# THE cruciformed LIFE DAILY DEVOTIONAL

**Day 1: Grace Moves First** 

**Bible Reading: Ephesians 2:4-9** 

#### **Devotional**

God's grace is the foundation of our relationship with Him. Today's passage reminds us that it is by grace we have been saved, not by our own efforts. Just as God moved first towards us in love, we are called to extend that same grace to others in our lives. Reflect on a time when you experienced God's unmerited favor.

### **Application**

How can you "move first" in extending grace to someone in your family or community today, even if they haven't earned it? Remember, grace builds bridges where resentment would build walls.

Day 2: Serving and Protecting in Love

Bible Reading: Ephesians 5:25-33

#### **Devotional**

Today's reading challenges us to love sacrificially, just as Christ loved the church. For husbands, this means serving and protecting your wife with the same devotion Christ shows His church. For wives, it means respecting and supporting your husband as you both submit to Christ. For all believers, it's a call to nurture and cherish one another.

## **Application**

How can you demonstrate Christ-like love in your relationships today? Consider one specific act of service or protection you can offer to someone close to you, reflecting God's sacrificial love.

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**Day 3: The Power of Forgiveness** 

**Bible Reading: Colossians 3:12-14** 

#### **Devotional**

Forgiveness is at the heart of the gospel and should be at the heart of our homes. Today's passage urges us to clothe ourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience - all attributes that foster forgiveness. Just as Christ forgave us, we are called to forgive others quickly and completely. Is there someone in your life you need to forgive?

### **Application**

Take a moment to pray for them and ask God to help you release any bitterness or resentment. Remember, forgiveness is a choice, not a feeling. Choose to forgive today, trusting God to heal your heart in the process.

Day 4: Nurturing with Grace

**Bible Reading: Deuteronomy 6:5-7** 

### **Devotional**

Today's reading emphasizes the importance of nurturing our families and communities with God's truth and grace. We are called to impress God's commands on our children, talking about them in every aspect of daily life. This isn't about rigid rule-following, but about creating an atmosphere where God's love and grace are evident in all we do. How can you make God's word more central in your daily interactions?

## **Application**

Consider starting a new habit of sharing a Bible verse or spiritual insight with your family each day, fostering an environment where faith can flourish.

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Day 5: Words that Heal

**Bible Reading: Proverbs 16:24** 

#### **Devotional**

Our words have immense power - they can bring life or crush the spirit. Today's proverb reminds us that gracious words are like honey, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones. In a world often filled with harsh and critical speech, we have the opportunity to be agents of healing through our words.

### **Application**

Take a moment to reflect on your speech patterns. Are your words typically life-giving or do they tend to tear down? Challenge yourself to speak words of encouragement to at least three people today, consciously choosing to build others up. Remember, every word can be a bridge or a bomb - choose to build bridges of grace with your speech.