## 5 Day Devotional Based on Family Summer Series #9

Day 1: The Biblical Foundation of Marriage

Reading: Genesis 2:18-25

Devotional: God's design for marriage is both beautiful and purposeful. As we read about the creation of Eve and the first marriage, we see that God intended for man and woman to complement each other, forming a unified whole. This unity reflects the intimacy God desires to have with us. Today, reflect on how your relationships - whether married or single - can mirror God's love and unity. How can you foster deeper connections that honor God's design? Pray for wisdom in nurturing relationships that reflect His divine plan.

Day 2: Submission as Mutual Service

Reading: Ephesians 5:21-33

Devotional: The concept of submission in marriage is often misunderstood. Paul's teaching shows us that true submission is rooted in mutual respect and service, mirroring Christ's sacrificial love for the church. This isn't about domination, but about selfless love and support. Consider how you can embody this Christ-like attitude in your relationships today. How can you serve others, putting their needs before your own? Ask God to help you see submission as an opportunity to love like Jesus.

Day 3: The Sanctity of Intimacy Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:1-5

Devotional: God created intimacy as a beautiful expression of love within marriage. It's a physical representation of the spiritual and emotional oneness He intends for couples. This passage reminds us that intimacy is a gift to be cherished and protected. For married couples, how can you nurture this aspect of your relationship? For singles, how can you honor God's design for intimacy in your life? Pray for purity and wisdom in all your relationships.

Day 4: Unity in Christ Reading: John 17:20-26

Devotional: Jesus prayed for His followers to experience the same unity He shares with the Father. This unity transcends human relationships, pointing to a deeper spiritual connection. As believers, we're called to demonstrate this unity to the world. How can you foster unity within your family, church, or community today? Ask God to break down barriers and help you build bridges of understanding and love with others.

Day 5: Marriage as a Reflection of Christ and the Church Reading: Revelation 19:6-9

Devotional: The Bible often uses marriage as a metaphor for Christ's relationship with the Church. This passage gives us a glimpse of the ultimate "wedding" - when Christ returns for His bride, the Church. As we live out our earthly relationships, we're called to reflect this divine love story. How can your life be a testimony of God's faithful love? Whether married or single, pray for opportunities to demonstrate Christ's sacrificial love to others, pointing them towards the eternal hope we have in Him.