



5 Day Devotional

This five-day devotional will be taking a deeper dive into [the sermon from this weekend](#). Join us as we explore the themes of fatherhood, love, dependence on God, and leading our families in worship, reflecting on the importance of being a godly man in today's world.

Day 1

1 Samuel 1:3-5

3 This man would go up from his town every year to worship and to sacrifice to the Lord of Armies at Shiloh, where Eli's two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, were the Lord's priests.

4 Whenever Elkanah offered a sacrifice, he always gave portions of the meat to his wife Peninnah and to each of her sons and daughters. 5 But he gave a double[a] portion to Hannah, for he loved her even though the Lord had kept her from conceiving.

As we kick off this devotional series, we reflect on the powerful example of Elkanah, who led his family in worship amidst their struggles. The story illustrates that true leadership comes from recognizing our role as spiritual leaders in our homes. Elkanah didn't shy away from his responsibilities; instead, he took his family to worship year after year, demonstrating a commitment to God that set a precedent for his children.

In our modern lives, it can be easy to prioritize everything else over leading our families in worship. Yet, Elkanah's example reminds us that worship is not merely an act but a lifestyle. By choosing to worship amidst our challenges, we set an example that encourages our families to seek God first in all circumstances.

- How can I better lead my family in worship this week?
- What challenges am I currently facing that could impact my spiritual leadership at home?
- Am I setting an example of dependence on God for my family to follow?
- Pray for guidance on how to lead your family in worship.
- Ask the Lord to give you the strength to be a spiritual leader despite your challenges.

Notes:

Day 2

Ephesians 5:25

25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself for her

Today, we delve into the call to love our wives deeply, an essential aspect of being a godly man. Elkanah's love for Hannah, even during their struggles to have children, exemplifies selfless love. His recognition of her pain and his willingness to support her through it is a model for us today. Loving our wives means being present and attentive, especially during challenging times.

In our fast-paced lives, it can be tempting to overlook our spouses' needs. However, true love is demonstrated through action and empathy. By making time to listen, pray, and dream together, we cultivate a strong bond that can weather any storm. As we reflect on Elkanah's love, let us commit to nurturing our relationships intentionally.

- In what ways can I express love and support to my wife today?
- Am I prioritizing my time and attention to my spouse above all else?
- How can I engage in meaningful conversations with my wife about our future?

- Pray for your spouse and ask God to help you love her as He loves the church.
- Reflect on your shared dreams and visions as a couple.

Notes:

Day 3

Philippians 4:6-7

6 Don't worry about anything, but in everything, through prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

As we continue our devotional journey, we focus on the importance of leaning on the Lord for answers. Elkanah demonstrated this by supporting Hannah in her decision to dedicate Samuel to God. Instead of holding onto his son out of fear or insecurity, he trusted God with his child's future. Leaning on the Lord means placing our worries and uncertainties in His hands, knowing He cares deeply for us and our families.

In our lives, we often face moments of uncertainty regarding family decisions, future paths, and personal struggles. It's during these moments that we must remind ourselves to seek God's wisdom and guidance. By praying for direction and trusting Him to provide answers, we can face our challenges with confidence, knowing we are not alone.

- What specific areas in my life do I need to lean on God for guidance?
- How can I practice laying my concerns before the Lord?
- Am I willing to trust God with my family's future?
- Ask God to reveal His path for your family's future.
- Pray for clarity and peace in your heart regarding your current challenges.

Notes:

Day 4

1 Peter 5:7

7 casting all your cares on him, because he cares about you.

Today, we explore the concept of placing our cares before God, mirroring Elkanah's reliance on God throughout his struggles as a husband and father. The call to cast our anxiety on Him reminds us that we do not have to carry our burdens alone. God is patient and faithful, wanting us to turn to Him, especially during our most challenging moments.

In our quest for perfection or control, we often forget that God invites us to share our struggles with Him. Discussing our fears, confessions, and burdens with our Heavenly Father allows us to lighten our load and gain His peace. By letting go of our worries, we can embrace the freedom He provides, fostering a deeper connection with Him and those we love.

- What fears or worries am I holding onto that I need to surrender to God?
- How can I remind myself to turn to God first when facing difficulties?
- In what ways have I experienced God's faithfulness in my life?

- Pray for the strength to cast your cares on Him.
- Reflect on past experiences where God has shown His faithfulness in your life.

Notes:

Day 5

Matthew 6:33

33 But seek first the kingdom of God[a] and his righteousness, and all these things will be provided for you.

As we conclude our devotional series, we are reminded of the importance of seeking God first in every aspect of our lives. Elkanah's commitment to worship set a powerful example for his family to follow. By prioritizing God, we not only grow in our faith but also lead our families closer to Him.

Making God the center of our lives is a continuous journey. It involves encouraging our families to worship together, pray together, and support one another in faith. As we acknowledge God's role in our lives, we help our families discover their purpose in His grand design, reminding ourselves that with Him at the center, everything else will fall into place.

- How can I ensure that God remains the focus in my family's life?
- What specific steps can I take to involve my family in worship and prayer?
- Am I actively seeking God's will in every decision I make?
- Pray for dedication to put God first in all areas of your life.
- Reflect on how you can encourage your family to grow in their faith together.

Notes:
