

DAILY DEVOTIONAL

It's Personal / Week 3

"Rather, you must grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. All glory to him, both now and forever! Amen."

2 Peter 3:18 NLT

DAY 1

One of the ways we can make our faith personal is by spending time in God's Word. God gets up close and personal with us by teaching us about Himself in Scripture. We get to know the character and personality of God by reading about Jesus in the Bible. The more that we learn about Jesus, the more we learn about God Himself. And as we grow in knowledge of Him and begin to live as He calls us to live, the more we become like Him. So, this week, how can you make it personal by getting to know more about Jesus? What do you already know to be true about Him? And how do you want to be like Him?

"By his divine power, God has given us everything we need for living a godly life. We have received all of this by coming to know him, the one who called us to himself by means of his marvelous glory and excellence."

2 Peter 1:3 NLT

DAY 2

Have you ever gotten a really great gift? Something that made you feel like the person who gave it to you really knew you in a personal way? As this verse reminds us, God gives us a perfect gift: *everything* we need to live the life He's called us to live. This is an invitation for a real, personal relationship with Him. And in accepting that invitation, we receive the gift of knowing God and having Him provide everything we need. Have you accepted this invitation? Or are you interested in learning more about how you can get to know God? Talk with a trusted friend (like your Small Group Leader) about how you can get to know God personally this week.

"I love all who love me. Those who search will surely find me."

Proverbs 8:17 NLT

DAY 3

One of the best things about God is that He doesn't keep Himself from us. We don't have to wonder where He is or what He thinks about us. He has already told us! If we make an effort to get to know God and discover more about Him, we won't be disappointed. Because of His love for us, He makes Himself available to us in all kinds of ways. Through music, in nature, at church, in our relationships—God is all around us! So this week, make an effort to seek God out. Go on a walk, spend time in prayer, keeping reading your Bible, talk to a friend, or listen to worship music. Pay attention to how you find Him in those places.

<p><i>“Love does no wrong to others, so love fulfills the requirements of God’s law.”</i></p> <p>Romans 13:10 NLT</p>	<p>DAY 4</p> <p>Have you ever known someone who didn’t make a mistake? Who never let you down? Chances are even the people you’re closest to have made mistakes that have impacted your relationship. You’ve probably done the same thing a time or two! But what’s cool about your relationship with God is that He can’t make a mistake. He won’t mistreat you. His love is the only love that won’t let you down. And because of His love for us, we can do our best to show that same kind of love to others. Will we always get it right? No! But even making an effort to love others is giving them a look at the way God loves them, too. How can you practice loving someone with God’s love this week?</p>
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<p><i>“But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God.”</i></p> <p>John 1:12 NLT</p>	<p>DAY 5</p> <p>For a lot of people, the closest relationships in your life are your family! Nobody knows you better or feels more personal to you than them. Well, the good news is your family doesn’t just mean your parents and siblings. Your family is even more than just your grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins. When you believe in Jesus, you become part of the family of God. That means that anyone else who believes and follows Jesus is family to you. In them, you have people who will support you, encourage you, and care about you in a real, personal way. This week, think about the people in your life (like your Small Group!) who are a part of the family of God alongside of you.</p>
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<p><i>“The Word gave life to everything that was created, and his life brought light to everyone. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it.”</i></p> <p>John 1:4-5 NLT</p>	<p>DAY 6</p> <p>Without light, it’s difficult for us to see or be seen by others. That’s why a verse like this is so important for us to remember. When we feel unseen, unknown, or unimportant, we can remember that God’s love shines a light. We are seen in His light. We are known in His light. And He shines that light because He loves us. And in return? Well, we can shine His light on others in our lives who need it. Write the word “LIGHT” where you can see it often this week. Each time you do, let it remind you that God shines His light on you. Then, make an effort to shine that same light on others who need His love in their lives.</p>
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<p><i>“For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost.”</i></p> <p>Luke 19:10 NLT</p>	<p>DAY 7</p> <p>Getting to know God personally means learning His Word. The more you get to know the Bible, the more you get to know God. That’s one of the ways you can make it personal! So today, get creative with memorizing this verse. Set it to music, draw a picture that reminds you of it, or try to put it to rhyme. Practice getting to know God by memorizing this verse in a fun way.</p>
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