

# DAY 6

Look straight ahead, and fix your eyes on what lies before you. Mark out a straight path for your feet; stay on the safe path. Don't get sidetracked; keep your feet from following evil.

**Proverbs 4:25-27 NLT**

"What career will you choose?" "What is next for you?" "Who do you want to be a part of your life?" Life comes at us with pressure, decisions, and expectations to live up to. While these things are important, it's easy to get overwhelmed, which is why this proverb is so helpful. It reminds us that before you start feeling boxed in by all the things you have to decide and do, simplify. Do the next right thing. Take one step. Pressure in life is real but it doesn't have to control you. Practice taking five deep breaths and focus on what's in front of you.

**Today, pick a word or phrase you can repeat to yourself when life feels overwhelming.**

# DAY 7

Memory Verse: For you have been called to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters. But don't use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love.

**Galatians 5:13 NLT**

When we memorize this verse, we can see that we are called to live in freedom. Memorizing scripture helps us to focus on God and prioritize God and understand what Jesus would do in situations we find ourselves in.

**Ways to help you memorize this verse:**

**1. Write out the verse and repeat it to try and memorize it. As you go along, erase a word or two until you can recite the verse from memory.**

**2. Try coming up with a song, or rhythm, to the verse to help you memorize it.**

# DAILY DEVOTIONAL

FOR AN  
**everyday faith.**

WHAT I REALLY WANT / WEEK 2

HIGH SCHOOL

## DAY 1

"Work with enthusiasm, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people."

**Ephesians 6:7 NLT**

It's tempting to think that when it comes to our faith, the big things matter most. Maybe we imagine being an influencer telling thousands about Jesus or one day serving as a missionary around the world when what really matters is how we do what we do. That's everything from how we treat our siblings to how we talk to our teachers. It's the attitude we have when we take out the trash and go the extra mile in the group project. Using our freedom in a way that honors others in the smallest ways is working for the Lord – even if no one sees or appreciates us for it.

**Today, pick a small way you can use your freedom to serve others.**

## DAY 2

So, my dear brothers and sisters, be strong and immovable. Always work enthusiastically for the Lord, for you know that nothing you do for the Lord is ever useless."

**1 Corinthians 15:58 NLT**

Sometimes it can feel like the things we have to do now, have nothing to do with our lives later. (Like Calculus, for example. What is the point?!?) If we aren't careful, we can begin to believe that the only stuff that matters comes later— like marriage, or buying a house, or donating to charities as an adult. This letter to the Corinthians tells us nothing we ever do is useless. No matter what our age, or what our task, there is purpose in it because we are working for God.

**What's one thing you find yourself thinking doesn't matter right now? What is one thing you can do to change the way you see those things as you do them for God?**

## DAY 3

**“We serve God whether people honor us or despise us, whether they slander us or praise us.”**

**2 Corinthians 6:8a NLT**

When we create positive change for ourselves, sometimes others try to bring you back to the old version of yourself, mock you, or grow jealous. When we don't feel supported by the people around us, it can be hard to stay motivated. If we only look for the applause or approval of others, we'll be disappointed, but doing things because God wants the best for us will give us the willpower to keep going when we want to quit. Ultimately, the changes aren't about others. They are for God and for us.

**What is one area where you don't feel supported, but know you need to keep doing the right thing? Pray and ask God for the determination to keep going.**

## DAY 4

**“Serve only the Lord your God and fear him alone. Obey his commands, listen to his voice, and cling to him.”**

**Deuteronomy 13:4 NLT**

We live in a world with constant distractions; where new ways to get your attention are always being discovered. Staying focused on what truly matters can be difficult. The “voices” around us can distract us from the things that matter most—to us and to God. This verse talks about listening to God's voice. When do you feel like you hear God best? What can you do to today, to quiet the other voices and pay attention to what God might be saying to you right here and right now?

**Today, make a plan for how you can make these things a part of your everyday life.**

## DAY 5

**Am I now trying to win the approval of human beings, or of God? Or am I trying to please people? If I were still trying to please people, I would not be a servant of Christ.**

**Galatians 1:10 NIV**

*Written by Lexy, age 21 from Burleson, Texas, USA*

Have you ever caught yourself wanting the newest shoes or latest iPhone so that you can keep up with the trends? I definitely have, and if you have that's okay because I am here to share some good news with you. The good news is that because of Jesus you do not have to worry about keeping up with the latest trends or being part of the popular group at school. With Jesus, you are enough because He died for your sins and loves you so much. Because of Jesus, you do not have to worry about pleasing people, only God. So please God by sharing God's grace, love, and mercy with those around you. One way for you to show God's love to others would mean being a person who loves those around you, for who they are, not what they wear or who they are friends with.

**Today lean into this verse and pray for God to show you the places in your life where you look for human approval instead of God's.**