
DAILY DEVOTIONAL

What To Do When You Don't Know What To Do

WEEK 3

WHEN YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO, DO THE NEXT RIGHT THING.

Let us not become
weary in **doing good**,
for at the proper time
we will reap a harvest
if we do not give up.

GALATIANS 6:8, NIV

DAY 1

Have you ever had a friend talk about you behind your back? Maybe they lied about you or said some horrible things about you. In those times, it can be difficult to know the right thing to do. It can even be tempting to get revenge by doing the same thing back to that friend. But this letter from Paul to the Galatians gives us some advice and a promise that can help us know what the next right thing is to do: keep doing good. Even when it's hard. Even when taking the high road feels impossible. You will never regret choosing kindness, humility, love, and patience. **Pray that God shows you someone who needs a little extra kindness. Talk to them, and look for the blessings that come into your life from it.**

**Pursue righteousness,
godliness, faith,
love, endurance and
gentleness.**

1 TIMOTHY 6:11B, NIV

DAY 2

Stop and think for a minute. What are you pursuing, or going after, right now? Getting a driver's license? A spot on the basketball team? An acceptance letter to your favorite college? These are all important, but they can become a problem when we make getting the things we are going after a way of determining our worth. If you get a "no" from the college you're trying to get into, or don't make the team, does that mean you're worth any less? Absolutely not.

Paul wrote this letter to his young friend, Timothy, and it reminds us of what we should be pursuing in all things. It's less about accomplishing something and more about becoming someone—specifically becoming more like Jesus. Today, pray that in your pursuits, you don't lose sight of what matters. **Instead of focusing on an end result, set your attention on who you can be and how you can live because of God's Spirit in you.**

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

PHILIPPIANS 4:6, NIV

DAY 3

Does this story sound familiar? You have a big test tomorrow, and even though you've done all you can to prepare, you're still experiencing fear about it. That feeling is anxiety. In his letter to the Philippians, Paul wrote about that feeling and says we have NOTHING to be anxious about. Instead, we have the most amazing listener who can do more for you than fear can.

Fear will freeze you, but prayer will free you. Learning to let go of our anxieties, and letting God take them, will be something we will have to do over and over again. Starting to develop this habit now is a great idea. **Write out the verse for today and instead of the word "anything," write in your fear or anxious feeling.** Talk to an adult who you trust about this fear, find a worship song that uplifts you, and find freedom from anxiety in prayer.

Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you; he will never let the righteous be shaken.

PSALM 55:22, NIV

DAY 4

One of the best things about the Bible is that we get to see God's hand and care throughout the whole thing. When Joseph was wrongfully accused of something (read about it in Genesis 39:1-18), and thrown in jail, He definitely would have felt hopeless. But when you finish Joseph's story, you see God was present even when it appeared like things were falling apart. It was hard to see in the moment, but in hindsight, it was clear God had never left Joseph.

What in your life feels hopeless right now? Give your cares and worries to God in prayer. He promises to take care of us—sustain us—like the psalm says. Meaning, whatever we're going through, we can make it through. Just like He was with Joseph, He is with us. **Write a letter to God with your worry, then read today's Bible passage out loud and hear how He cares for you.**

Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

LAMENTATIONS 3:22-23, NIV

DAY 5

What was your first thought when you woke up this morning? Maybe you thought about checking your phone, what you were going to wear to school today, and whether that new single you love had dropped yet. Our first thoughts are powerful because they can steer the direction our day takes.

When our first thought is on God and His compassion for us, we can start each morning trusting that God's got this no matter how overwhelming the day can feel. He promises to love and care for you every day. Tomorrow morning, challenge yourself to think of God first. **Read a psalm, think of your favorite worship song, and say a prayer asking for a great new day.** You can even refresh your day today by doing this, too!