

DAILY DEVOTIONAL

Like Me / Week 3

There are different kinds of working, but **in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.**

1 CORINTHIANS 12:6 NIV

DAY 1

We all have unique skills and abilities. Some people are great athletes, writers, or musicians. Others are incredibly good at math or science. It can be tempting to look at the talent or skills others have and compare ourselves to them. It can make us feel like we don't measure up or that we aren't skilled in ways that matter.

But in this verse, the apostle Paul says that we are all gifted, each one of us with different gifts. And God is behind all of them. God has generously gifted us with different qualities that don't just make us unique; they point back to Him. **Take some time today to think about the ways God has gifted you. Thank Him for the way He's made you and the specific gifts He's given you.**

God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well.

ROMANS 12:6A NLT

DAY 2

Yesterday, we talked about how God has gifted each one of us uniquely. Once we discover the skills and abilities God has gifted us with, it's our job to put them into action. Our gifts aren't meant to be hidden or left unused. They are opportunities to lean into the way God has made us and to live out our gifts in a way that celebrates Him.

Instead of spending time comparing ourselves to others, let's work at discovering what makes us, us. Let's focus on putting our gifts to work to showcase what God is like. **Look for an opportunity to use your gifts—the things that make you, you—in a way that points to God.**

I long to see you so that...you and I may be **mutually encouraged** by each other's faith.

ROMANS 1:11A-12 NIV

DAY 3

Hanging out with people who make you feel good about yourself is always nice. We appreciate it when the people around us build us up with their words. There's something so encouraging about being noticed for who you are rather than feeling bad about who you aren't.

So, what if you made the choice to pass that same kind of encouragement on to others? **What if you looked for an opportunity to encourage someone else? To celebrate who they are? Send them a text, give a shout-out on social media, leave a note, or make a point to encourage them with your words directly.** However you choose to do it, look for ways to build others up this week.

<p>Don't let anyone think less of you because you are young. Be an example to all believers.</p> <p>1 TIMOTHY 4:12A NLT</p>	<p>DAY 4</p> <p>Chances are we can all remember a time when we were told we couldn't do something because we were too young. A lot of times it can feel like our age disqualifies us. But if we are honest, sometimes we use our age to disqualify ourselves. We don't do as much as we can or should because we think we're too young. But what if we saw ourselves as being far more capable than others or even ourselves see us?</p> <p>No matter your age, you can encourage the people around you by setting a great example. Your age doesn't disqualify you from living in a way that honors God and motivates others. After all, you never know who is looking up to you. This week, ask God to show you ways you can make a positive difference in the lives of the people around you.</p>
<p>He heals the brokenhearted and bandages their wounds.</p> <p>PSALM 147:3 NLT</p>	<p>DAY 5</p> <p>It can be hard to see it at the time, but difficult circumstances we go through can end up being a path to helping others. What difficult or challenging situations have you faced in the past? Do you know someone going through something similar right now?</p> <p>Try reaching out to that person today. Maybe you can share your personal experience to let them know that someone relates to their pain and remind them they're not alone. Remind them that God is with them, and you are too. Letting someone know that you care might be just what they need—a reminder that God hasn't forgotten them.</p>
<p>Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.</p> <p>ROMANS 15:7 NIV</p>	<p>DAY 6</p> <p>How different are your friends? Do they like the same music, same movies, same sports? We usually only hang out with people who are similar to us. What if God wants you to hang out with someone who isn't like you?</p> <p>This week, try to include someone who looks different, has different tastes in music, or even has a different belief system. Try to accept them for who they are without trying to change them. Love them like Jesus.</p>
<p>Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.</p> <p>ROMANS 12:2 NLT</p>	<p>DAY 7</p> <p>Memorizing Scripture is one way that we can guard our hearts, just as this verse is telling us to do. When we learn the Bible and keep it in our hearts, we allow it to guide our words and actions. We truly live out the things God has taught us. Let this be a reminder of the importance of memorizing Scripture as you learn this verse.</p>