

## Week Four Daily Reflections - Theme: Family Play

Add these scripture verses and quotes about family life to your daily prayer time.

### Day 1

“Certainly sons are a gift from the LORD, the fruit of the womb, a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the sons born in one’s youth. Blessed is the man who has filled his quiver with them. He will never be shamed for he will destroy his foes at the gate.”

Psalm 127:3-5

“How are things when it comes to joy at home? Is there joy in your family? ... you know very well that the true joy which we experience in the family is not superficial; it does not come from material objects, from the fact that everything seems to be going well... True joy comes from a profound harmony between persons, something which we all feel in our hearts and which makes us experience the beauty of togetherness, of mutual support along life’s journey.”

Pope Francis - Sunday, October 27, 2013 - Mass for the Family

### Day 2

“And people were bringing children to him that he might touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this he became indignant and said to them, “Let the children come to me; do not prevent them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Amen, I say to you, whoever does not accept the kingdom of God like a child\* will not enter it.” Then he embraced them and blessed them, placing his hands on them.”

Mark 10:13-16

“Utilitarianism is a civilization of production and of use, a civilization of "things" and not of "persons", a civilization in which persons are used in the same way as things are used. In the context of a civilization of use, woman can become an object for man, children a hindrance to parents, the family an institution obstructing the freedom of its members. ”

Pope St. John Paul II, Letter to Families

### Day 3

“Although I have much to write to you, I do not intend to use paper and ink. Instead, I hope to visit you and to speak face to face so that our joy may be complete.”

2 John 1:12

“The Joy of Love experienced by families is also the joy of the Church.”

Pope Francis - Amoris Laetitia #1

## Day 4

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the holy Spirit.”

Romans 15:13

“The civilization of love evokes joy: joy, among other things, for the fact that a man has come into the world (cf. Jn 16:21), and consequently because spouses have become parents. The civilization of love means "rejoicing in the right" (cf 1 Cor 13:6). But a civilization inspired by a consumerist, anti-birth mentality is not and cannot ever be a civilization of love. If the family is so important for the civilization of love, it is because of the particular closeness and intensity of the bonds which come to be between persons and generations within the family.”

Pope St. John Paul II - Letter to Families #13

## Day 5

“Hallelujah! Praise God in his holy sanctuary; give praise in the mighty dome of heaven. Give praise for his mighty deeds, praise him for his great majesty. Give praise with blasts upon the horn, praise him with harp and lyre. Give praise with tambourines and dance, praise him with strings and pipes. Give praise with crashing cymbals, praise him with sounding cymbals. Let everything that has breath give praise to the LORD! Hallelujah!”

Psalms 150:1-6

“The "ethos" of personalism is altruistic: it moves the person to become a gift for others and to discover joy in giving himself. This is the joy about which Christ speaks (cf. Jn 15:11; 16:20, 22)”

Pope St. John Paul II - Letter to Families #14

## Day 6

““See that you do not despise one of these little ones,\* for I say to you that their angels in heaven always look upon the face of my heavenly Father.”

Matthew 18:10

“Love inspires a sincere esteem for every human being and the recognition of his or her own right to happiness. I love this person, and I see him or her with the eyes of God, who gives us everything “for our enjoyment” (1 Tim 6:17).”

Pope Francis - Amoris Laetitia #96

## Day 7

“For the kingdom of God is not a matter of food and drink, but of righteousness, peace, and joy in the holy Spirit; whoever serves Christ in this way is pleasing to God and approved by others. Let us then pursue what leads to peace and to building up one another.”

Romans 14:17-19

“When a loving person can do good for others, or sees that others are happy, they themselves live happily and in this way give glory to God, for “God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Cor 9:7). Our Lord especially appreciates those who find joy in the happiness of others. ”

Pope Francis - Amoris Laetitia #110

