



AFTERYOUTHCAMP

FROM THE EXPERIENCE TO EVERYDAY

OVERVIEW

Welcome to the After Youth Camp Devotional journey! We are proud of you for taking the next- step and believe that the next 21-days will be monumental in your life. Together we will go on a journey to move from your youth camp experience to an everyday life journey of discovering and developing your faith.

This document will serve as your personal journal for the next 30 days. A place for you to keep record of your spiritual journey. Habakkuk 2 says,

“And then God answered: ‘Write this. Write what you see. Write it out in big block letters’”
(MSG)

Below we have provided a simple model for what a daily devotional time with God could look like for you. We encourage you to follow this model over the next 21 days as you watch the videos and read through the daily scriptures. We have also included 3 scripture verses for you to focus on committing to memory over the next 21 days.

You are on a journey. You will discover the power of a daily devotional time with God.

Enjoy the ride!

DEVOTIONAL & JOURNAL – PG. 3

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSES – PG. 45

DEVOTIONAL GUIDE/MODEL:

S	Scripture Reading – Open your Bible to the reading for the day, take time reading and allowing God to speak to you. Write down the verse or verses that stuck out to you in your reading.
O	Observation – What did you observe about the scripture that stuck out to you? Allow the Holy Spirit to speak to your heart what He wants to show you. Write down your thoughts.
A	Application – How can you apply the observation so that it affects your life today?
P	Prayer – Spend some time in prayer, this can be as simple as asking God to help you apply the truth you just discovered. Remember prayer is a two-way conversation, so take time to allow God to speak back to you!



DAY#1|

SELF-IMAGE

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE: Genesis 1:27-28,31

Genesis 1:27-28,31

“27 So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

28 God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.”

31 God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.”

Observation

What do you think of when you hear the term self-image? Do you think of clothes, hair, weight, and clear skin? Or maybe you think of grades, worthiness, talents, and being loved. Self-image, as a simple definition, is the way you view yourself, including appearance, abilities, and personality.

I think everyone struggles with their self-image in some way. For me, I struggle with the thoughts that I am not good enough for God to use. I think, “I’m not a good enough singer.” “I’m not creative enough to help with this.” “I am too broken for God to use me.” Maybe you have similar thoughts, or maybe you think, “I’m not skinny enough.” “I’m too weird and awkward, who would want to be friends with me.”

Here’s the thing, these are lies.

You see, God, the Creator of the heavens and the earth also created YOU! Mankind is the only creation of God that is designed in His image. Not only that, but He provides for us and asks us to manage His creations. This is also the only time He declares one of His creations “very good,” where all the other creations were simply “good.”

God knows you better than anyone else because He made you. He made you beautiful and wonderful, and He loves you unconditionally.

If you haven’t noticed yet, you are one of God’s special, and beloved creations.

Application

Spend some intimate time with God through prayer, worship, writing, etc. Ask Him to show you the lies that you have been believing. Ask Him to show you the truth of who you are. Write down what He tells you and shows you.

Walk daily in this truth. He has made you the way you are, given you certain abilities and personality traits for a REASON. Let the Father show you those reasons.

Lastly, it’s time to stop viewing self-image as how you view yourself, but how God sees you. (Listen to “Mistakes” by Influence Music as you spend this time with God).

Prayer

God, I thank you for creating me to be exactly who I am. You say that I am worthy, loved, and your beautiful creation. I ask that you show me how to see myself as you see me. Show me how to walk in the confidence of who I am, who you have made me to be. Thank you for loving me for who I am right now. You are a good, good Father. Amen.

MEMORY VERSE:

Psalm 139:14

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

DAY 1 JOURNAL

S	<i>SCRIPTURE</i>	O	<i>OBSERVATION</i>	A	<i>APPLICATION</i>	P	<i>PRAYER</i>
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DAY#2|

COMMUNITY

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE: *Corinthians 15:33-34*

1 Corinthians 15:33-34 (NIV)

The Resurrection of the Dead

“**33** Do not be misled: “Bad company corrupts good character.” **34** Come back to your senses as you ought and stop sinning; for there are some who are ignorant of God—I say this to your shame.”

Observation

In this passage of scripture, Paul is speaking specifically to the church in Corinth. Now if you don't know much about the church in Corinth, in its early Christian years it wasn't the best place to learn about Jesus... The Corinthian people were proud and selfish, they fought about everything, and didn't believe in Jesus' resurrection. Even though they had leaders, the Corinthian people believed that since they had been “freed by God” they didn't have to listen to authority outside of God's authority. The Corinthians were baby Christians who needed guidance, they were a community of people who found themselves lost in the chaos of living.

Application

It is important that we surround ourselves with a community of believers that not only believe the truth but live it! In that community, we need to find the voice of sound leadership grounded in truth and wisdom and learn and grow in Christ together. It is important to grow in unity and realize that the discords are corrupting not only our good character as a Christian body, but God's good character too. The church needs to come back to its senses as it ought and stop sinning; because there are many people who don't know God who are watching how we live. We meet to encourage and lift each other up so we can work together to reach the ones who don't know Him. Nothing is more urgent than this.

Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father,

I know that you are in this very room with me, and I thank you for listening to me. Today my prayer is for the community of the church as a whole. I pray that you would be with every Christian individually and every denomination, and that you would unify us under your truth. I ask that you guide the words we speak to each other, as well as our every interaction. That our community would be built strong for your sake, and in your name and truth. Amen

Hebrews 10:24-25

DAY 2 JOURNAL

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DAY#3|

TIME MANAGEMENT

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE: Matthew 7:24-27

Matthew 7:24-27, NLT

“Anyone who listens to my teaching and follows it is wise, like a person who builds a house on solid rock. Though the rain comes in torrents and the floodwaters rise and the winds beat against that house, it won’t collapse because it is built on bedrock. But anyone who hears my teaching and doesn’t obey it is foolish, like a person who builds a house on sand. When the rains and floods come and the winds beat against that house, it will collapse with a mighty crash.”

Observation

In this passage, Jesus tells his disciples that wisdom requires a solid foundation. In other words, it means getting your priorities straight. Will you obey the Word of God (and develop a rock-hard foundation)? Or will you prioritize something else (and build your house on the sand)?

When it comes to properly managing your time, I can tell you that your priorities will always take precedence. There will never be a time when your priorities take the back seat. For example, if you plan on doing homework and you end up spending an hour on YouTube, then you’ve subconsciously valued video streaming above your education. Remember what Jesus said just a few verses before this: “Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” (Matt. 6:21).

Application

So, here’s the all-important question for you today: What do you value most? Is it the little pebbles in the sand—things like video game, Netflix, and keeping up your social standing? OR is it the big rocks of life—things like your relationship with God, time spent with your family, and your education and / or job? The truth is that your pursuits are a reflection of your priorities.

But here’s the real kicker: wrong priorities will cause fault lines in your foundation, and we have to intentionally work at keeping peace between them. So, pro-tip: Schedule your priorities first before you plan the rest of your calendar. If you don’t make time for those big rocks first, then you won’t fit them in at all. It doesn’t matter how much you do if what you do doesn’t matter...

Prayer

Lord, first of all, thank you for the wisdom I find in your Word. It is my rock and my foundation, and I praise you because you made a way for me to live without collapsing... Now, I pray that you would help me evaluate my priorities and identify those big rocks in my life. I want to make you proud by taking control of my time and scheduling my life according to what matters most. I know that you want me to be effective, so help me to take advantage of the tools I’ve been given today. In Jesus’ name I pray, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE:

Psalm 90:12

Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.

DAY 3 JOURNAL

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DAY#4|

STRESS

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE: Psalm 94:19

Psalm 94:19 (TPT)

"Whenever my busy thoughts were out of control,
the soothing comfort of your presence
calmed me down and overwhelmed me with delight."

Observation

Life is busy! Think about it, you have school, sports, friends, family, jobs, church, and God. Then you have society and social media screaming at you to look, act, and live life a certain way. How does one balance everything and not go crazy? Stress is part of life, but if you can learn how to deal with stress now, you can begin to balance and manage the seasons of life.

Stress is defined as a “force” or “influence” that causes physical, chemical, mental, or emotional tension within the body. Your body and emotions can alarm you when you are stressed out. You need to look for the signs. Here are a few examples of a stressed-out person:

- Trouble falling asleep or lack of sleep.
- Getting sick a lot or having a headache often
- Trouble concentrating at school or work
- Mood swings or increase irritability
- Negative talk or behavior
- Increase anxiety or worry

The author in the passage is simply saying, “Hey, when life is crazy, out of control, and stressful...run to God and sit in His presence.” We tend to get stressed out or have anxiety because we forget to add God in the equation of life. When you are stressed out you should ask yourself, “Did I spend time with God today? Have I invited Him into this situation or frustration in my life?”

We tend to do things in our power, in our way, or in our liking and it sometimes leads to avoidable stress. We need to create a habit of seeking God out daily to experience His joy, peace, and comfort. Inviting God into our stressful situations will take the burden off of us of trying to figure everything out and it teaches us how to trust Him even more when we ask for help.

Application

1. Spend time with God through reading the Bible, prayer, or listening to worship music.
2. **Exercise!** When you exercise, your body releases chemicals called endorphins. These endorphins interact with your brain to reduce your perception of pain or anxiety. Exercising makes you happy!

3. **Eat healthy!** If you want to reduce your stress levels, then you have to take care of yourself. Food fuels your body! Just like a car needs good fuel to run your body also needs good fuel (nutrients) to run efficiently.
4. **Sleep!** Your body needs rest. According to the National Sleep Foundation teens need between 8.5 to 9 hours of sleep.
5. **Practice “Me Time!”** Carve out an hour or two out of your day, once a week to focus on YOU! You cannot take care of others efficiently if you cannot take care of yourself. Go hiking with friends! Go see a movie! Read a great book! Give yourself a facial! Go play basketball with the guys! Do something to take care of you!

Prayer

God, help me to run to you when I am stressed out and help me to depend on your strength and not my own. God help me to be the best version of myself for your glory and Kingdom. Lord, help me and give me the peace of mind that I need. God, I trust you! You will take care of me. Help me to run to you and seek out your presence each and every day of my life. In Jesus name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE:

John 14:27

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

DAY 4 JOURNAL

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DAY#5|

PEER PRESSURE

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE: *Romans 12:1-2*

Romans 12:1-2 (NIV)

“1 Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. **2** Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.”

Observation:

My coaches always used to tell us if you aren’t getting better than you are getting worse. I never really thought about it much but it really is true. It’s like going to the gym. If you don’t put in the effort you won’t get the results. All too often we leave church camp fired up for Jesus only to go back to talking or acting the way we did before camp. Where is the change? You need to understand that God has called you out of darkness and into the light, which means to be transformed you are going to have to be disciplined. Yes disciplined!! My coaches were right, if we aren’t spiritually disciplined we indeed drift back to our old nature. Don’t make empty promises to God by saying you’ll pray more, read your bible more, or go to youth more. The key to transforming is going to take effort on your part. When you become disciplined in prayer, reading your bible, and attending church you’ll begin to be transformed in your walk. Be a thermostat not a thermometer. What does that mean? Thermostats always conform or adjust to the outside temperature. Thermostats actually regulate the temperature. They set the temperature of your house. God has called you to set the temperature of your generation and culture. You can do it. How you ask?

Application:

Transforming our lives means we are going to have to change. Change the way we talk, how we treat people, and change the way we walk out our faith. Change takes discipline and intention. Be intentional! Paul says we are transformed by the renewing of our mind. Change the way you think about yourself. Read the bible and find out what God says about you. Things like: He loves you, you are His Masterpiece, and that he has a plan for your life. Create a discipline of transforming your walk with God. It may start with small steps but start somewhere. Consistent small steps will eventually get you there but you’ve got to start somewhere. Start a bible-reading plan, join a bible study, pray before you start your day, and watch what God will do. You will be changed!

Prayer:

Lord today I ask that you would help me to be transformed into what you desire for me. I surrender my will, my desires, and my weakness to you. Help me to walk away from temptations that may entice me to conform to my old nature and to run to those things that will bring me closer to you. Cut things out of my life that may be distractions from knowing you more. I pray that you continue to transform me into your image and not my own. Amen

MEMORY VERSE:

Romans 12:2

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

DAY 5 JOURNAL

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DAY#6|

EMOTIONAL HEALTH

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE: Romans 12:2-4

Romans 12:2-4

“Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.”

Observation

Our worship is not about singing, or dancing, or clapping on a Sunday service. As a Christ follower living a life of true worship means being surrendered and committed to Jesus Christ. A true act of worship is when we submit to God fully, trust God completely, and live a life differently. The apostle Paul wrote this passage to plead with others to live a life that allows God to do whatever he wants to do. Becoming a “living sacrifice” means letting God take control and allowing Him to transform us from old patterns and habits. When you have been transformed by God your thoughts, your hope, your life looks differently than the rest of the worlds. Being transformed by the renewing of your mind requires a life of surrender and trust to a mighty God who has nothing but love and mercy for you. When we submit to God fully, trust God completely, and live a life differently, we will be able to discern his will, feel his love, and understand the beauty and hope that comes through Jesus Christ.

Application

Have you ever done a trust fall before? Trust falls are when a person purposefully allows themselves to fall, expecting others of the group to catch them. Hopefully (if you have a good friends), you can trust that your fall will not end with a bruised body and a split skull. Oftentimes, that’s how I imagine our trust with God is like. When we live a life of sacrifice we let go of our own control and let God catch us, protect us, and comfort us. Emotions reveal what our heart loves, fears, and trusts, but oftentimes we can make our emotions an idol when they become the guiding of our lives. Feelings of doubt, worry, anxiety, and heaviness can consume our mind, body, and spirit. Our emotions are wired into the fallen nature of sin and if we are not careful, Satan can have access to them and use them to try and manipulate us to live faithlessly and hopelessly. If we fail to live as living sacrifice, if we fail to trust God in body, heart, soul, and mind, then we are susceptible to allowing our emotions become the thing at that we worship and let it guide our every move and decision. So ask yourself today, “Do I fully trust that God will take care of me if I let go of my fears?” “What thoughts am I entertaining that do not align with the transformation of Christ in me?” “Are my emotions a gauge, or have they become my guide?”

Prayer

“Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.” Psalm 139:23-24

MEMORY VERSE:

Psalms 147:3

He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

DAY 6 JOURNAL

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DAY#7|

PHYSICAL HEALTH

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE: *John 2:1-11*

John 2:1-11 CSB

“On the third day, a wedding took place in Cana of Galilee. Jesus’s mother was there, and Jesus and his disciples were invited to the wedding as well. When the wine ran out, Jesus’s mother told him, “They don’t have any wine.” “What does that have to do with you and me, woman?” Jesus asked. “My hour has not yet come.” “Do whatever he tells you,” his mother told the servants. Now six stone water jars had been set there for Jewish purification. Each contained twenty or thirty gallons. **“Fill the jars with water,” Jesus told them. So they filled them to the brim.** Then he said to them, “Now draw some out and take it to the headwaiter.” And they did. When the headwaiter tasted the water (after it had become wine), he did not know where it came from — though the servants who had drawn the water knew. He called the groom and told him, “Everyone sets out the fine wine first, then, after people are drunk, the inferior. But you have kept the fine wine until now.” Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee. He revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him.”

Observation

If we look at our text, we can see quite a few things. This is Jesus’ first miracle recorded in the book of John. His first miracle, turning water into wine, happened at a wedding. And this miracle occurred after six stone water pots were filled. “Okay, so what? Who cares about water pots?” Jesus commanded others to fill these water-pots with water. The main focus is the pots. (vs. 6,7) What do stone water pots have to do with me?

Application

This “water pot” is your body. Yes, your physical body! We must take care of our bodies in order to carry the Word of God in the best possible way. If your pot is cracked and easily shattered, then it’s going to be difficult to pour wine for others. The Holy Spirit wants to work miracles through you! (Mark 16:16-18) And the better you take care of your body by exercising and eating quality foods, the more you will be able to do for the Lord. Your capacity increases the healthier you are physically, spiritually, and emotionally. Take care of your “water pot” so that you can be filled and poured out for God and others.

Prayer

Father, thank you for the body you’ve given me. Forgive me if I haven’t always honored you with it. Allow my body to be an empty water pot that is willing to be filled and poured out. When I honor You with my body, you will bless my obedience. Thank you. Strengthen me in physical discipline, Lord. Amen.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

DAY 7 JOURNAL

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

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DAY#8|

MENTORSHIP

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE: John 13:12-15

John 13:12-15 NIV

“When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. “Do you understand what I have done for you?” he asked them. “You call me ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord,’ and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.”

Observation

In this passage of scripture, Jesus is washing the feet of His disciples. You got that right, the one who deserves all honor and praise is bending down and washing the (probably not so clean) feet of His disciples. He does this of course to show honor to those who have journeyed with Him and followed Him, but He also does this to set an example. Here, Jesus is showing His disciples the importance of serving one another. An important thing to note is that Jesus not only TOLD them what they should do, but He SHOWED them. Mentorship should look like this. You should seek to learn from and be mentored by someone who not only knows the right way, but goes the right way! And in order to be blessed by the gift of mentorship, we have to frame our minds and hearts in the correct way. There are a few things we need to know and do when seeking to find a mentor to show us the way of Jesus:

Application

1). You don’t know everything!

I know...shocker! Although this may seem like an obvious statement, I remember when I was younger, I thought I knew a lot more than I actually did. However, as I have gotten older and have learned even more things, I am constantly reminded of how much I actually don’t know. No matter who you are or what you know, there is always someone who knows more than you and can help you grow and develop in the things of God.

2). Find someone you want to be more like!

I heard a quote recently “don’t take advice from someone you don’t want to be more like.” When you are seeking to be mentored or in search of a role model, you have the right to be a little picky. This does not mean you have to be rude or exclusive, but rather that you really take a look at the people who are speaking into you and forming you and decide if they are really someone you want to become more like. For instance, why would you take dating advice from your friend who has been in six different relationships in the last year? That’s right, you wouldn’t. Be careful about who you let form you, because it will make all the difference!

3). Be open to the process!

Having a mentor or a role model is awesome, but sometimes, it can be a little painful. However, the pain you might experience shouldn’t be the kind that breaks you, but the kind that builds you.

A mentor or leader may tell you things you don't want to hear, they may ask you to do things you don't want to do and through it all, it is important that we remember that they are doing these things to help us grow!

Prayer

Jesus, help me to seek out, and direct me to people with wisdom to speak into my life, and help me to grow and develop into the kind of leader that others will seek out to one day mentor them. I realize this is an important process in becoming a strong part in the body of Christ and leading other to you as well. Give me a mind of wise discernment to know what voices I should listen to and those that I shouldn't let mold me, in Jesus name, amen.

MEMORY VERSE:

Proverbs 15:22

Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers they succeed

DAY 8 JOURNAL

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DAY#9|

HEALTHY BOUNDARIES

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE: 1 Corinthians 6:9-12, 18-20

1 Corinthians 6:9-12, 18-20

⁹ Don't you realize that those who do wrong will not inherit the Kingdom of God? Don't fool yourselves. Those who indulge in sexual sin, or who worship idols, or commit adultery, or are male prostitutes, or practice homosexuality, ¹⁰ or are thieves, or greedy people, or drunkards, or are abusive, or cheat people—none of these will inherit the Kingdom of God. ¹¹ Some of you were once like that. But you were cleansed; you were made holy; you were made right with God by calling on the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God. ¹² You say, "I am allowed to do anything"—but not everything is good for you. And even though "I am allowed to do anything," I must not become a slave to anything... ¹⁸ Run from sexual sin! No other sin so clearly affects the body as this one does. For sexual immorality is a sin against your own body. ¹⁹ Don't you realize that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself, ²⁰ for God bought you with a high price. So you must honor God with your body.

Observation:

Just how far is too far? Where exactly is the line? These are questions we ask ourselves all too often. It's like the time your mom said, "Don't you eat all those cookies right now! You'll spoil your dinner." Then you proceed to eat one because she didn't say you couldn't have any, she just said you couldn't eat them all. It's in our nature to push the boundaries and walk as close to the line as possible without stepping over.

Paul addresses this struggle in his letter to the Corinthians. He makes it very clear that we do have a choice in the matter. The choice is this: we can honor God and our relationship with Him through our lives or we can continue to be slaves to sin. One verse that struck me was Paul's thought in verse 12. Sure, I'm 'allowed' to do it. I have the 'right' to do it, but is it actually good for me? I think this is the key question to ask ourselves when we come to times in our lives where we have to make these decisions. Will this party be beneficial to my walk with Christ? Will this drink help me in pursuing God's purpose for my life? Is this relationship a good reflection of my relationship with God? This can be a hard question to ask when we are bombarded by the constant pressure of society to push those boundaries. In all reality it's like our society has no boundaries anymore, but thankfully, as Christians, we can use God's word to help us make right choices.

Application:

You may be thinking now, it's too late. I've already messed up. I've been doing things I shouldn't be doing for a while. How am I supposed to just stop and put up those boundaries now? One of my favorite parts of this scripture is where Paul reminds us in verse 11 of who we are now that we know God. We may have once struggled, but by the grace of God and the Holy Spirit that is working inside of us, we have been made right with God. We get a second chance to make better decisions, set up these healthy boundaries, and keep pursuing a right relationship with God. Are you living a life worthy of your calling? What areas in your life can you work on to rise to this challenge? There's no better life than one lived in pursuit of God's will.

Prayer:

Thank you Lord for loving me enough to establish healthy boundaries in my life. Help me to listen to the Holy Spirit that lives inside of me when I don't know what to do. Give me grace to make the right choices and boldness to live a life that honors and pleases You. Amen.

MEMORY VERSE:

1 Peter 5:8

Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

DAY 9 JOURNAL

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DAY#10|

GUARDING OUR MINDS

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE: Philippians 2:5-8

Philippians 2: 5-8 (ESV)

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though He was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Observation

One thing that I love about the church camp experience is that God, during that time, begins to create a new desire in our hearts to please him. The fact that you are seeking God through these devotionals attest's to God's work in your life. The question you may be asking now is "how can I please God?" In this passage of scripture Paul is essentially saying "if you have experienced Christ at all, *complete my joy by being of the same mind.*" It truly brings God great joy when we live with the mind of Christ. Because of this, Satan's goal is to now attack your mind. He knows that if can get ahold of your mind, he can influence your life. The truth is that, if you are in Christ, you have the mind of Christ. Satan can no longer possess your mind. You can now live with a sound mind completely under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

Application

The Apostle Paul teaches us that the key to having the mind of Christ is through humble service, growing obedience, and exalting Christ in our lives. If there was anyone who could have demanded service from others, it would have been Jesus. He was God in the flesh. Yet, instead of living for his own desires, he lived for others in complete obedience to God the Father. The mind of Christ is more than a simple thought process, it's a mindset for a type of lifestyle. A life of humility and service. How can you apply this type of mindset to your life right now? Take some time to make an appointment with your pastor or youth pastor. Find out how you can start serving right now. Guarding your mind doesn't happen just by thinking, but also through living.

Prayer

Father, I thank you for the chance to know your Son and to learn from him. I confess that, on my own, my mind is weak. I overthink things, I'm forgetful, and I tend to let my mind wander in directions that are not healthy. I know that the enemy desires to influence my mindset. Yet your word tells me that you did not give us a spirit of fear, but "of power and love and of a sound mind." I now pray that you would teach me to take every thought captive to the obedience of

Christ. Help me to keep my eyes on Jesus. To learn to humble myself to serve others for building up of your kingdom. I now empty myself and give myself to you and your service. In the name of Jesus I pray. Amen.

MEMORY VERSE:

Philippians 4:8

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things.

DAY 10 JOURNAL

S	<i>SCRIPTURE</i>	O	<i>OBSERVATION</i>	A	<i>APPLICATION</i>	P	<i>PRAYER</i>
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DAY#11|

BULLYING

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE: John 13:34-35

John 13:34-35 NLT

"So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples."

Observation

Every one of us has had to face a bully at some point in our lives. You've felt the pain that comes with being called names, made fun of, and feeling like you don't belong. Bullying has become a major problem in our culture. It has caused division between people, stirred up hatred for one another, and has even led to people taking their own lives. In the bible David had to face a bully named Goliath and all of us will have to face one at some point in our lives as well.

Application

So how do we face bullying? In John 13:34-35 Jesus tells us to love one another just as He loved us. He also tells us that the way we love people is what proves that we are His disciples. This means that it's our job to love EVERYONE, even the people who make fun of us. There will be times when you have to remind yourself that you are loved by Jesus and your identity comes from God's word and not what other people have spoken over you. It's our responsibility to be a light to the world around us and we do that by loving people. It's our job to do what Jesus did and love the people who others have given up on, rejected, and made fun of. If we want to stop bullying then we have to spread the love of God to the world around us.

Prayer

Lord, I pray that you would help us have the courage to stand up against bullying and injustice. I pray that you would help heal those who are hurting because of a bully and what's been spoken over their life. Thank you for reminding us of your great love for us and help us to share it with the world around us. I pray that people would see your love in us and that we would be a light in our community. We love you and give you all the glory. In Jesus name, AMEN!

MEMORY VERSE:

Ephesians 4:29

Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

DAY 11 JOURNAL

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DAY#12|

PRAYER

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE: Jeremiah 33:2-3

Jeremiah 33: 2-3

"This is what the LORD says, he who made the earth, the LORD who formed it and established it-the LORD is his name: ³Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.'

Observation

We all go through moments or seasons in our life that seem difficult and without hope, and all we want are answers, comfort, and hope. I'm sure Jeremiah was wanting some answers and comfort in Jeremiah 32-33. In these chapters, the prophet is currently imprisoned for prophesying that King Zedekiah would "be given into the hands of the King of Babylon" (Jeremiah 32:4). Well, King Zedekiah did not like that very much, so he threw Jeremiah in prison. Kind of harsh for just speaking the word of the Lord, right? Jeremiah was often treated harshly by those he was trying to help because he was chosen to prophesy the judgement of God to Judah, and, as you might guess, no one really appreciated his words very much.

Application

Are there times where you, like Jeremiah, feel like everything is going wrong and the world is against you when you are trying to do right by God? Have you gone through seasons where you are hurting and you just need hope and some answers? Maybe you are going through something like this right now. Well, I have amazing news. God has provided a way for us to talk to Him and receive comfort and answers from Him: prayer. When we call on God, He will answer. He answers us with the comfort, peace, hope, and words He knows we need in that moment or season we are in.

God wants to hear from you. Prayer does not have to be some well worded declaration or request. Prayer is simply talking to God. He wants to hear your questions, your feelings (no matter what they may be), and your desires. He wants to answer you, comfort you, and provide for you. He wants to hear it all: the good, the bad, and the ugly.

Call on Him, and He will answer.

Prayer

God, thank you for wanting to hear from me and talk to me. Thank you for wanting to hear about my day or my feelings, and for listening when I need someone to listen. Thank you for wanting to answer me. Today I come to you in a time where I need your answers, comfort, and hope. Your Word tells me in Jeremiah that when I call on you, you will answer. You know me. You know my circumstance. You know exactly what I need. I pray that my mind and heart would be open to what you want to tell me and show me today. Give me the hope I need to keep moving

forward. Give me the strength I need to persevere. Give me the comfort I need to rest in your promises. In your name I pray, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE:

Jeremiah 33:3

Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.

DAY 12 JOURNAL

S	<i>SCRIPTURE</i>	O	<i>OBSERVATION</i>	A	<i>APPLICATION</i>	P	<i>PRAYER</i>
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DAY#13|

FASTING

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE: Isaiah 58:6

Isaiah 58:6

“Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke?”

Isaiah 58:3-5

‘Why have we fasted,’ they say, ‘and you have not seen it? Why have we humbled ourselves, and you have not noticed. Yet on the day of your fasting, you do as you please and exploit all your workers. Your fasting ends in quarreling and strife, and in striking each other with wicked fists. You cannot fast as you do today and expect your voice to be heard on high. Is this the kind of fast I have chosen, only a day for people to humble themselves? Is it only for bowing one’s head like a reed and for lying in sackcloth and ashes? Is that what you call a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord?’”

Observation

Biblical fasting is the act of humbling yourself before God by abstaining from something, often a certain kind of food, or all food, and more recently, things like social media, television, etc., in order that we can draw closer to God. Biblical fasting is not just going without food, that is dieting. We read in the above scripture how fasting is done properly and improperly. We must resist the urge to sometimes fast for the purpose of just looking good in front of other believers, or for the purpose of finally fitting back into our shorts from last summer. True and genuine fasting is not only a physical experience, but a time of spiritual and mental humility, submission, and of seeking God’s way in whatever the circumstance you are facing. We read in the Bible how fasting was used to set spiritual captives free, and guess what, that same power is available through fasting still today!

Application

So often in life we feel like God does not answer our prayers and that He is silent. But it’s when we humble ourselves through fasting and prayer that God can do so much through us.

