

# DAILY DEVOTIONAL

FAM / Week 3

*“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.”*

*Hebrews 13:8 NIV*

## DAY 1

Sometimes the choices the people in your family make seem to impact your life more than your own choices. When your sister moves out, when your mom decides you have to change schools, when your dad leaves, when your sibling makes a bad decision that affects the whole mood in your home—whatever it is, their decisions disrupt your life. They bring about change, and that can leave us feeling uncertain or out of control. Thankfully, we have this truth from Hebrews to remember! No matter what changes we face in our family, God and His promises remain the same. That is something we can find comfort in. Share this verse with your fam this week, letting it remind you that God stays the same no matter what else changes.

*“And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.”*

*1 John 4:21 NIV*

## DAY 2

Sometimes it's easier to be kind to the people who *don't* live with us. Our friends, our teammates, the kids in our small group? We get along just fine with them! But our parents, our siblings, the people we share a space with every single day? Not so much! Here, though, we're reminded that if we love God, we must also love *everyone*. This means that every person we come into contact with—in our home and family and outside of it—are people we need to love. Think about how you can start by loving those closest to you. Make a list of all the ways you can love your family or the people in your home. Then, give it a shot this week!

*“Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.”*

*1 Corinthians 13:7 NLT*

## DAY 3

We all want our homes to be places that feel safe. We want them to be filled with trust, hope, and more! But sadly, that's not always the case. Sometimes we get hurt. Sometimes people make mistakes. Sometimes they even walk away. While you can't control what other people in your family do, you can control how you react and respond to them. And you have the power to choose the kind of love talked about here: a love that never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every change. Pick one of the words in this verse and ask a friend or Small Group Leader to help you come up with ideas for how to love like this at home.

<p><i>"Honor your father and mother. Then you will live a long, full life in the land the Lord your God is giving you."</i></p> <p><i>Exodus 20:12 NLT</i></p>	<p><b>DAY 4</b></p> <p>Honor is a funny word, isn't it? It almost sounds like we need to bow down to our parents like they're royalty or something! Well, that's not it exactly. What honor really looks like is choosing to respect them—to love them by respecting them. That means holding your tongue when you want to talk back, not rolling your eyes when your dad says something embarrassing, and choosing to follow your parents' rules even when they're not in the room. Sometime this week, ask your mom, dad, or whoever you live with if there's something you can do that would make them feel more honored. Sure, it may not be fun or easy, but it's worth it! Then, try to honor them with that action this week.</p>
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<p><i>"Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other."</i></p> <p><i>Romans 12:10 NLT</i></p>	<p><b>DAY 5</b></p> <p>Putting others ahead of ourselves doesn't come naturally for most of us. It's natural to think of our needs, our wants, our desires first. But here, we're reminded that the way to love each other with genuine affection—to really and truly show the people around us that we care—is to put them first. So, ask yourself: <i>What would it look like for me to put others first in my fam this week?</i> Maybe it's doing more chores, or helping with homework, or simply saying more kind words. Whatever it is, make an effort to show love to the people around you by doing one thing to put them first this week.</p>
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<p><i>"Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble."</i></p> <p><i>1 Peter 3:8 NIV</i></p>	<p><b>DAY 6</b></p> <p>Part of being in a family is walking through the ups and downs of life together. Next time you see someone in your family who's sad, struggling, or just having a bad day, let them know you're there for them. Giving them a hug, offering to play a game, or simply sitting and listening to what they're going through are simple ways to show compassion to the people closest to you. Who in your home or fam could use a little compassion or kindness right now? Go out of your way this week to be that for them, comforting them and letting them know you're there through whatever it is they may be feeling or facing.</p>
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<p><i>"By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."</i></p> <p><i>John 13:35 NIV</i></p>	<p><b>DAY 7</b></p> <p>Repetition is key for memory! The more you read, write, or say this verse out loud, the better it will stick in your mind and be there when you need to remember it next. So today, put it on a sticky note and place it on your bathroom mirror. Every morning, read it to yourself and even say it aloud. Aim to memorize the verse as you practice repeating it over and over this week.</p>
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