



5-Day Devo

for Individuals and Groups

based on

**Church in the City, Chapter 7 |
Marriage, Divorce, and Singleness**

Pastor Daniel Grothe
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Day 1: Marriage as a School in Giving

Devotional Marriage is a beautiful journey where two people come together to give all of themselves to each other. It is not about taking but about *servicing* and *loving* one another selflessly. This mutual respect and love create a strong foundation that can withstand life's challenges. When we view marriage as a school in giving, we learn to put our partner's needs above our own, mirroring the love Christ has for us.

Bible Verse "But since sexual immorality is occurring, each man should have sexual relations with his own wife, and each woman with her own husband." –1 Corinthians 7:2

Reflection Question How can you practice selfless giving in your most important relationships today?

Point to Ponder Marriage is not for taking. Marriage is two people saying, "I give all of myself to you. I'll serve you. I'll wash your feet."

Prayer "Lord, help me to love and serve my spouse selflessly. Teach me to give without expecting anything in return, just as you have given your love to me. Amen."

Day 2: Marriage as a Fortress from Temptation

Devotional At its best, marriage serves as a fortress from temptation. When we are committed to our spouse, we create a safe space where we can be vulnerable and honest. This commitment helps us resist the temptations that can lead us astray. By praying for one another and staying connected, we build a strong defense against the challenges that come our way.

Bible Verse "The Lord God said, 'It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.'" –Genesis 2:18

Reflection Question What is one way you can you strengthen your marriage today to help you resist temptation?

Point to Ponder Marriage is a refuge where both partners find strength to nurture their commitment within their union and to resist temptation day by day.

Prayer "Heavenly Father, protect our marriage from the temptations that seek to divide us. Help us to stay connected and committed to each other ... and to you. Amen."

Day 3: Embracing Singleness

Devotional Singleness is often undervalued, but it is a unique gift that allows for undivided devotion to God. John the Baptist and Jesus Christ, who were both single, made significant impacts on the world. If you are single, embrace your singleness as a season for growing closer to God and serving others. Your life is not on hold! God has a purpose for you right now, right where you are.

Bible Verse "Now for the matters you wrote about: 'It is good for a man not to have sexual relations with a woman.'" –1 Corinthians 7:1

Reflection Question How can you use your time of singleness to grow closer to God and to serve others?

Point to Ponder The hero of our story never got married, and he is Jesus Christ, the son of the living God.

Prayer "Lord, help me to embrace my singleness as a gift. Show me how to use this season wisely so that someday I'll look back on these days grateful for the gift that it was. Amen."

Day 4: Healing from Divorce

Devotional Divorce is painful, but it does not define those who go through it. God hates the pain caused by divorce, but he loves and offers grace to those who have experienced it. Your life is not stuck on that one storyline. God has a future for you. Embrace his love and healing, and trust that he has a plan for your life beyond the pain.

Bible Verse "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." –Jeremiah 29:11

Reflection Question If you have been through divorce, how can you embrace God's healing and plan for your life going forward?

Point to Ponder God hates divorce, even as he fiercely loves everyone who goes through it.

Prayer "Father, heal my heart from the pain of divorce. Help me to trust in your plan for my life and embrace the future you have for me. Amen."

Day 5: Living a Life that Honors God

Devotional Whether you are married, divorced, or single, you can live a life that honors God. The apostle Paul reminds us that we can find Jesus in every relational station in which we find ourselves. What does this mean for you? It means you can choose to stay holy, to serve others, and to trust in God's plan for your life. Embrace your current season and live in a way that reflects his love and grace.

Bible Verse "Each of you should continue to live in whatever situation the Lord has placed you, and remain as you were when God first called you." –1 Corinthians 7:17

Reflection Question What is one specific way in which you can honor God with your attitude, your beliefs, your time, or your habits in your current relational station?

Point to Ponder Paul wants us to know that whatever relational station we find ourselves in, we can find Jesus right there.

Prayer "Lord, help me to honor You in my current season of life. Teach me to stay holy, serve others, and trust in your plan for me. Amen."