God desires to take you to a new level in your relationship with Him. Remember, through prayer, fasting and the reading and doing of scripture we really can come to understand the heart of God and His plan for our lives.

Prayer

Father, thank you for teaching us the principle of fasting, and how it can help us to grow in our relationship with you by taking time aside to seek you and your will, by pushing aside our physical desires. Help us to desire you above all else, and that as we set aside things for the sake of drawing close to you, that you would fill us up with the good things only you can give. In Jesus name, amen.

MEMORY VERSES:

Matthew 6:18

So that it will not be obvious to others that you are fasting, but only to your father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

DAY 13 JOURNAL

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DAY#14|

MISSIONS

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE: Romans 12:9-13

Romans 12: 9-13 NLT

“**9** Don’t just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good. **10** Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other. **11** Never be lazy, but work hard and serve the Lord enthusiastically. **12** Rejoice in our confident hope. Be patient in trouble, and keep on praying. **13** When God’s people are in need, be ready to help them. Always be eager to practice hospitality.”

Observation:

Have you ever walked into your school cafeteria, sat down with your group of friends laughing and having a good time, and looked over and seen the loner kid that always sits by themselves? Have you ever gone over to them and invited them to join you? Or did you go about your day unphased? Or do you have that one family member that is really hard to get along with? Do you go out of your way to avoid them?

Application:

The passage of scripture above tell us how God wants us to love people. God wants us to TRULY love every person we come in contact with. Even the ones that we don’t get along with or want to be seen with. We are able to love others because God loves us and He has given us the power to do so through His Holy Spirit. When people think about ‘missions’ they think about going on a ‘missions trip’. They imagine going to a different country and loving on people in need. But there are people in our every day lives that need love too. Missions is simply showing the love of Christ to others. THAT IS THE MISSION and this can be done ANYWHERE AT ANYTIME. Be excited about serving the Lord, in fact begin to look for opportunities to serve for Him. Some opportunities of missions could be serving in your home (do your chores without being asked, show extra love to your family members), serving in your local church (be a door greeter! help in kid’s service!), serving your community (volunteering at a shelter, or simply seeing that one kid in school that no one likes and becoming their friend).

Prayer:

Lord I ask that You be with each of your children today. I pray that they will feel the love that You have for them and with that love they reach out to others. I pray that You give them a heart to love people, all kinds of people. People from different backgrounds, different beliefs, different languages. Lord teach them how to love and see people how You love and see people. I also pray that the Holy Spirit lead them and give them wisdom in situations so that they can reflect Christ in the greatest way. We thank you for all that You have done for us, especially the love that You have given us. In Jesus name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE:

1 Peter 4:8

Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.

DAY 14 JOURNAL

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DAY#15|

FORGIVENESS

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE: Matthew 6:9-15

Matthew 6:9-15 NLT

“Pray like this: Our Father in heaven, may your name be kept holy. May your Kingdom come soon. May your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us today the food we need, and forgive us our sins, as we have forgiven those who sin against us. And don’t let us yield to temptation, but rescue us from the evil one. “If you forgive those who sin against you, your heavenly Father will forgive you. But if you refuse to forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins.”

Observation

All of us have been hurt by someone at some point in our lives, whether it was when your sibling took your favorite toy when you were little, or a friend at school getting the part in the school play that you wanted. You feel as if this person had stabbed you in the back, right? I remember one time in high school, the guy I had a crush on at the time asked my friend to go to the homecoming dance with him instead of asking me. I was hurt by that, especially since he asked my friend and I thought she had my back. I ended up going to the dance with someone else and having a great time anyway. It took me a little while to forgive my friend, and the guy I had a crush on, but what a relief when I finally let it go.

Application

The passage of scripture referenced above is so great, because it’s Jesus teaching us how to pray. The disciples were asking Jesus how to pray, and Jesus gave these specific instructions to us. These directions are just as relevant to us in our lives today as they were the day that Jesus spoke them. Sometimes it may be a hard thing to do, but forgiveness is key to unlocking what God has for you. If we are holding unforgiveness towards someone who hurt us, whether it is our friend or our enemy, the scripture says that the Heavenly Father will not forgive our sins. This might be a hard pill to swallow for some of us who have been very hurt, but God’s grace gives us the capacity to forgive those people. God has good things planned for us and He knows what’s best for us. This is why He has asked us to walk in forgiveness.

Prayer

Lord, I pray that You would show me how to apply what I have learned today to my daily life. Show me areas of my life where I need to walk in love, grace and forgiveness. If there are any specific people that I need to work on forgiving, please point them out to me. By Your grace, let me understand and walk out forgiveness in my life every day. Thank You for helping me with this and thank You for all that You do for me. In Jesus name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE:

Ephesians 4:32

Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

DAY 15 JOURNAL

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DAY#16|

HONOR

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE: 1 Peter 2:15-17

1 Peter 2:15-17 NKJV

15 For this is the will of God, that by doing good you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men-- **16** as free, yet not using liberty as a cloak for vice, but as bondservants of God. **17** Honor all people. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.

Observation

We all have “that one” person in our life that just sets us off. The jerk that cusses me out for no reason or the chick who spreads all the lies about me. What about the teacher that always embarrasses me in class, or my drunk dad who beats my mom? As you get older there’s the ex who cheated on you, and the boss who doesn’t have a clue what they are doing or how much you have going on in your life. Sometimes it feels like some people are just out to get us. It is all we can do not to go off on them, not to put them in their place. There was a guy who knew from the time he was a teenager that he was going to be the king, but he had to wait. The current king was literally psycho and this kid was the musician that kept him sane most of the time, but at different moments while he was playing the king threw spears at him. Eventually he had to run for life, because the king was determined to kill him.

