

# STUMIN

## FAMILY DAILY DEVOTIONAL



**SIMPLIFY | JANUARY 31 - FEBRUARY 6, 2024**  
**LOVE PEOPLE THE WAY JESUS LOVES PEOPLE.**

*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 31

As we grow in our faith we become more like Jesus. The more we live like Jesus, the more we're keeping the Greatest Commandment! Jesus knew Scripture and quoted it often. So, when we do the same, we're following Jesus' example! We're memorizing what's important to Him as a way to help us know Him more.

To work on memorizing this verse, talk to your family or a close friend about it. Ask them what they think it means and how they live that way in their own lives. Then, as you read it and try to memorize it yourself, think about what they shared with you!

*For you have been called to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters. But don't use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love.*

*Galatians 5:13 NLT*

### >> FEBRUARY 1

The older we get, the more freedom we want to have—freedom from rules, freedom from chores, freedom from our parents. While we want freedom to do the things we want, the Bible reminds us that the point of our freedom is actually to use it to do what God calls us to do. And often, God calls us to use that freedom to love and serve others. It isn't easy, but as you grow, focus on using your freedom the way God wants you to use it. Focus on loving others!

Today, thank God for the freedom you have, and ask God to help you use it to serve and help others.

*Our people must learn to do good by meeting the urgent needs of others; then they will not be unproductive.*

*Titus 3:14 NLT*

### >> FEBRUARY 2

We all have problems! And when we're dealing with problems in our lives, it can be easy to forget that others around us may be going through similar things. Part of sharing God's love with others is helping them through their times of need, even if it means putting our own problems aside to do it. God didn't call us to walk through life alone. That means that, in the same way we can help others when they're in need, others will show up to help us when we need it.

Today, think about someone in your life who has a need. Then, do what you can to help them meet it!

*And I am certain that  
God, who began the  
good work within  
you, will continue his  
work until it is finally  
finished on the day  
when Christ Jesus  
returns.*

*Philippians 1:6 NLT*

### >> FEBRUARY 3

Have you ever struggled to finish something you started? Maybe you tried to learn to play the piano, but eventually lost interest. Or you wanted to redecorate your room, but got bored halfway through. Fortunately, God is not like us in this way. When God starts to change our lives for the better, God doesn't quit. God keeps going until the work in our lives is complete. Even on bad days, we can trust that God will never give up on us. And with that same love, we can choose to not only not give up on ourselves, but to not give up on others, too!

As you pray today, thank God for being a God who never quits or gives up! Ask for help showing up and loving others the same way God shows up and loves you!

*In humility, value  
others above  
yourselves.*

*Philippians 2:3b NIV*

### >> FEBRUARY 4

In what ways do you show other people you value them? According to Paul's letter to the people in the city of Philippi, we're supposed to value others above ourselves. We should think of the needs of other people before our own. We should have the best interest of other people in mind even if it goes against our best interest. We should prioritize other people above ourselves. This is a hard truth to accept— and even harder to practice—but it's one that will help us stay truly humble.

Today, go out of your way to show someone how much you value them.

*How can you claim  
to have faith in our  
glorious Lord Jesus  
Christ if you favor some  
people over others?*

*James 2:1b NLT*

### >> FEBRUARY 5

Did you know that God doesn't play favorites? Now, this might seem like good news or bad news depending on how your week is going. But really, the truth is that this is GOOD news for EVERYONE. Not only does God love all people, God wants us to do the same. We're supposed to accept, love, and value everyone—no matter how different they may be.

Today, ask God to help you resist playing favorites. Ask God to help you be open to loving and accepting people who are way different than you. This week, look for an opportunity to show someone the same love and acceptance God first gave to you.

*You are all one in  
Christ Jesus.*

*Galatians 3:28b NLT*

### >> FEBRUARY 6

Many of us are naturally drawn to people who are similar to us. We walk into a room and gravitate to people who dress like us, look like us, or share similar interests. Although this isn't necessarily a bad thing, there's something better that can help us connect with others. You see, ANYONE who follows Jesus becomes a part of the same community, family, and team . . . we are ONE. All different social classes, races, genders, and personalities become one big family because of Jesus.

Today, take the time to have a conversation with and get to know someone you wouldn't normally talk to.