

STUMIN

FAMILY DAILY DEVOTIONAL



SIMPLIFY | JANUARY 24-30, 2024
LET GOD DETERMINE YOUR VIEW OF YOU.

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."

Matthew 22:37-38 NIV

>> JANUARY 24

Memorizing Scripture doesn't just help us keep God's Word in our minds. It changes our hearts! The more we know about God, the more that truth will not only live in our minds, it will transform our hearts to be more like God. That's the goal!

So, work to memorize this passage this week and do it with some friends! Gather some friends or family members. Write the verse down somewhere you all can see it. Then, circle up nearby. Grab a ball and pass it to someone in the circle, who will say the first word of the verse. Then, pass it to someone else who will say the next word. Keep going until you've read the entire verse in your circle. Then, try the game again, this time trying to recite the words by memory as you go.

*The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He will not grow tired or weary, and His understanding no one can fathom.*

Isaiah 40:28b NIV

>> JANUARY 25

People have been debating the creation of the world for a long time. Even the smartest scientists out there are still studying just how it all came to be! As believers in Jesus, we may not always understand how it happened, but we know who created everything we see. We know that the God who loves and values us made every detail of the world we live in, including us!

This week, make a list of some of your favorite things in creation—the beach, the sun, the mountains, the flowers. Thank God for each one as a reminder of God's love and care for all things, including us. Because we're created by God, we have value!

Not a single sparrow can fall to the ground without your Father knowing it. And the very hairs on your head are all numbered. So don't be afraid; you are more valuable to God than a whole flock of sparrows.

Matthew 10:29-31 NLT

>> JANUARY 26

There are a million situations in life that can make us feel like we are not enough. And it can be really easy to believe the lie that you aren't enough or aren't important, especially to a perfect God.

But here's the truth: To God, you are more valuable than you can even understand! So today, take one minute and thank God for loving you and valuing you no matter what. Whenever you feel like you are not enough, go back to the truth that you are always valuable to God!

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, and I have remained faithful.

2 Timothy 4:7 NLT

>> JANUARY 27

All of us want to do a good job, especially at the things that are important to us. It's natural to want to do things well in this life—make good grades, win the game, get the lead role, make the team. But real success isn't determined by how well we perform; rather, it's determined by how we live our lives. Real success comes from living a life that reflects the things that are important to God—loving others, loving God, and loving ourselves.

As you pray today, ask God to help you shift your eyes from other things and instead, look for success in the way you love God, love others, and love yourself.

"I am the good shepherd; I know my own sheep, and they know me."

John 10:14 NLT

>> JANUARY 28

Have you ever wondered if Jesus cares about your interests? Like is Jesus interested in your basketball game or choir concert? A lot of the time we focus on what it means for us to know Jesus, but have you ever stopped to consider that Jesus knows you? He knows your interests, thoughts, and dreams. He's been there for your biggest successes and biggest failures. He knows you better than you even know yourself.

Today, take a few minutes to talk to God about you. Ask Him to help you value yourself and see yourself like He does. The truth is, God knows you AND He still loves you just like you are. That's good news for all of us! What is one way you can value yourself more this week?

I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

Psalms 139:14a NIV

>> JANUARY 29

Have you ever wished something was different about yourself? Sometimes, our insecurities get the best of us. Now, it's normal to have quirks in our personality or even physical features we wish were different. But the reality is that God made you to be exactly who you are. God took great care and used amazing creativity to craft your physical appearance and the unique aspects of your personality. You were made by a Creator who doesn't make mistakes.

Today, talk to someone you trust about your insecurities. Ask for their help staying focused on being exactly who God made YOU to be!

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd sacrifices his life for the sheep."

John 10:11 NLT

>> JANUARY 30

In Jesus's time, His words would have made a lot more sense. People would have understood that shepherds take great care of their sheep, and protect them because they're incapable of protecting themselves. Yet, when He said that He'd "sacrifice his life" for the sheep, He was taking it to another level. You see, Jesus' sacrifice on the cross was for us. He laid down His life so that by believing in Him, we could live. Jesus died because, just like a shepherd cares for his sheep, God cares for us.

Today, think about these questions: What does it mean to you that Jesus laid down His life for you? How can you honor His sacrifice through the way that you live?