Application

This can’t seriously be saying we are supposed to “Honor all people.” I read today’s scripture and think God is it really your “will”? How can we be expected to respect, value or revere someone who treats me like I’m something they stepped on that morning? I mean, surely David when he was running for his life didn’t actually have to honor king Saul. Twice he had the chance to kill him and everyone would have thought him justified, but he didn’t because that king had been anointed by God. (You can read more about this story in 1 Samuel 17-31) So here’s the thing, every person we encounter was created by God with wonder and for a purpose, therefore they are deserving of honor. Not because of what they do or how they live, but simply because they live. That kid, David, was way more than just some king, he was later known as, “a man after My (God’s) own heart, who will do all My will.” Acts 13:22b He realized no matter how Saul treated him it was God’s will that he honor him. Ironically the first part of today’s reading says, “that by doing good you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men.” Showing honor to all people, not just the ones we get along with, is one of the ways God silences the pesky ones. Honor God by honoring others, and He will take care of you!

Prayer

Dear God, thank you that you made me in awe and wonder. Please, through your Holy Spirit, help me to see myself and others through your eyes, and give me the heart and strength to honor

all people. Thank you that you are my defender and I can trust you to take care of me. In Jesus Name – Amen!

MEMORY VERSE:

Romans 12:9-13

Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spirit fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

DAY 16 JOURNAL

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DAY#17|

SERVING

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE: Luke 10:38-42

Luke 10:38-42 NKJV

Now it happened as they went that He entered a certain village; and a certain woman named Martha welcomed Him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard His word. But Martha was distracted with much serving, and she approached Him and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me."

And Jesus answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her."

Observation

Service with a smile :-)

The one observation I want to point out is Martha's attitude. Martha wasn't committed to service with a smile. She was upset that she was the only one working. I wonder how this story would have changed if Martha happily offered to do all the work herself so her sister could benefit from the teachings of Jesus. Would Jesus have said anything to her at all?

When we commit ourselves to serve the Lord, we are really committing ourselves to serve other people. But that service is not considered good unless we are serving with the right attitude. Our service should always make the people we are serving feel like we genuinely care about them.

Application

Nobody likes to go to a restaurant and get served by a cranky waiter. It's so much better when the person serving you has a great attitude about the work they are doing. The same goes for any area in life where you are required to serve.

What kind of attitude do you most often show when you are asked to help serve? Everybody has those days where we don't feel like serving with a smile, but those days should be few and far apart. To be completely honest with you, sometimes the smile is not 100% real. On the bad days, I just keep smiling anyway. I find that smiling anyway will often turn my bad day into a good one. Why? Because I get a lot of genuine smiles back.

So, whether you are asked to do the dishes at home, help at a youth camp, or volunteer in a soup kitchen feeding the homeless, make sure you are providing service with a smile.

Prayer

Lord, help me to have the right attitude when serving others even on the bad days. Let my attitude bring honor to God and be a good witness to others. Help me to recognize when my attitude is wrong and give me the strength to change it. Thank you for your love and grace in my life. Amen.

MEMORY VERSE:

Mark 10:45

For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

DAY 17 JOURNAL

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DAY#18|

GENEROSITY

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE: Mark 12:41-44

Mark 12:41-44 NIV

Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents. Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything – all she had to live on.”

Observation

Have you ever listened to the missionary speak at your church and felt like Jesus was speaking to your heart to give in the missionary offering? That \$20 bucks you JUST earned mowing the yard for your parents? What about that time you received that perfect birthday gift, you know from the department store that you LOVE, and later you felt in your heart you should give it away to a friend who is less fortunate? I myself have had many instances where I’ve felt impressed to give of my time, a possession I own, or to give money to someone as an offering. Not too long ago though the selfishness in my heart was revealed to me. I had 2 items in my kitchen that were identical - except one had a few more scratches than the other. It wasn’t in quite as good of condition. I was going to give one of them to my daughter for her new home. Which one do I give away and which one do I keep? After a few moments of contemplating, I realized I needed to give her the nicer one. I believe that is the intention the Lord is speaking to us; it’s about the sincere generosity of our heart.

Application

I love the principle Jesus is teaching us in this passage of scripture in Mark, using the simple beauty of an elderly woman whose husband was deceased and she was very, very poor. What if this was one of our grandparents? In context, Jesus is sitting back watching the people giving their offerings in the temple/church. In previous passages the leaders of that day were condemned by Jesus for exploiting widows. As he watched, many wealthy people some legal and financial leaders, gave large amounts of money. It was no sacrifice for them! Some did not do it “to be seen afront people” with a boastful attitude, but some did. Then all the sudden this poor widow walks up and gives what amounted to just a FEW pennies. Jesus calls his disciples over to himself and praises the widow woman! Jesus in his sovereignty already knew what little money she had, it was the last few cents she had to live on! He also knew her love for him, her generosity and her HEART. God tells us in his word, he will bless us when we give cheerfully so much that it will overflow - to the point we won’t even have room to contain all of his returned blessings. I believe that day... that widow went home to more blessings than we can even possibly imagine!

Prayer

Lord, I pray that you will help me apply what I have learned today to my daily life. I thank you for your word and how you speak to us through your word. Search my heart. Speak to my heart that I will be a giver; not selfish but a generous giver. I thank you for the opportunities you give us to bless your Kingdom and other people! Help me to hear you, listen and obey. In Jesus name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE:**2 Corinthians 9:7**

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

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DAY#19|

FAMILY LIFE

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE: Ephesians 6:1-3

Ephesians 6 1-3

“**1** Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. **2** “Honor your father and mother” (this is the first commandment with a promise), **3** “that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land.”

Observation

‘Because I said so’, ‘what part of no don’t you understand?’, ‘This is my final warning.’ We have all heard these types of phrases from our parents once or twice and if we’re being honest with ourselves maybe more than that. At times you may feel that you and your parents have absolutely nothing in common. They act strange, talk strange and have expectations that you may feel aren’t realistic. Like a clean room all the time. Regardless of their embarrassing ways they do truly love you unconditionally and want all that God has in store for your life. You may live in a single parent family or maybe you’re being raised by grandparents or even aunts and uncles. We can even have spiritual parents. Maybe someone has come along side you and been guiding you spiritually. But, no matter who God has placed in your life as the role of parent, it is important to realize what God expects from you as His child. The bible states it very clearly, obedience and honor.

