

# DAILY DEVOTIONAL

## No Matter What / Week 2

<p><i>“Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep his promise.”</i></p> <p>Hebrews 10:23 NLT</p>	<p><b>DAY 1</b></p> <p>Sometimes life can feel a lot like an obstacle course, full of twists, turns, and unexpected outcomes. When that happens, it’s easy to want to throw in the towel and simply give up. But as the writer of Hebrews reminds us, we don’t have to give in when things get tough. Why? Because we follow a God who keeps His promises. He promised to love us, save us, guide us, and be with us no matter what. And Easter shows us that He did all that and more! Because of Jesus, we can know that God is faithful. This week, ask your Small Group Leader to help you look up some of God’s promises to remind you of His faithfulness to you.</p>
<p><i>“Praise be to God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.”</i></p> <p>1 Peter 1:3 NIV</p>	<p><b>DAY 2</b></p> <p>Have you ever thought about what it means to be loved unconditionally? It means that nothing can change the way you are loved. Whatever you say, whatever you do, whatever happens, you are loved... no matter what. It’s something we can praise God for because He is the only One who is capable of loving us this way. His love is unconditional. He doesn’t hold back any of His love for us, sending Jesus down to Earth to be crucified and raised from the dead so that we can remain close to Him always. What we celebrate at Easter is an act of God’s unconditional love for us. So this week, thank Him for that love!</p>
<p><i>“For it is believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved.”</i></p> <p>Romans 10:10 NLT</p>	<p><b>DAY 3</b></p> <p>When it comes to putting our faith into action, we all sometimes tend to focus on the <i>doing</i>. We think we have to cross off enough things on our list—pray enough prayers, go to church every week, read our Bibles every day—to stay right with God. But this verse in Romans reminds us of what’s true: All we have to do is have faith. To believe in our hearts that God is who He says He is and that He will do what He says He will do. That’s enough! As you think about God’s love for you this Easter season, remember that ultimately all it takes to receive that love is to believe!</p>

<p><i>“For everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith.”</i></p> <p>1 John 5:4 NIV</p>	<p><b>DAY 4</b></p> <p>One of the best things about the Easter story is the reminder it gives us of what Jesus has done for the world. He literally beat death by coming back to life. Talk about overcoming! Now while we can't physically rise from the dead the way Jesus did, we do have the same access to the power of God to overcome the challenges that life throws at us. As you walk through the Easter season this year, ask someone you respect—a trusted friend, parent, or Small Group Leader—how they see God's power at work in their own lives. Use their answers to help you begin to look for ways God's power may be working in your own life, too.</p>
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<p><i>“For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow.”</i></p> <p>James 1:3 NLT</p>	<p><b>DAY 5</b></p> <p>Sometimes life can feel like it's testing us. The struggles we face, the challenges we find ourselves dealing with, the difficult circumstances we didn't see coming. All of that can add up to feel like one big test that, if we're honest, it seems like we're failing! But as this verse reminds us, there's a different way to look at life's challenges. We can see them as a chance to grow in our faith. To become stronger in our relationship with God. To develop the ability to keep going and keep believing no matter what! Is there a challenge you're facing right now? Ask God to help you see it in a new way. Pray for His help to grow stronger as you keep going.</p>
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<p><i>“You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother's womb. Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it.”</i></p> <p>Psalms 139:13-14 NLT</p>	<p><b>DAY 6</b></p> <p>Not strong enough. Not smart enough. Not tall enough. Simply not enough. We have probably said or thought things like this about ourselves. But the reality is, God doesn't say or think anything close to that. In fact, He tells us that we were designed by Him. He calls us wonderful and marvelous. He says that He loves and values us no matter what. I don't know about you, but that truth can be so hard to believe sometimes! One of the best ways to remember what's true about you is to ask for help! Share with a family member or Small Group Leader a way you struggle to see yourself as enough. Ask them to help you remember what is true about you in God's eyes, no matter what!</p>
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<p><i>“This is real love—not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins.”</i></p> <p>1 John 4:10 NLT</p>	<p><b>DAY 7</b></p> <p>Some things are just better together, right? Memorizing Scripture is one of those things! This week, ask your Small Group to join in with you. Find ways to work on it together. Text it, Snapchat it, write it, FaceTime each other to say it aloud. Whatever it is, work on memorizing God's Word with each other. And then watch how your whole group may even begin to change as a result!</p>
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