

DAILY DEVOTIONAL

Do Something / Week 4

<p><i>"We know what real love is because Jesus gave up his life for us. So we also ought to give up our lives for our brothers and sisters."</i></p> <p>1 John 3:16 NLT</p>	<p>DAY 1</p> <p>It can be easy to turn away when we see a need. Maybe we feel too busy, or too young, or too overwhelmed to make a difference. Or maybe we simply don't know what to do to help! If you've ever felt that way, you're not alone. But remember, one of the biggest ways that other people see God's love at work is through us. Even when we take the smallest step to meet a need in front of us, we are showing the love of Jesus to those around us. And that's a big deal! Is there a need you know about in your community? Talk to your Small Group Leader about how you can step up to help and show God's love.</p>
<p><i>"No, O people, the Lord has told you what is good, and this is what he requires of you: to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God."</i></p> <p>Micah 6:8 NLT</p>	<p>DAY 2</p> <p>Sometimes it's easy to feel helpless when you see injustice. It's hard to know how to respond when you don't exactly know how to fix it. The good news is that you're not alone in figuring it out. God wants to partner with you to do good things for others so that they can experience His love, too. He wants to use you to help make right the wrongs in this world. So the next time you see or hear about an injustice, ask God what He wants you to do to help. Then, pray for the courage to love those in need around you.</p>
<p><i>"Don't just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good."</i></p> <p>Romans 12:9 NLT</p>	<p>DAY 3</p> <p>Real love takes care of others. It looks out for what's best for others. It encourages others toward what's good and away from what's wrong, even when it's hard to do! Offering someone that kind of love isn't always easy on our own, but it is possible with God. When you let God work through you to show real love to the people around you, you're making a lasting impact in their lives. You're loving them how God loves them! Is there a person in your life who loves you that way? Someone who shows you the real love of God? Remember to tell them this week how much you appreciate that!</p>

<p><i>“If I could speak all the languages of earth and of angels, but didn’t love others, I would only be a noisy gong or a clanging symbol.”</i></p> <p>1 Corinthians 13:1 NLT</p>	<p>DAY 4</p> <p>As this verse reminds us, there’s a lot of noise in this world. There are so many things competing for our attention. There are so many things trying to distract us or keep us from noticing what’s important. But the one thing that will always be louder than that noise? Love. When we act and speak with love, our lives look different, and because of that, people pay attention. So, let God’s love influence the way you treat others, speak to others, and even act around others. What’s one way you can show God’s love to others through your words or your actions this week?</p>
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<p><i>“And as for you, brothers and sisters, never tire of doing what is good.”</i></p> <p>2 Thessalonians 3:13 NIV</p>	<p>DAY 5</p> <p>From family time, to school, to practice, to homework, to video games, to spending time with friends—your days are filled with things to do! It’s no wonder we get so tired at the end of the day. But this verse reminds us of one thing we should never get tired of: doing good for others. The work against injustice is life-long and can be difficult at times. That makes it easy to want to give up or get busy with other things. But here, God challenges us to keep going. To keep fighting. To keep doing good for Him. This week, ask God to help you find one way to do good and not get tired of it!</p>
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<p><i>“So now, come back to your God. Act with love and justice, and always depend on him.”</i></p> <p>Hosea 12:6 NLT</p>	<p>DAY 6</p> <p>Who’s your favorite celebrity? Maybe it’s an athlete, or a YouTube star, or a musician. Whoever it is, you probably like them because of something amazing you saw them do. They can sing really well, or they crushed it in that game, or they have a million followers on their channel. And because of that, you like them. Well, as a follower of Jesus, you can have the same impact on others. When you do things like act in love and fight for justice, other people will stop and take notice. They’ll see that you live differently. And because of that, they’ll want to know more about not just you, but God, too. So what’s one way you can act with love toward someone else this week? Talk to a friend or your Small Group Leader for ideas!</p>
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<p><i>“All of you together are Christ’s body, and each of you is a part of it.”</i></p> <p>1 Corinthians 12:27 NLT</p>	<p>DAY 7</p> <p>Have you memorized all the words to your favorite song? What about the lines from your favorite movie? You probably have them ready to recite at any moment! Well, the same can work for Scripture. When we memorize it, it’s there in our hearts and minds, ready to go when we need it. To work on memorizing this verse, get a washable (non-permanent!) marker. Then, write the verse on the bottom of your shoe, on your hand, or even on the front of a notebook you carry a lot. Each time you notice it written down, stop and say it out loud, working to do it by memory over time.</p>
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