

# DAY 6

EPHESIANS 4:30A, NLT

Admitting when we're wrong can be tough, but it's an important part of growing. It's like recognizing the parts of us that hold us back from fully following God. Being led by the Spirit means noticing those things in our lives that aren't helping us grow, like bad habits or negative thoughts. The phrase "bring sorrow" here shows how our choices can make God feel. God wants the best for us, but when we choose things that aren't good for us, it keeps us from living the full life God wants for us. Confessing mistakes and asking for help isn't shameful—it's actually how we stay close to God. It keeps us focused on God and helps us grow stronger in our relationship with God.

**This week, ask God to help you see areas where you can grow to reflect more of Jesus in your thoughts and actions toward others.**

# DAY 7

MATTHEW 5:8, NLT

Trying to live with love, joy, and peace isn't always easy—especially when you feel like you've messed up. It's frustrating to fail! But one of the ways we grow is by being faithful—sticking with what's right, even when it's hard. Whether it's in school, friendships, or our faith, staying committed matters. Another way to describe faithfulness? Not giving up.

Psychologist Angela Duckworth says, "Success is never final; failure is never fatal. It's courage that counts." That means our mistakes don't define us. What matters is getting back up and trying again. That takes real courage!

**Think about a time when you said something you wish you could take back or let someone down. How did you respond? How would you change your response or let it influence your future response?**

# DAILY DEVOTIONAL

FOR AN  
everyday faith.

HOW TO SEE GOD / WEEK 2

MIDDLE SCHOOL

# DAY 1

2 TIMOTHY 1:7, NIV

Building habits that bring us closer to God doesn't happen all at once—it happens one step at a time. Starting small is often the best way to make changes that last. Whether it's praying for a few minutes a day, reading one Bible verse, or writing down a single thing you're thankful for, small, consistent steps can grow into life-changing habits over time.

God has given us the Spirit to guide us in living with strength, love, and discipline. These aren't things we have to figure out on our own—the Spirit helps us grow stronger as we lean on Him.

**What's one small step you can take today to grow closer to God? Start with something simple, and see how it shapes your week.**

# DAY 2

JOHN 14:26, NLT

Life is loud. From notifications and social media to conversations and background noise, silence can feel uncomfortable—or even impossible. But God invites us to slow down and make space for stillness. It's hard to remember to look for from God when life is full of distractions. When everything is constantly moving, it's easy to miss what really matters.

**Set a timer for one minute of silence this week. No music, no scrolling, no distractions. Just be still. If that feels easy, try it five days in a row. In the quiet, it's easier to focus on what needs our attention most.**

## DAY 3

**GALATIANS 5:25, NLT**

Imagine a class project where one student doesn't just do their part but lifts everyone up by staying positive and patient. This student isn't the boss of the group—they simply lead by example. Their attitude influences others to work together and treat each other with kindness.

In the same way, if we want to follow the Holy Spirit, we need to let Him influence us. It's not just about what's going on inside us; it's about how it shows on the outside. Ask yourself "what would it look like for my life to show how God is working in me?"

**Here's a simple way to put this into action: Pick one of the fruits of the Spirit (like love, joy, peace, patience, etc.) and look for a chance to practice it today. When the Spirit influences us, people can see it in how we live.**

## DAY 4

**EPHESIANS 1:18, NIV**

Sometimes, it's easy to rush through things without fully paying attention. For example, when reading the Bible, it's common to speed through verses without really understanding what's in front of us. However, one way to see the Holy Spirit at work is by slowing down and reflecting on what you read. Meditating on Scripture—taking time to really think about it—can help deepen understanding. Here's a simple way to do this:

**Start by praying and asking God to open your eyes to the words you read. Read a few verses carefully, then read them again. Ask these questions: "What does this say about God?" "What does this say about me?" "What should I do in response to what it says?" When we practice this, the goal is to read with the intention to understand and apply.**

## DAY 5

**MATTHEW 25:21, NLT**

*Written by Elijah Morrow, age 22, from Detroit, MI*

After I graduated high school, I started helping with my church's middle school group. At first, it didn't feel like a big deal—just setting up chairs, leading small group discussions, and playing ridiculous icebreaker games. But week after week, I saw how even the smallest actions—listening to a student who had a bad day, remembering their name, or simply showing up—made an impact. I realized that faithfulness isn't about waiting for a huge moment. It's about choosing to reflect God in the everyday things.

Maybe that looks like being patient with your sibling, encouraging a friend, or choosing self-control when you're frustrated. The fruits of the Spirit—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness,

faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control—are ways we show God's love to the world.

**Pick one fruit of the Spirit to focus on this week. Ask God to help you live it out in small, everyday moments. Faithfulness in the small things matters more than you think!**