

Daily Devotionals

DAILY DEVOTIONAL

FOR AN

everyday faith.

TRENDING: SMALL GROUP / WEEK 1

MIDDLE SCHOOL

We should help others do what is right and build them up in the Lord.

ROMANS 15:2 NLT

DAY 1

Imagine trying to ride a tandem bicycle all by yourself! Pretty difficult, right? Maybe even impossible! That's because tandem bikes are built for two people to ride at the same time. They need more than just one of us to work. And in a lot of ways, our faith is the same. Walking with God can be pretty difficult without other people in our lives helping and encouraging us as we go. That's why the challenge in this verse to help each other in our relationships with God is so important. God created us to do this faith thing together!

So, who has God put in your life that you can encourage in their faith? Write down one way that you can build them up them today. Then, do it!

Live in harmony with each other. Don't be too proud to enjoy the company of ordinary people. And don't think you know it all!

ROMANS 12:16 NLT

DAY 2

If you were to press three random keys on a piano at the same time, there is a pretty good chance it would sound terrible. But when you actually play a chord using three notes designed to work together, it sounds amazing! That's harmony—when all the notes work together to make a beautiful sound. And just like we can find harmony in music, we can find harmony in our relationships. In our friendships, our family, even in our small group—when we're working together to build each other up, we're creating harmony with the people in our lives.

Think about how you can help create harmony in a place like your small group. Share a couple of ideas with your small group leader to get started!

<p>Come, let us tell of the Lord's greatness; let us exalt his name together.</p> <p>PSALM 34:3 NLT</p>	<p>DAY 3</p> <p>Did you notice how the author started this verse? He used the word "us." The author wasn't writing to one person; he was writing to a group of people. We often think of our walks with God as personal—something we do on our own. But worshiping God can be a "we" thing. It can be an "us" thing. Worship is something we can do with others, too! When we join in praising God alongside others, it not only impacts our relationship with Him, but it impacts our relationship with the people we're worshiping with!</p> <p>Work with your small group leader to set up a time that you can worship as a small group this week. Maybe listen to some music</p>
<p>Walk with the wise and become wise; associate with fools and get in trouble.</p> <p>PROVERBS 13:20 NLT</p>	<p>DAY 4</p> <p>Have you ever heard the phrase "one bad apple spoils the bunch"? Well, the idea is that one rotten apple in a basket can ruin all the other apples close to it. And that's exactly what this Proverb is saying can happen to us! When we spend time with friends who make unwise choices, we have a better chance of making similar choices and experiencing the consequences that come with them. But the opposite is true, too! When we hang out with friends who make wise decisions, we have the potential to grow in wisdom and make good choices that make our lives better!</p> <p>Take some time today to pray and thank God for the great friends you have who push you toward wisdom and help you live for Him!</p>
<p>How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!</p> <p>PSALM 133:1 NIV</p>	<p>DAY 5</p> <p>What are some of your favorite memories? Chances are good that your best memories include things like time spent laughing, adventuring, and having fun with other people in your life. That's because life is good when we experience it with others. Whether you're a "people person" or not, we were created to share life with friends, family, and even the members of our small group at church. When we're getting along and having a blast with those people, not only is life more fun, but it's the way God created it to be! He created us for community!</p> <p>Today, reach out to someone in your life to tell them how grateful you are that they're a part of some of your best memories!</p>

DAY 6

Written by Alex, age 14 from Milledgeville, Georgia, USA

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.

HEBREWS 10:24 NIV.

My name is Alex, and I want to talk about how we can help others move toward love and good deeds. It makes me think about a conversation my Grandpa and I had with my cousin. My cousin grew up not believing in Jesus, so we wanted to tell him about Jesus. That day we were talking about athletes and who changed their sport the most. Then, we talked about who changed the world the most. My Grandpa said Jesus. Surprisingly, my cousin listened with much interest. It was in that moment that I felt like God wanted me to encourage my cousin by telling him more about how much Jesus loves us. So, I did! It was that conversation that changed things for my cousin. It was then that he started to follow Jesus. I am so glad I could be part of encouraging him to learn more about Jesus and how much He loves each of us!

Think about one person in your life who you can encourage or share Jesus' love with this week.

DAY 7

So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing.

1 THESSALONIANS 5:11 NLT

Memorizing verses like this one can remind us that our relationship with God is something personal to us, but also something that we're meant to experience with other people. God created us for community, so we can use our faith to build each other up and grow alongside one another. So, work on memorizing this verse with a friend! Text it to someone in your small group each day this week. Don't just copy and paste it, but write it out word for word each time. By the end of the week, try to type it completely from memory!