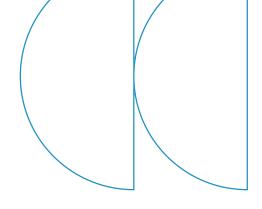
DAY 7

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

When we memorize Scripture, the truth of God's word comes back to us again and again to encourage and guide us! Write the verse and post it somewhere you'll see it often (like in your bedroom or locker). Say the verse every time you see it this week.



DAILY DEVOTIONAL

THE BIG QUESTIONS/WEEK 2

everyday faith.

FOR AN

HIGH SCHOOL

DAY 2

Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father's care. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows. Matthew 10:29-31 NIV

Random fact: the average person has about 100,000 hairs on their head (don't try counting, just trust me!) Only God knows the exact number of hairs you have, and that doesn't even scratch the surface of what God knows about you! If God knows the smallest details about us like the number of hairs we have (and if God cares for a bird that's worth less than a penny!), God definitely knows our deepest desires and needs as well. God knows you, loves you, and cares about you. Knowing that God so intimately knows and cares for us can free us from worrying we have to work to be accepted!

Spend a few minutes talking with God about the things in life that you want and need, knowing that you are loved and cared for.

DAY 1

I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

Psalm 139:14 NIV

Sometimes when you look in the mirror, it can be easy to feel like you're anything but wonderful. Everyone has days like this. But the truth is this: You were not an accident or mistake, but rather the exact opposite -God made you on purpose and for a purpose! Knowing that we were made in that way should change the way we look at and think about ourselves.

Using a dry erase marker or sticky notes, write down as many qualities, talents, or characteristics about yourself as you can on the mirror you use most. Leave the words up all week as a reminder of the wonderful ways that God has made you.

DAY 3

But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. 2 Corinthians 12:9 NIV

We love talking about and posting about our strengths, wins, or highlights. But what about our "weaknesses" - the areas where we struggle or fail? Those we tend to hide, ignore, or shy away from sharing. Here's the crazy thing: we have the chance to let Jesus be the highlight when we rely on him in the areas where we struggle or fail. When we say "I'm not good at being patient, but after I pray and refocus, I get better at practicing patience." We can embrace and even celebrate our weaknesses because they are an opportunity for Jesus' presence in our life to be on full display!

Think of one weakness in your life and ask Jesus to work powerfully in this area, then praise God for working in your weakness.

DAY 5

So God created mankind in his own image; in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. Genesis 1:27 NIV

Have you ever created an avatar of yourself for social media, a video game, or just for fun? It can be hard knowing which aspects of yourself to put into digital form: your hair, your clothing style, glasses, or your trademark facial expression. The Bible tells us that we are created in God's image. When God created us in His image, that means that God put qualities about God into us - like his character and attributes. Here's an example: The Bible says that God is love (1 John 4:7) so our ability to love others is part of being made in God's image. Another example would be that we are able to create because we are made in the image of the ultimate Creator. Being made in God's image, we reflect who God is.

How can you reflect God's image today?



DAY 6

For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago. Ephesians 2:10 NLT

Written by Gracyn H., age 14 from Orange City, Florida, USA

What comes to mind when you hear the word masterpiece? For many, it may be a beautiful piece of art you once saw in a museum, or it may be a breathtaking view you once saw on top of a mountain after a long hike. It might be watching an impossible trick shot be landed successfully, or a perfectly choreographed dance. I bet most of us can think of at least one thing when we hear the word masterpiece. But is that one thing you? This verse serves as a big reminder that even when we view ourselves as broken and damaged the Creator of the universe who has created everything says, "You're a masterpiece." The One who created the beautiful view or created the artist that made the piece of art you love looked at you - at your best and at your worst- and said, "You're a masterpiece!" God invites us into the purpose and plan that He has for each and every single one of us, and his plan is good. You are enough and God has a unique role for you in His plan to make the world better. It's that God loves you more than you can even comprehend. So don't forget that. You are enough. You are loved, and you are God's masterpiece.

So don't forget that. You are enough. You are loved, and you are His masterpiece.

DAY 4

For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline. 2 Timothy 1:7 NIV

When was the last time you shied away from something or someone? Maybe it was when you were around a new group of people, started a new sports or club, or felt intimidated by the difficulty of a project. It's easy to let our insecurities stop us from fully engaging with opportunities that come along in our life. The Holy Spirit is God living within us to empower and guide us every day. This Spirit gives us the boldness to live a life filled with love and self-discipline.

How would knowing the power of God in you change the way you approach intimidating situations?