

DAILY DEVOTIONAL

Break It Down / Week 1

“All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.”

2 Timothy 3:16-17 NIV

DAY 1

Being equipped is so important in life. Whether you are doing a job or playing a sport, if you don't have the right equipment, it will be hard to complete your task. God gave us the Bible to equip us to live this life. To live it according to His plan and purpose. The more we read and memorize Scripture, the more we can apply what we know from it to our lives. Challenge yourself to spend time reading a little bit of the Bible this week. As you read, think about the ways that what you are reading can be applied to your life. How can what you're reading help you live the life God is calling you to live?

“But don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says.”

James 1:22 NLT

DAY 2

Reading the Bible helps us better understand who God is and what He wants for our lives. But simply reading it isn't a magic fix for our problems. We can't just go to the Bible with a problem or struggle and expect what we've read to just suddenly work for us. We have to *apply* God's Word to our lives. We have to take in what we've read and actually do what it says. The more we act on what we've learned in the Bible, the more we're putting our faith into action by doing what God calls us to do. Talk to a friend, Small Group Leader, or other trusted adult in your life today. Ask them to help challenge you to actually do what you know God asks you to do in the Bible this week.

*“Give me understanding and I will obey your instructions;
I will put them into practice with all my heart.”*

Psalms 119:34 NLT

DAY 3

God knows that sometimes the Bible can be difficult for us to understand. That's why He didn't leave us to figure it out on our own. In the Bible, God promises to give us the understanding we need to not only take in what He's saying to us, but to apply it to our lives. He promises to help us understand it. All we have to do is ask! So today, before you read the Bible, ask God to give you the understanding you need. Pray that He would open your eyes to what He's trying to teach you and help you apply it to your life.

<p><i>“Therefore, everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.”</i></p> <p><i>Matthew 7:24 NIV</i></p>	<p>DAY 4</p> <p>Have you ever built something out of blocks or Legos? If you have, then you know just how important the foundation is. It’s what supports the entire structure you’re building! Anything built on a strong foundation is going to stay standing, no matter what difficulties may come. And the same is true for our lives! When we make God’s Word the foundation—the thing that supports and keeps us steady—we know we’ll be able to stay standing no matter what challenges may come our way in life. Is there a struggle you’re facing right now? Text a trusted adult or Small Group Leader. Ask them to share a verse that can help you build your foundation to stand on as you walk through this time.</p>
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<p><i>“All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right.”</i></p> <p><i>2 Timothy 3:16 NLT</i></p>	<p>DAY 5</p> <p>Wouldn’t it be nice if we had some easy way to know what was right and wrong? A way to be sure we’re doing the right thing? Well, the Bible is just that! The more we learn what God says in the Bible, the more we’ll grow in our knowledge of what’s right—what’s best—for our lives. Is there an area of your life where you’re struggling to know the right thing to do? A decision you need to make, a conversation you need to have, a challenge you’re facing? Turn to the Bible this week for guidance! Ask your Small Group Leader for help finding wisdom to know what’s right for you in God’s Word.</p>
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<p><i>“The grass withers and the flowers fade, but the word of our God stands forever.”</i></p> <p><i>Isaiah 40:8 NLT</i></p>	<p>DAY 6</p> <p>If you step outside, chances are high you won’t see much that’s been around for more than just a few years. The flowers were probably planted recently, the grass might’ve been trimmed last week, and even the trees are relatively young compared to the rest of creation! The only thing we can be sure will last forever? The only thing that sticks around until the end? God’s Word! His truths have been around since the beginning of time, and they’ll remain until the end. By reading the Bible, we can learn more about what God has to say—not just yesterday or today, but tomorrow as well. Take a moment to look outside today and thank God for the way His truth and creation speak to you.</p>
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<p><i>“Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.”</i></p> <p><i>Psalms 119:105 NIV</i></p>	<p>DAY 7</p> <p>God uses Scripture to show us the way. To give us wisdom to light our path and show us how to live. The more we know His word, the better we’ll be at applying it to our lives. So this week, try to memorize this verse. Write it down on a note card each day, practicing writing it more and more from memory each time.</p>
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