

STUMIN

FAMILY DAILY DEVOTIONAL



LET'S TALK ABOUT BULLYING | JANUARY 18-24, 2023
SEE THE VALUE IN EVERYONE.

*If it is possible, as far
as it depends on you,
live at peace with
everyone.*

Romans 12:18 NIV

>> JANUARY 18

Memorizing Scripture helps us know God's truth when we need it most. When we find ourselves in situations that are difficult or make us feel alone, we can hold on to what God says is true to help us navigate through them. So work to memorize this passage today!

Read this verse three times. Now think about a situation in your life where this Scripture could be helpful to you. Then read the verse three times again, thinking about this specific situation as you do. Let it help you remember what's true about God in this and all circumstances!

*A gentle answer
turns away wrath,
but a harsh word
stirs up anger.*

Proverbs 15:1 NIV

>> JANUARY 19

Have you ever had a conflict with someone that got out of control? Maybe you didn't mean for it to turn into such a big deal, but by the end of it, harsh words were said, feelings were hurt, and the relationship was damaged as a result. We've all been there! We all know the sting of harsh words said to us or harsh words we've spoken to others. But here's a tip: The next time you find yourself in an argument, stop and think about using your words wisely. Because, as the writer of Proverbs notes, it's gentle answers that will turn away anger. That's what will bring healing in our relationships!

*Don't be concerned
for your own good
but for the good
of others.*

*1 Corinthians 10:24
NLT*

>> JANUARY 20

It's difficult to navigate things like bullying, conflict, and arguments. Knowing how to stand up for those being hurt, learning what to do when we have a fight or an argument with a friend, choosing to speak up when we're the ones being made fun of or hurt—those are challenging things to do. But thankfully, God didn't leave us to figure these things out without help. Verses like this one remind us where to begin: by being concerned with the good of others and ourselves. If something isn't good for others, we should work to change that. If something isn't good for us, we should speak up to change that, too!

Do not repay evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone.

Romans 12:17 NIV

>> JANUARY 21

When someone treats you poorly, it's natural to want to get back at them. But just because it's natural doesn't mean it's what's best for us. God tells us to do the right thing for others no matter what—even when they've done the wrong thing to us! Does that mean we let people treat us however they want? Of course not! But it does mean that we choose to respond in love, both for ourselves and the other person. Instead of choosing payback, we choose what's good for all. That means speaking up when we've been wronged, forgiving others, and moving forward in a way that's healthy.

Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"
Matthew 22:37-39 NIV

>> JANUARY 22

Getting along with everyone is a really hard thing to do. Chances are, it's easy for you to vibe with people who are just like you. Why? Because you love you! But people who are different from you? They're not always so easy to love. And people who treat you poorly because you're different than they are? Well, they may be the most difficult to love! In those situations, we can look to Jesus. He modeled for us what it looks like to love people the way God loves us. He called us to love others the way we want to be loved!

So this week, do that! Follow that example from Jesus and find one way to show kindness to someone who isn't always easy for you to love.

So this is my prayer: that your love will flourish and that you will not only love much but well.

Philippians 1:9 MSG

>> JANUARY 23

This verse is in a letter that Paul wrote to the Philippians. He mentions one word over and over again: love. Paul doesn't mean love as a feeling but love that is active and obvious in the way that people treat one another. Paul wanted the Philippians to grow by not only loving others, but by loving others well.

So here's Paul's challenge for you: This week, find someone in your school or your home and love them actively by serving them. As you do, remember that we should not only love others but love them well.

Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who hurt you.

Luke 6:28 NLT

>> JANUARY 24

In most action movies, there are two main characters: a hero and a villain. The heroes are always good, while the villains are always bad. Whether we realize it or not, we tend to think of people in the real world as good or evil, too. But the truth is, there is always more to the story. The people who have hurt you have usually been hurt by others. They're not bad; they're just broken.

We all have a story that has in some way influenced how we interact with others—for better and for worse. The good news is, the story isn't over. Jesus encourages us to be a part of a greater story for those who have experienced the type of brokenness that causes them to behave badly. Our heroic superpower is prayer.