Application

What I find so awesome about this scripture is that God is basically giving us the answer to the test. If you want to live a long life, here is the answer: Honor and Obey your parent because it is the right thing to do. He isn’t trying to manipulate you into cleaning your room or taking the trash out, He is simply giving you the opportunity of choice. He has set before you two options: you can honor and obey what your parents say and live a long and happy life or choose not to and most likely be grounded and end up doing twice the work you would have had to do in the first place. Take a moment and think about the last time you were with your parents. Were your actions honorable? Did you talk back? Make fun of them to your friends? What are some ways that you could show your parents honor and obedience today? Doing your chores without being asked, being thoughtful and polite, doing something that is not normally your responsibility are ways you can show honor and obedience to your parents. When we obey the word of God and do what His scripture says, we not only honor our parents, but we honor God, in return He will reward you greatly.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, I know your desire for us is to be obedient and honor those you have placed over our lives to guide us. Help me today as I make the decision to honor and obey those whom you have placed over my life. Give me strength and wisdom to make the right choice, especially

when I am not wanting to. Help me see the bigger picture, as I know you have a plan for me and my family.
In Jesus name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE:

Ephesians 6:1-3

**Children obey your parents in the Lord, for this right. Honor your father and mother-
which is the first commandment with a promise -so that it may go well with you and that
you may enjoy long life on the earth.**

DAY 19 JOURNAL

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DAY#20|

DEALING WITH DISAPPOINTMENTS

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE: *Judges 6:11-18*

Judges 6:11-18 NLT

11 Then the angel of the Lord came and sat beneath the great tree at Ophrah, which belonged to Joash of the clan of Abiezer. Gideon son of Joash was threshing wheat at the bottom of a winepress to hide the grain from the Midianites. **12** The angel of the Lord appeared to him and said, “Mighty hero, the Lord is with you!” **13** “Sir,” Gideon replied, “if the Lord is with us, why has all this happened to us? And where are all the miracles our ancestors told us about? Didn’t they say, ‘The Lord brought us up out of Egypt’? But now the Lord has abandoned us and handed us over to the Midianites.” **14** Then the Lord turned to him and said, “Go with the strength you have, and rescue Israel from the Midianites. I am sending you!” **15** “But Lord,” Gideon replied, “how can I rescue Israel? My clan is the weakest in the whole tribe of Manasseh, and I am the least in my entire family!” **16** The Lord said to him, “I will be with you. And you will destroy the Midianites as if you were fighting against one man.” **17** Gideon replied, “If you are truly going to help me, show me a sign to prove that it is really the Lord speaking to me. **18** Don’t go away until I come back and bring my offering to you.” He answered, “I will stay here until you return.”

Observation

This is almost comical! Gideon is minding his own business, taking care of his assignment for the day...then he’s interrupted. He developed feelings of dread and fear regarding his family’s situation. He was disappointed because he felt that God had abandoned him; so his only focus was to gather grain. Peek-a-Boo! *I found you*, the Lord basically says. *I need you. You aren’t as weak as you think. I see you as strong.* Various disappointments caused me, for years after becoming a Christian, to not see myself how God sees me in His Word. The more obedient that I became to the Word of God, the more that I was able to push past my own disappointments to embrace who God says that I am.

Application

I love that Gideon, although unsure of himself and his support system, worked through his feelings to become who God said he was. Disappointment can cause you to be in a place of depression, sadness, and even doubts. The journey to becoming who God wants us to be may begin in our disappointments and insecurities. Can you push past your disappointments and insecurities to believe what God’s word says about you? Do you have questions about where you

are? Do you think that God will or can handle your feelings of despair? Think about your own journey. Can you name a time when you were reassured that God was with you?

Prayer

Lord Jesus, It's me again! Today, I ask you to help me examine my heart and deal with my disappointments. Thank you for reassuring me constantly in Scriptures that you will be with me. I pray that you help me when I am disappointed, depressed, confused, or insecure with who I am. Thank you for always being there for me and keeping your promises. In Jesus name. Amen.

MEMORY VERSE

Romans 3:23

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

DAY 20 JOURNAL

S	<i>SCRIPTURE</i>	O	<i>OBSERVATION</i>	A	<i>APPLICATION</i>	P	<i>PRAYER</i>
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DAY#21|

DEVELOPING GOALS

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE: Philippians 3:12-14

Philippians 3:12-14

12 I don't mean to say that I have already achieved these things or that I have already reached perfection. But I press on to possess that perfection for which Christ Jesus first possessed me. **13** No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, **14** I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us.

Observation

When I was in Middle School (only a few years ago!) I began to create a bucket list of things I wanted to accomplish. One was actually getting through Middle School! I did it...some days were tougher than others so when I made it to High School, I was pumped about it. I look back on some of my goals when I was younger and laugh a little however the greatest goal that I continue to strive at is my relationship with Christ. I am not there yet, but I want to press for "what lies ahead."

Application

Paul mentions something incredible in this passage that we need to apply to reach our goals...Forgetting the past. It is very difficult to reach your destination when you allow your past to haunt you. Paul reminds us in his letter that we are to look forward to the things ahead. **PLAN** out your goals, **PURSUE** your dreams, and **PERSEVERE** in the vision Christ has made plain to you. Overall make sure you let go of the past things that hold you back in your life.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, help me understand that setting goals in my life helps produce my future. I want to trust that when things don't work out the way that I plan, you have the ultimate plan for my life.

MEMORY VERSE:

Proverbs 21:5

The plans of the diligent lead to profit as surely as haste leads to poverty.

DAY 21 JOURNAL

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

S	<i>SCRIPTURE</i>	O	<i>OBSERVATION</i>	A	<i>APPLICATION</i>	P	<i>PRAYER</i>
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