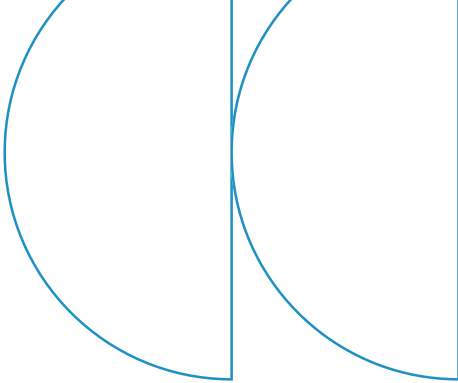


# DAY 7

Jesus called out to them, "Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!" And they left their nets at once and followed them.

Matthew 4:19-20 NLT

Memorizing scripture is an opportunity to listen to the truth of God's word and let it stand out from the chaos of voices and messages we hear in our world every day. Write the verse out on a piece of paper and tape it to your phone. Whenever you pull out your phone read the verse first.



Twelve horizontal lines for writing notes.

# DAILY DEVOTIONAL

FOR AN everyday faith.

THE BIG QUESTIONS/WEEK 4

HIGH SCHOOL

## DAY 2

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us.

Hebrews 12:1 NLT

No matter what sport, hobby, club, or activity you enjoy, doing it while being cheered on by a crowd takes the intensity level way up! Living a life of faith is a lot like running a race: you have a goal and there is a crowd cheering you on. The cheering "crowd of witnesses" for the Christian is all the believers throughout history who serve as inspiration and encouragement to keep running. No one goes for a run with rocks in their pockets, neither should we let sin and temptation slow us down from running the race of a mission that God has for our lives.

What might be slowing you down or holding you back from running full speed towards God's plan for you?

## DAY 1

Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people. Colossians 3:23 NLT

Isn't it funny how you'll work harder on homework in a class for a teacher you like? It's kind of like how we'll do crazy generous things for friends we wouldn't dream of doing for someone we barely know. Who we "work" for determines how hard we work. And honestly most of the time when it comes to things we'd rather not do (like homework or chores) we're tempted to do them as fast as possible even if it's sloppy or half-hearted. But what if we changed who we saw ourselves working for? What if we saw everyday tasks as if Jesus himself had asked us to do them? Would we give more effort or time? Would we be kinder or more generous?

What is one thing that you can do today as though you were doing it for the Lord?

## DAY 3

**But my life is worth nothing to me unless I use it for finishing the work assigned me by the Lord Jesus—the work of telling others the Good News about the wonderful grace of God. Acts 20:24 NLT**

When you hear the word “mission” what do you think of? A secret spy movie? Or a missionary in a foreign country? Missions are special, but they aren’t exclusive. A mission is simply being “sent,” sometimes for a unique task or purpose, sometimes just to love God and people wherever we are. God made you on purpose and for a purpose. God has placed you in the specific school, neighborhood, team, class, and friend group that you are in for a reason. You have unique opportunities to share “the Good News about the wonderful grace of God” to certain people that maybe no other Jesus-follower does. You have a mission!

**What or who do you see as your “mission field”? Boldly live out your mission from God.**

## DAY 4

**Commit everything you do to the Lord. Trust him, and he will help you. Psalm 37:5 NLT**

Do you ever feel like you have to do everything all by yourself? It can be exhausting thinking about everything on your to-do list on top of working through all the obstacles of life. But when you follow Jesus, you never go through life alone. God promises to be our ever-present help and because of this we can uniquely trust God and commit everything we do to God. Because no matter how strong, smart, or talented you are, you simply can’t do everything yourself. When we follow Jesus, on top of the incredible gift of his ever-present help, he also gives us his word (the Bible) and his people (the Church) to strengthen and guide us as well.

**What is one area of your life where you need help right now? Trust God to be your help and reach out to someone he has put in your life to talk about it with.**

## DAY 5

**And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. Romans 8:28 NLT**

We’ve all had challenging days. A tough day can range from embarrassing yourself in front of others, to a breakup, to the death of a loved one. Challenging days can make us question God’s goodness or love for us. This verse reminds us that God causes everything to work together for good—both good and bad days. The power of God can take our failure, our brokenness, our hurt, our betrayal and eventually bring something good out of it. Nothing can stop the purposes that God has for you, even your worst days.

**Where do you desire to see God work for good in your life right now? Go to God in prayer with that desire.**

## DAY 6

**See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! 1 John 3:1 NIV**

*Written by Rosey J., age 21 from Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, USA*

You know that feeling you get when your great aunt pats you on the shoulder and asks—no wait, tells—you to sit at the kids table? It’s literally the worst, isn’t it? It makes you feel like nothing you say or do matters because you’re too young to be seen as worthy of the adult table. That’s exactly how Timothy, an early church leader, felt while he was working in the church in Ephesus. He was constantly challenged by others who were older than him, and thought they were wiser and more godly. To encourage him, Paul wrote this letter, 1 Timothy, to remind Timothy that God doesn’t see him as too young. Timothy mattered to God because he was a child of God and therefore, highly loved. God doesn’t see us as too young either! There is no one too young or too anything to be a part of what God is doing to make the world better. God loves us for who we are and created us with unique skills and talents.

**Today, try to notice places that need God’s light. How can you be the light and make a difference in those places?**