

## **Devoted to Devotions**

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### **Why write devos?**

- ✓ Benefits to readers
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- ✓ Benefits to the writer
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### **Devotions ARE:**

- ✓ Encouraging reflections →
- ✓ Fresh →
- ✓ Relevant →
- ✓ Have broad appeal →
- ✓ Focused →
- ✓ Gentle →

### **How to begin:**

- ✓ **Cultivate intimacy** →
- ✓ Recognize you're on the **same spiritual journey** →
- ✓ **Collect ideas** →

**✓ Tools**

- Bible translations
- Concordance
- Bible dictionary AND English dictionary
- Christian Writers Manual of Style
- Christian Writers Market Guide
- Writers' guidelines
- Sample publications

**✓ Critique Group**

- Not just friends & family → objectivity  
e.g. Word Weavers

**Components (various combinations of the following)**

1. Limited word count →

✓ Tip:

2. Title →

✓ Tip:

3. Bible passage →

✓ Tip:

4. Key verse →

✓ Tip:

5. Body

A. Beginning →

✓ Tip:

B. Middle →

✓ Tip:

C. End →

✓ Tip:

6. Summary statement →

✓ Tip:

7. Application/Challenge →

✓ Tip:

8. Prayer →

✓ Tip:

9. Organization →

✓ Tip:

## **Dos and Don'ts**

### **Don't's**

1. Don't Preach →

2. Don't restate the entire Bible passage →

3. Don't be superficial →

4. Don't use Christianese or clichés

5. Don't criticize →

6. Don't make it about you →

7. Don't overuse writing techniques →

8. Don't mishandle Scripture →

9. Don't be controversial → .

**Dos**

1. Read what you write.
2. Know your audience →  
✓ Tip:
3. Follow the writer's guidelines →
4. Maintain continuity in formatting →
5. Include a story/illustration →
6. Permeate devo with excellent writing →
7. Edit, edit, edit →
8. Verify accuracy →
9. Practice, practice, practice
10. Be true to yourself →

**Selling Your Devotions**

- ✓ Market resource → Christian Writer's Market Guide
- ✓ Markets →
- ✓ Writer's guidelines →
- ✓ Submission process:
  - Website submission form
  - Query with attachment
  - Proposal