DAILY DEVOTIONAL

Explained / Week 2

Your word is a lamp for my feet, and a light on my path.

PSALM 119:105 NIV

DAY 1

No matter how well we might know a road, a path, or a route somewhere, trying to find our way in complete darkness is never ideal. No matter how familiar it might be, without light, it's a challenge.

The writer of this Psalm describes God's Word as a lamp and a light for our path. Meaning, it helps show us what's ahead. With the help of God's Word, we can see where we are headed and what's coming. We don't have to live in the dark, and we don't need to guess what's ahead. The Bible shows us if we are headed in the right direction or if we have to adjust our course. Today, ask God to show you, through reading His Word, what He wants to shine a light on in your life or where He wants to guide you.

Lead me by your truth and teach me, for you are the God who saves me. All day long I put my hope in you.

PSALM 25:5 NLT

DAY 2

We've all had those times when God seems quiet or distant. This might be for several reasons, but know that you are not alone.

Spending a few minutes praying or reading the Bible can help close the gap. Praying can be like hitting the reset button on our thoughts, and it's something we can do at any time. Just like the writer of this Psalm says, we can put our hope in God all day long. **Take some time today to pray and ask God for direction for what's going on in your life.** Remember, God is always accessible wherever we are.

The tongue can bring death or life; those who love to talk will reap the consequences.

PROVERBS 18:21 NLT

DAY 3

Most of us have probably been told, at one point or another, how powerful our words are. And most of us have probably experienced how powerful words are from others. One of the things that makes the Bible so amazing is how so much of what it says still applies to us today!

This Proverb is just one example of how wisdom—no matter how old it is—can continue to be meaningful. Sure, we will bump into some Scripture that feels old and doesn't connect to where we are. But we will also find Scripture that can feel like it was written just for us and our unique circumstances. Maybe that's what this verse is for you today. This truly is a timeless piece of wisdom that reminds us that our words have consequences. Today, try to spend more time thinking before you speak.

A good person produces good things from the treasury of a good heart, and an evil person produces evil things from the treasury of an evil heart.

MATTHEW 12:35 NLT

DAY 4

Do you ever wonder if you're living the way God would want you to live? Maybe you worry you aren't keeping enough rules or that something is missing. In the Gospels, Jesus taught that the state of our heart can be seen in our actions. How we love God and love others says a lot about what is going on in our hearts. God's Word says loving God and loving others is the most important commandment.

When we take God's word to heart, we are more likely to produce "good things." Today, pray and think this question: "What do my actions tell me about the state of my heart?" No matter what your actions reveal about you, know that scripture transforms you into who you were created to be. Continue to fill your heart with God's Word, and watch as your actions change.

The gateway to life is very narrow and the road difficult, and only a few ever find it.

MATTHEW 7:14 NLT

DAY 5

It can be easy to get caught up in a certain pace of life and routine in high school. Get up, go to school, come home, do work, go to bed, repeat. Staying stuck in the same pattern is easy and natural, but when it comes to finding a fulfilling life, you can't just keep doing what you've always done.

God's Word from Matthew tells us that finding life, real life, meaningful life is harder to do. It comes from slowing down and asking yourself real questions—sometimes hard questions about what you are living for and what you want from life. Today, ask God to show you opportunities to look for real life in places you may not expect.

Teach me to do your will, for you are my God; may your good Spirit lead me on level ground.

PSALM 143:10 NIV

DAY 6

Making decisions can be difficult. Not always because we don't know what to do, but because we don't want to make the wrong choice. That's why so many Christians turn to the Bible. They want to know God's will for their lives. If anyone knows the right decisions to make, it must be God!

The good news is that God's will isn't some secret we have to figure out. In His word, He tells us clearly: To live and love in a way that honors Him. The next time you're worried about making the wrong choice, stop and ask yourself if the next step you're taking honors God and shows love to people. Turn to His Word for wisdom and ask Him to speak to you. If you are seeking to live like Jesus, you can be confident that you are walking in God's will for your life.

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness.

2 TIMOTHY 3:16 NIV

DAY 7

In life, most things are better when we do them with people we love. Memorizing Scripture is not an exception. This week, challenge a friend to memorize it with you. Snapchat each other throughout the week as you attempt to memorize this Scripture together.