

# DAILY DEVOTIONAL

## Goals

### WEEK 5

THE GOAL IS TO GROW.

“For once you were full of darkness,  
but now you have light from the Lord.  
So live as people of light!”

EPHESIANS 5:8 NLT

#### DAY 1

Picture a dark room with a single candle burning. Isn't it amazing to think that just a small amount of light can brighten up complete darkness! In the Bible, Jesus describes both Himself and His followers as the “light of the world.” That means that when you walk with God, you have the power to brighten up any dark space with the light of Jesus. What do you think it looks like for you to be a light in the darkness in your world? At school? At home? In your friend group? Ask your small group leader to help you think about how you can light up the darkness with your faith in just one of those areas of your life this week.

“For sin is the sting that results in  
death and the law gives sin in its  
power. But thank God! He gives us  
victory over sin and death through our  
Lord Jesus Christ.”

1 CORINTHIANS 15:56-57 NLT

#### DAY 2

Think of a time when you experienced the thrill of victory after you won something or conquered a big challenge in your life. If you've ever had that experience, you know how good that feeling is! Well the good news is, because of Jesus, we can have that feeling all the time. How? Because His death and resurrection have given us the ultimate victory. That is something worth celebrating! Today, take a minute to thank God for giving you such a great victory!

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"For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him."

PHILIPPIANS 2:13 NLT

### DAY 3

When something is identified as a "work in progress," it means that the project is unfinished. It's still being added to, improved on, and growing into something that is complete. This verse tells us that God is still working on us; He is still shaping us to be more like Him. We are His work in progress! Is there an area of your life where you want to grow or improve? Pray specifically over that area of your life. Ask God to keep working to make you more like Him!

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

PSALM 119:34 NLT

### DAY 4

Have you ever had to build something that came with instructions? If you have, you know there are two choices: You either follow the instructions as you go, or you try to do it all on your own. If you've done it all on your own, then you know working without direction most definitely doesn't make finishing a project easier. You see, instructions are there to give us the guidance we need to finish well, but they're no good if we don't actually use them. And the same is true for God's Word. It's not just about knowing His guidance; it's about acting on and following it. Ask a trusted friend or small group leader to help you not just know, but follow God's guidance for your life.

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"He died for everyone so that those who receive his new life will no longer live for themselves. Instead, they will live for Christ, who died and was raised for them."

2 CORINTHIANS 5:15 NLT

### DAY 5

There are times when we all wish we could have a fresh start or a new beginning. Maybe we've made a mistake that we want to take back or have found ourselves in a circumstance we wish could be different. Well, this verse tells us that because of Jesus, a fresh start is always possible. While we can't change our past choices or current circumstances, we can go forward on a new path with Jesus. If there's a place in your life that you need a fresh start, remember this week that Jesus makes that possible. If you're struggling to see that, memorize this verse to give you the reminder you need that a new way is possible with Jesus.

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