

## 5 Day Devotional Based on Family Summer Series #5

### Day 1: Putting Others First

Reading: Philippians 2:1-11

Devotional: Abraham's selfless act of allowing Lot to choose the best land reminds us of Christ's ultimate example of humility and sacrifice. As you read this passage, reflect on areas in your life where you might be prioritizing your own needs over others. How can you emulate Christ's servant heart in your family relationships? Consider one practical way you can put someone else's needs before your own today, and pray for God's grace to help you cultivate a more selfless attitude.

### Day 2: Trusting God's Timing

Reading: Isaiah 55:8-11

Devotional: Abraham and Sarah's impatience led to complications with Hagar and Ishmael. God's thoughts and ways are higher than ours, and His timing is perfect. As you meditate on this passage, think about areas in your life where you may be trying to force your own timeline instead of waiting on God. How can you cultivate more trust in God's perfect timing? Ask the Holy Spirit to give you patience and faith as you wait on His promises to be fulfilled in your life.

### Day 3: Overcoming Family Conflict

Reading: Matthew 5:21-26

Devotional: The story of Jacob and Esau illustrates how deeply family conflicts can run. Jesus teaches us to prioritize reconciliation, even over religious duties. Reflect on any unresolved conflicts in your own family. How might you take the initiative to seek peace and reconciliation? Pray for God's wisdom and courage to take the first step towards healing, even if it means humbling yourself or making the first move.

## Day 4: God's Love in Blended Families

Reading: Galatians 3:26-29

Devotional: The complexities of Abraham's blended family remind us that God's love transcends biological ties. In Christ, we are all one family. If you're part of a blended family, how can you extend God's unconditional love to all members, regardless of blood relation? If not, consider how you can show Christ's love to those who may feel like outsiders in your family or community. Ask God to help you see others through His eyes of love and acceptance.

## Day 5: Eternal Perspective in Family Drama

Reading: Colossians 3:12-17

Devotional: Amidst family drama, it's crucial to maintain an eternal perspective. Paul reminds us to clothe ourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. As you read this passage, think about how these qualities can transform your family relationships. How might focusing on what truly matters - pointing others to Christ - change the way you handle conflicts? Pray for God to help you embody these Christ-like attributes in your daily interactions with family members, keeping in mind the ultimate goal of glorifying God and leading others to salvation.