

The Life Devotionals Guidelines 2025

PURPOSE

When you write for *The Life*, aim to:

- Inspire readers to live passionately for Jesus—by grace, through the Holy Spirit, surrendering every part of life to him.
- Encourage exploration of spiritual disciplines ([see Gary Thomas' Sacred Pathways](#)).
- Motivate believers to join Jesus' mission and multiply disciples.

tone & style

Write as if encouraging a friend. Be:

- **Empathetic** – Understand their struggles.
- **Humble** – Share your honest spiritual journey.
- **Hopeful** – Focus on God's grace and provision (2 Peter 1:1–4).
- **Spirit-led** – Emphasize walking in the Spirit and our identity in Christ.
- **God-glorifying** – Show his beauty and role in your life.

KNOW YOUR AUDIENCE

- International, both men and women
- Avoid Christian jargon or culturally exclusive language
- Refrain from political, racial, or national commentary (will be removed in editing)

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Name: Include your full name (or pen name) in the document.
- Title: 6 words or fewer – grab attention.
- Teaser: 10 words or fewer – draw readers in with a compelling line.
- Passage: Include full Scripture reference and text (specify version if not NIV or ESV).

DEVOTIONAL STRUCTURE

1. **Hook (1–2 short paragraphs):** Capture attention quickly—use a relatable struggle, story, question, quote, or creative angle. Clearly connect it to your passage.
2. **Key Biblical Truth:** Unpack one central truth from the passage and make it relevant. Use historical/cultural context only as needed to clarify.
3. **Application:** Paint a vivid picture of how life or community could change if we lived this truth by faith, in the Spirit's power.
4. **Prayer:** Write in the first person (“I,” “me”) to help readers personalize it.
5. **Throughout this Day / Consider This / Additional Resource:** Suggest a concrete next step—song, artwork, article, action, prayer, or reflection. Be creative and practical.

WORD COUNT: 250–700 words (Excludes passage, teaser, prayer, and final challenge/resource)

These guidelines are not meant to hinder your creativity or your freedom in Christ. Rather, they are meant to facilitate your task and to ensure consistency with other articles on our site. If you have any concerns or questions concerning these guidelines, please do not hesitate to contact us at editor@thelife.com.

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