## Baptism by Immersion and Communion : Devotional Guide

Day 1: New Life in Christ

Reading: Romans 6:1-11

Devotional: As we begin this journey, let's reflect on the profound symbolism of baptism. Just as Christ died and rose again, our baptism represents our death to sin and resurrection to new life in Him. Today, ponder the reality of your new identity in Christ. How has your life changed since you accepted Jesus as your Savior? In what areas do you still need to "consider yourself dead to sin and alive to God" (v.11)? Remember, baptism isn't just a one-time event, but a daily calling to live out your new life in Christ. Ask God to help you fully embrace and live out this new identity today.

Day 2: Obedience as an Act of Love

Reading: John 14:15-24

Devotional: Jesus tells us that if we love Him, we will obey His commands. This includes the ordinances of baptism and communion. Today, reflect on how your obedience to Christ demonstrates your love for Him. Are there areas in your life where you're hesitating to obey? Remember, obedience isn't about earning God's love, but responding to it. As you read, notice how Jesus promises the Holy Spirit to those who love and obey Him. How might the Spirit be prompting you towards greater obedience today? Ask God for the strength and courage to follow wherever He leads.

Day 3: Remembering Christ's Sacrifice

Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:23-29

Devotional: As we take communion, we're called to remember Christ's sacrifice for us. Today, spend time meditating on the immense love Jesus demonstrated on the cross. How does the reality of His broken body and shed blood impact you personally? Paul warns against taking communion in an "unworthy manner." This isn't about being perfect, but about approaching with a heart of reverence, gratitude, and self-examination. Take time to confess any unrepented sin and recommit yourself to living for Christ. How can you carry the spirit of communion – remembrance and gratitude – into your daily life?

Day 4: Unity in Christ

Reading: Ephesians 4:1-6

Devotional: Both baptism and communion are deeply unifying acts for believers. We are baptized into one body and share one bread. Today, reflect on your connection to the broader body of Christ. How do you experience unity with other believers? Are there ways you might be contributing to disunity? Paul urges us to "make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit." What practical steps can you take today to promote unity in your local church or with other believers in your life? Pray for a spirit of humility and peace in your interactions with fellow Christians.

Day 5: Living Out Your Testimony

Reading: Matthew 5:13-16

Devotional: Baptism is a public declaration of faith, but our entire lives should be a living testimony to Christ's transforming power. Jesus calls us to be salt and light in the world. How does your life reflect the reality of your salvation? Are there areas where your light has dimmed or where you've lost your "saltiness"? Remember, the goal isn't to draw attention to ourselves, but to glorify our Father in heaven. Today, ask God to show you opportunities to let your light shine. How can you live in a way that causes others to see God's goodness and give Him praise?