

# DAILY DEVOTIONAL

## It's Personal / Week 2

By faith we understand **that the entire universe was formed at God's command**, that what we now see did not come from anything that can be seen.

HEBREWS 11:3 NLT

### DAY 1

Sometimes it's hard to believe that God, who created the universe from nothing, would know or even care about you. If you've ever stopped to look up at the stars in the night sky or even the limitlessness of the ocean's expanse, it's easy to feel small. But the same God who created all of that, not only knows you, but cares about the things that matter to you.

Whatever is weighing on your heart today, whether it feels as big as the universe or as small as a grain of sand, God cares and wants you to share that with Him. **Today, go outside and take time to look up at the sky and just stare for a few minutes. Talk to God and tell Him something big or small.**

Since we are receiving a Kingdom that is unshakable, **let us be thankful and please God by worshipping him** with holy fear and awe.

HEBREWS 12:28 NLT

### DAY 2

When's the last time that you worshipped God by thanking Him? No matter how you feel about God right now, focusing on gratitude can shift our hearts and our perspective.

**Write down a list of 25 things that you're thankful for.** Writing down a list of 10 things might be simple enough, but dig deep until you've reached 25, focusing on people and things that bring you joy. When you've finished your list, post it somewhere that you can see it every day (by your bed, on the bathroom mirror or set it as the lock screen on your phone). **Take a moment to worship God by thanking Him for providing these 25 things, or people, in your life.**

**So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen.** For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever.

2 CORINTHIANS 4:18 NLT

### DAY 3

Have you ever seen an optical illusion? Depending on what you choose to focus on, you can see something different than what you first saw when you looked at it! Perspective can be a tricky thing, but once you figure out what to focus on, the shift becomes a little bit easier.

**Ask a trusted adult in your life about the things that mattered to them in high school versus what matters now. How has their perspective changed?** What's one thing that you can focus on that will help change your perspective about what matters today and in the future?

**Even before he made the world, God loved us** and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes.

EPHESIANS 1:4 NLT

#### DAY 4

Have you ever thought about the amount of life and history that happened before you were born? You may not be a history buff, but if you think about the hundreds and thousands of years that came before you, it's enough to make your life feel like just a blip on the timeline of history. With those hundreds and thousands of years, came hundreds and thousands and millions of lives that came before yours. But even through all of that time, and with all of those lives, there has never been another you.

God made you uniquely, and He knows you and loves you. Yes, you. **Read the Creation account in Genesis 1.** Even before God created the world, He knew you, loved you, and chose you.

And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.

ROMANS 8:28 NLT

#### DAY 5

Have you ever seen a beautiful tapestry or tried cross-stitching? On one side, you can see a beautiful image made up of tiny threads woven together, but if you were to ever flip it over, the back side is a tangled web of threads. Sometimes our life feels like the back of the tapestry, all tangled and chaotic, with no sense of direction or order. But even when we don't see it, and even when we don't realize it, God is working behind the scenes to weave together the beautiful image on the other side.

**Pray this personalized version of Romans 8:28, and thank God for weaving the unseen tapestry of your life. "Thank you, God for causing everything to work together for my good."**

But you belong to God, my dear children. **You have already won a victory over those people,** because the Spirit who lives in you is greater than the spirit who lives in the world.

1 JOHN 4:4 NLT

#### DAY 6

Have you ever watched something, but you already knew the ending? Maybe it was a sports game that aired earlier, or a competition of some sort and the winner had already been announced. Maybe it was a movie and someone spoiled the plot twist and the ending, but you watched it anyway. Did it change how you watched the game or experienced the storyline?

The Apostle John gives us a spoiler alert in his letter, and lets us in on the ending when he tells us that we'll experience eternal victory over the enemy's lies and false teachings. **Enjoy a time of worship by listening to the song, "See a Victory" by Elevation Worship. Listen to the words and thank God for promising victory in your life.**

"For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost."

LUKE 19:10 NLT

#### DAY 7

To try to memorize this verse, use a dry erase board or a pencil to write the whole verse. Each time you say it, erase one word starting with the smaller words, and say it again. Keep erasing words and repeating the verse until you have erased all of the words, but still can say the verse!