

# DAILY DEVOTIONAL

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Big Picture

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## WEEK 2

WHEN YOU CAN'T SEE THE BIGGER PICTURE, REMEMBER GOD IS WITH YOU.

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“The Lord your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves. He will take great delight in you; in His love He will no longer rebuke you, but will rejoice over you with singing.”

ZEPHANIAH 3:17 NIV

### DAY 1

Have you ever felt ashamed about something that you did? Maybe you said something hurtful to a sibling, or broke a rule at home, or got caught in a lie with your friends. The good news is that when we follow Jesus, we don't have to be ashamed of our wrongs. Instead, we can focus on the fact that God is always working in and through us to change our story for the better. He never stops loving us, never stops caring about us, and never stops working to see our stories turn around for good. So today, ask God to help you to move on from your past mistakes, and thank Him for the unique picture He is still creating for your life.

“Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.”

PHILIPPIANS 1:6 NIV

### DAY 2

Do you ever wonder if God is really working on your behalf? When life is going well and things are turning out the way we want, it's easy to believe that God is working for our good. But when disappointment, hurt, or frustration shows up, suddenly that becomes more difficult to believe. In times like that, verses like this one from Paul can be a great encouragement to us. They remind us that not only is God still working, but we can be confident that He will keep working until His work—a *good* work—is accomplished. This week, talk to your Small Group Leader or a trusted friend about how you can look for God working for your good no matter what your circumstances may be.

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“When the angel of the Lord appeared to Gideon, he said, “The Lord *is with you*, mighty warrior.”

JUDGES 6:12 NIV

### DAY 3

If you’ve ever struggled through a difficult season, then you know what it feels like to be defeated. You know what it feels like to lose hope or to think you don’t have what it takes. And you definitely know what it feels like to think you’re completely and totally alone. But just as the angel reminded Gideon here, God is *with* us in all seasons. And because of that, we don’t have to worry that we’ll be left alone or not have what it takes to carry on. Instead, we can be confident that God will lead us, guide us, and give us everything we need. Spend time in prayer today, asking God to remind you that He is with you in all circumstances in your life.

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“For it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.”

PHILIPPIANS 2:13 NIV

### DAY 4

Sometimes things don’t go the way that we want them to, and that’s a hard reality to face. But the good news is that even when life as we see it doesn’t work the way we hoped it would, we have a God who promises to continue to work in our lives to make sure His good purpose—the *best* purpose—is accomplished. And when all else fails, that’s something we can put our hope in! Try to memorize this verse this week, using it to remind you that God is always working on a good plan and purpose for your life.

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“Jesus replied, “What *is* impossible *with* man *is* possible *with* God.”

LUKE 18:27 NIV

### DAY 5

Have you ever accomplished something that you never thought you could? Maybe you got an A in a subject that isn’t your best, or broke a record on your sports team, or just woke up on time for school this week! On our own, things like that seem impossible, but with God, all things are possible (even an early morning wakeup call!). Is there something good in your life that you want to achieve? Something that feels nearly impossible to do without help? Start by taking one small step to reach that goal this week, trusting that God will work alongside you to help you reach your goal.

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