

5 Day Devotional Based on Family Summer Series #7

Day 1: Unity Through God's Love

Reading: Colossians 3:12-14

Devotional: As we begin this journey, let's reflect on the power of love in creating unity. Paul reminds us to "put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony." In blended families and all relationships, love is the foundation for unity. Today, consider how you can demonstrate God's love to each family member, even those you find challenging. Ask God to help you see others through His eyes, recognizing their inherent worth as His creation. How might your interactions change if you approached each person with the unconditional love of Christ?

Day 2: Striving for Peace

Reading: Ephesians 4:1-6

Devotional: Unity requires effort. Paul urges us to "make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace." In family life, especially blended families, maintaining peace can be challenging. Reflect on areas where you might need to put in more effort to foster unity. Are there past hurts or resentments you need to release? Ask God for the strength to be a peacemaker in your family. Remember, our unity is grounded in our shared faith in Christ. How can you emphasize this common ground in your family relationships today?

Day 3: Overcoming Contempt with Compassion

Reading: Matthew 7:1-5

Devotional: Contempt can be a silent destroyer of relationships. Jesus teaches us to examine our own hearts before judging others. In family dynamics, it's easy to focus on others' faults while overlooking our own. Today, practice self-reflection. Ask God to reveal areas where you might be harboring contempt or unfair judgments. Then, challenge yourself to replace those thoughts with compassion. How might your family relationships improve if you approached each person with understanding rather than criticism?

Day 4: Healing Through Forgiveness

Reading: Ephesians 4:31-32

Devotional: Mistreatment and past hurts can create deep divisions in families. Paul calls us to "Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice." Instead, we're to be kind, compassionate, and forgiving. Forgiveness is a powerful tool for healing and unity. Reflect on any areas where unforgiveness might be hindering your family relationships. Ask God for the grace to forgive as He has forgiven you. How might extending forgiveness bring new life to your family dynamics?

Day 5: Building a United House

Reading: Luke 11:17-20

Devotional: Jesus warns that "a house divided against itself will fall." This principle applies profoundly to our families. Today, consider the state of your household. Are there divisions that need addressing? Remember, true unity comes when we align ourselves with God's kingdom purposes. Pray for God's wisdom in identifying areas of division and for His strength in taking steps toward unity. How can you be an agent of unity in your home today? Commit to taking one specific action that will help build a stronger, more united family foundation.