

5-Day Devotional: Marriage and Family Sunday
Pastor Jay Hassman
February 15, 2026

Day 1: From Feeling to Faithfulness

Reading: 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

Devotional: Love that lasts doesn't depend on how you feel today. Paul's description of love contains no emotions. Only actions. Patience, kindness, and forgiveness are choices, not feelings. In your marriage and family, there will be days when affection runs low, when frustration runs high. This is when covenant love shines brightest. Biblical love asks not, "What do I feel?" but "What did I promise?" Just as Christ loved you before you were lovable, you can choose to love when feelings fade. Today, identify one relationship where you've been led by feelings rather than commitment. Make one concrete choice to love through action, not emotion. Let your faithfulness mirror God's unwavering commitment to you.

Day 2: The Security of Covenant

Reading: Romans 5:6-8

Devotional: "While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." God's love wasn't triggered by your performance; it flows from His character. This is covenanting love. One that is steadfast, unshakeable, unconditional. Your family needs this same security. Children thrive when they know love isn't fragile. Spouses flourish when commitment isn't conditional. The world offers love with escape clauses; Christ offers love with a cross. When you feel like walking away from a difficult relationship, remember: God never walked away from you at your worst. Covenant doesn't mean tolerating abuse or ignoring sin, but it does mean persevering through ordinary struggles with Christ-centered grace. Today, speak words of commitment to someone in your home. Remind them your love is not performance-based.

Day 3: Clothed in Grace

Reading: Colossians 3:12-14

Devotional: "Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience." Grace is something you intentionally put on each morning. It doesn't happen accidentally. Paul's instruction begins with identity: you are "dearly loved" by God. You cannot give what you haven't received. The grace you extend at home flows from the grace you've received from heaven. Your spouse is still being sanctified. Your children are still learning. You are still growing. Grace gives space for that process. It corrects without crushing, speaks truth without shaming, confronts without condemning. Without grace, every mistake feels fatal; with grace, love becomes resilient. Today, identify someone at home who needs your patience. Choose to "bear with" them, remembering how much God has borne with you.

Day 4: Forgiveness as the Lord Forgave You

Reading: Ephesians 4:31-32

Devotional: The home is where grace is tested most. We're often gracious with strangers but harsh with those we love. Fatigue shows. Stress leaks. Impatience surfaces. Yet this is precisely where

grace must live. "Forgive as the Lord forgave you" and not because the offense was small, but because your forgiveness was enormous. Grace doesn't pretend hurt didn't happen; it chooses not to weaponize the hurt. It says, "I see your weakness, but I won't define you by it." The cross is the model for your marriage and parenting. Jesus didn't wait for you to deserve grace; He offered it while you were still imperfect. A grace-filled home isn't perfect; however, it should be Christ-centered. Repentance is welcomed. Forgiveness is practiced. Today, release one grudge you've been holding. Forgive as you've been forgiven.

Day 5: Covenant Love at the Table

Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Devotional: You cannot pour out what you haven't received. Before you can love faithfully at home, you must receive love from heaven. Communion reminds us that covenant love was proven at the cross. "This is My body, given for you. This is My blood, the new covenant." Jesus didn't withdraw His love when His disciples were imperfect, confused, and inconsistent. He instituted a covenant. Your ability to commit when marriage is hard, to extend grace when parenting is exhausting, to forgive when you've been hurt must all flow from this table. The health of your home doesn't begin with your strength but with His sacrifice. Today, spend time reflecting on Christ's covenant with you. Let gratitude for His faithfulness fuel your faithfulness at home. Remember: you are loved, forgiven, and empowered to love others.