example challenge and inspire your own approach to leadership? In what ways do you need to grow in knowing and caring for those entrusted to you? How can you more faithfully follow the Chief Shepherd's voice in your own life?