

Sept 15th, 2024 Bless This Home -Cultivating Peace-Devotional

Day 1: God's Unconditional Love

Reading: Romans 5:6-11

Devotional: God's love for us is not dependent on our worthiness or perfection. In fact, Christ died for us while we were still sinners. Reflect on the depth of God's love that reaches out to us even in our brokenness. How does this unconditional love change your perspective on your relationships with others? Consider how you can extend this same kind of love to those around you, especially in your home.

Day 2: The Call to Peacemaking

Reading: Matthew 5:9-12

Devotional: Jesus calls us to be peacemakers, not just peacekeepers. True peacemaking involves actively working towards reconciliation and addressing conflicts, rather than avoiding them. Reflect on areas in your life where you might be merely keeping the peace instead of making peace. How can you take steps towards genuine peacemaking in your relationships today? Remember, peacemaking is a characteristic of those who belong to God's family.

Day 3: The Power of Forgiveness

Reading: Colossians 3:12-15

Devotional: Forgiveness is at the heart of peacemaking. It's not about forgetting or excusing wrongs, but about making a conscious choice to release others from the debt of their offenses against us. Consider a situation where you need to extend forgiveness. How can you practically apply the four statements of forgiveness mentioned in the sermon? Pray for God's strength to forgive as He has forgiven you.

Day 4: Restoration and Reconciliation

Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Devotional: God not only forgives us but also seeks to restore our relationship with Him. As His ambassadors, we are called to the ministry of reconciliation. Think about a relationship in your life that needs restoration. How can you take the first step towards reconciliation, even if the other person isn't ready? Remember to prepare your heart through prayer, affirm the relationship, and seek to understand the other person's perspective.

Day 5: Creating a Home of Peace

Reading: Ephesians 4:1-6

Devotional: A Christ-centered home is characterized by peace, unity, and love. Reflect on the atmosphere in your home. Are there areas where conflict or tension regularly arise? How can you apply the principles of peacemaking to create a more harmonious environment? Consider how you can model and teach peacemaking to your children or other family members. Pray for God's wisdom and grace to make your home a place where His peace reigns.