

DAILY DEVOTIONAL

Popular

WEEK 2

DOING BIG THINGS STARTS WITH SMALL STEPS.

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

HEBREWS 10:24 NIV

DAY 1

So many of us want to do big things for Jesus. Yet sometimes, that big vision for big things causes us to lose sight of the importance of smaller things we can do for Him, too. But some of the smallest things can turn out to have the biggest impact. Take for example what this verse calls us to do: to spur each other on. In other words, to encourage each other toward what’s best for our lives. To offer that kind of encouragement to someone—though a seemingly small act in the moment—can have a big impact. Spend time making a list of people you can spur on or encourage toward good things this week. Then, choose one person from your list to encourage this week in a small way.

“Share with the Lord’s people who are in need. Practice hospitality.”

ROMANS 12:13 NIV

DAY 2

Sharing is a practice most of us learn before we can even talk. As kids, we’re told to share our toys. Easy enough, right? Well, as we grow older, what we’re called to share becomes more difficult. Soon, it’s not just our possessions, but our time, our energy, our money, our talents—whatever we have, God calls us to share with those who might need it. And if we’re honest, that isn’t always an easy thing to do! But as this verse reminds us, part of using what God has given us well means using it for the sake of others. That will make a big impact and have a major influence on the world around you! Memorize this verse as a simple reminder to share what you have with others.

“If anyone forces you to go one mile, go with them two miles. Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you.”

MATTHEW 5:41-42 NIV

DAY 3

Have you ever heard someone encourage someone else to “go the extra mile”? Well, that idea comes from this verse! If passing a Jewish person, Roman soldiers could order them to carry their stuff for one mile. Here, Jesus is encouraging the Jewish people to not stop there, but to go another mile. To double their generosity. The same encouragement applies to us today! We have so many opportunities to use our influence to be generous and go the extra mile for someone else. This week, look for ways to step out and be generous. Go the extra mile for a friend, family member, teacher, coach, Small Group Leader, or someone in your community. Watch how that generosity impacts not just them, but you as well.

“Therefore, let us stop passing judgment on one another. Instead, make up your mind not to put any stumbling block or obstacle in the way of a brother or sister.”

ROMANS 14:13 NIV

DAY 4

Whether we realize it or not, we all have influence. And because of that, we have a choice with how we use it: for the good of others or not. When we do things like pass judgment, or say harsh words, or cause conflict, we’re not using our influence the way it was intended. Instead, we’re dragging others down, putting obstacles in their path for them to stumble on as they try to move forward. That’s certainly not the kind of influence God calls us to have! This week, talk to a Small Group Leader or trusted adult about ways you might be causing others to stumble. Ask for their help to make a shift toward using your influence to encourage those people instead.

“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.”

ROMANS 12:2 NIV

DAY 5

It’s really easy to get caught up in the things of the world. It’s easy to measure what we have or don’t have against what the world tells us is important. When we measure our lives against the world’s standards, we’ll always feel like we’re coming up short. In order to change the way we see ourselves, we have to change our minds. We have to renew them. We have to choose new thoughts. When we find ourselves tempted to think we aren’t enough, or don’t have what it takes, or are falling behind, we can ask God to give us new, true thoughts. This week, ask God to renew your mind and change your thoughts about who you are and what He’s given you.
