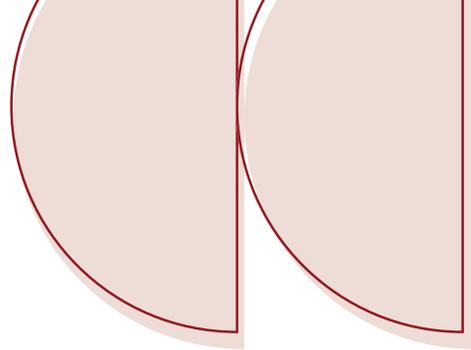


# DAY 6

**For once you were full of darkness, but now you have light from the Lord. So live as people of light! Ephesians 5:8 NLT**

Have you ever been in a dark room? If you have, then you know just how hard it is to see anything around you. You may not be able to see a thing until the light comes on! But as soon as even the tiniest bit of light comes in? Then you're able to see, understand, and experience things more clearly. This is what Jesus does for us in life. When we follow Jesus, we start to see things more clearly. The more we know Jesus, the more light we'll see shining in every part of our lives.

**Today, go for a walk while the sun is still up. Pay attention to the way the light shines on things around you. Let it be a reminder of Jesus with you and working to bring light to your life.**



# DAY 7

**But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Galatians 5:22-23**

Memorizing Scripture is a huge part of our faith! It allows us to know what God says is true in times when we need to remember it the most.

**So today, work to memorize this passage. Set the words of the verse to the melody of a song you like. Sing that song to yourself this week to help you memorize this verse in a fun, creative way.**

# DAILY DEVOTIONAL

FOR AN  
**everyday faith.**

STEP BY STEP / WEEK 2

MIDDLE SCHOOL

# DAY 1

**Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Proverbs 3:5 NLT**

One word stands out in this verse: all. We are called to love God with all of our hearts. Of course, this may be easier said than done. When we struggle to trust God, when things don't go the way we wanted, when we want to do what we want—that's when we're tempted to only give God part of our hearts. But as the writer of this Proverb points out, that isn't going to get us far. Depending on our own understanding won't get us where we want to go, but trusting in God with all of our hearts will help us keep going no matter what.

**Talk with a parent, mentor, or other trusted adult about what you think it means for you to trust God with all of your heart.**

# DAY 2

**But very truly I tell you, it is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. John 16:7 NIV**

At first glance, these words from Jesus may be hard to understand. Jesus is saying here that in His human body He can only be physically present in one place at a time. But Jesus came to be with us—to be present with us all the time in every way. How? By sending the Holy Spirit to live in us. When you feel lonely, when you're tempted to do something you shouldn't, when you're anxious, when you're not sure what to do, you can remember that the Spirit of God is with you to help you, guide you, and be present in whatever you're facing.

**Pray today, asking God to remind you that the Spirit is there with you in everything, each step of the way.**

## DAY 3

**But when the Father sends the Advocate as my representative—that is, the Holy Spirit—he will teach you everything and will remind you of everything I have told you. John 14:26 NLT**

Imagine being one of Jesus' closest followers while He was on Earth. Getting to be in Jesus' presence, listen to His teachings, and see His powerful miracles? How cool would that be?! Well, based on what Jesus says in this verse, you and I can experience all that and more in a different way today. We can experience every part of God's power because God's Spirit, the Holy Spirit, is with us! When we believe in and follow Jesus, the Holy Spirit is in us and at work in our lives. That Spirit will help us experience Jesus and remember what's true about God every single day

**Today, share with a friend or your small group one way you've seen the Holy Spirit work in your life.**

## DAY 4

**So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves. Galatians 5:16 NLT**

Have you ever noticed that the more junk food you eat, the more junk food you want to eat? When we eat candy, cookies, and ice cream, we crave candy, cookies, and ice cream. But on the flip side, the more we eat healthy foods, the more we crave healthy foods over time. Well, the same is true in our faith. The more we know, experience, and follow Jesus, the more we see the good that comes from our faith. And the more we experience Jesus, the more we crave all that Jesus offers us. The more we can experience a good and full life.

**What's one good thing that has come from your faith? Spend a few minutes writing about it in a note on your phone or in a journal.**

## DAY 5

**Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives. Galatians 5:25 NLT**

*Written by Beatriz, age 18, from Alpharetta, Georgia, USA*

Think of a toy without any batteries. It just sits there and doesn't really do anything. It's still cool and fun to look at, but it's not doing all it was created to do. We are the same way. We obviously have our physical bodies, but deeper than that, we can have the Spirit of God living in us. Yes, I know that's a little weird to think about or hard to imagine. But think back to the toy: without batteries, or without the Spirit, we are not achieving our full potential. The Holy Spirit can change us. It can change how we think and how we act. It can give our lives new meaning and purpose. It helps us to become more like Jesus. Like the verse says, we should let the Spirit lead every part of our lives, and that means letting God guide what we do in our days.

Well, "How do I do that?" you might ask.

And I say: start with prayer.

**Start today by praying and asking God to let the Holy Spirit change you and lead every part of your life.**