

DAY 6

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be fully equipped for every good work.
(2 Timothy 3:16-17 NIV)

Imagine life without things like microwaves, bikes, cell phones, or social media. Life would be so different without tools like these because they're so useful. It's easy to overlook how much harder life would be without them. But in reality, the same is true with the Bible.

The Bible is more than just a history book; it's an amazing tool we have access to and can discover how to use. Reading and applying the Scriptures to our lives can help us grow as humans and as Jesus followers. Scripture can challenge us, give us wisdom, and guide us to live out the plans God has for us.

Today, don't overlook how useful the Bible can be. Find a time, a place, and a plan to spend time engaging with God's Word.

DAY 7

Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.
(Psalm 119:105 NIV)

One easy way to help you memorize Scripture is to write it down on a sticky note or notecard and put it in a place where you will see it often.

As a way to help you memorize this verse, try placing a sticky note on your school notebook, mirror, or somewhere else where you'll see it regularly! If you are not a sticky note person, make this the lock screen on your phone, so every time you pick up your phone, you see this scripture.

DAILY DEVOTIONAL

FOR AN
everyday faith.

TABLE OF CONTEXT / WEEK 1

DAY 1

For your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom. You rule throughout all generations.
(Psalm 145:13a NLT)

Have you ever read the Bible, and it just didn't seem to make sense? It can be difficult because it was written in a different time and in a different culture. But as unfamiliar as the Bible can feel, there's good news. Even though time and people may change, God doesn't. What God cares about doesn't change.

God is working in the world so it can reflect Him and His character: He is kind, loving, just, and full of peace. He stays the same. He is constant and you can count on Him.

Here is something to try today to remind yourself of these things; write this phrase on a piece of paper and use it as a bookmark or lock screen on your phone: God is kind, loving, just, and offers me peace.

DAY 2

I took my troubles to the LORD; I cried out to him, and he answered my prayer.
(Psalm 120:1 NLT)

Whenever we go through something difficult, we tend to pray and ask God to show up dramatically. Faced with BIG worries, we ask God to do BIG things. But the truth is, even though God can and does show up in more obvious ways sometimes, we can find God at work in small, less obvious ways too. These are usually harder to see though. Sometimes it's only when we look back that we recognize what was going on. What seemed overwhelming is a smaller deal than we initially thought. We may see that God gave us a peace to get through it, rather than take it away. Prayer is our lifeline to a God who can see past our current circumstances and into our future.

Take some time today to pray. Thank God for what He has done in the past for you. Ask Him for help to see what He might be up to right now.

DAY 3

The heart of the godly thinks carefully before speaking. (Proverbs 15:28a NLT)

Have you ever noticed that you start to talk, act, and even like similar things on social media as the people you spend time with the most? Without trying, we can begin to resemble those we spend the most time with.

This verse in Proverbs tells us that we resemble God when we think before we speak. In other words, as we spend time with God, we start to become more thoughtful about what we say.

Today, take time to reflect on what your words are reflecting to the world around you.

DAY 4

But those who obey God's word truly show how completely they love him. (1 John 2:5a NLT)

Do you ever think of the Bible as just a big book of rules that you couldn't possibly follow? Good news: the Bible is so much more than a rulebook. It's a book where God shows us His good heart and good ways. The Bible helps us learn more about who God is and what full life looks like through the example of Jesus.

Since God made the world, God knows the best way to live in it—and the Bible gives us plenty of examples of how it can go wrong when we don't. The rules aren't just there to keep us in line. They are there so we can learn how to live a good life—the kind of life God wants for us.

Today, ask yourself these questions: Is there something God has been asking me to do, but that I don't want to? What if God is looking out for me and not trying to rob me of having fun? How would knowing that change what I do today?

DAY 5

Such things were written in the Scriptures long ago to teach us. And the Scriptures give us hope and encouragement as we wait patiently for God's promises to be fulfilled. (Romans 15:4 NLT)

Written by Miguel, age 20, from Columbia, Illinois, USA

I always try to study for classes but sitting down and reading a book seems impossible when there is always something fun to do instead! This didn't help me to take the Bible serious especially when it felt like a textbook. A mentor challenged me to memorize some verses one day, and I was excited about it! I memorized Ephesians 1:1-2 even though I thought it wouldn't be very useful.

A few weeks later a friend said something to me that made me so mad I couldn't even respond! Quickly they apologized and I was about to let out my anger toward them, but something stopped me: Paul's words. Instead of getting mad I remembered how Paul talked to people who also made mistakes. I spoke to them with love be-

cause I was reminded that this person was someone God has given grace and peace to and I should love them as God loves them. If God can forgive them, can't I?

I realized then, not only is God's Word relevant to my life, but God also uses Scripture to help me to become more like Christ.

Today, try to memorize today's devotional verse! Remember, Scripture is full of encouraging and helpful stories and words that can be relevant to your day-to-day life.

