

DAY 6

“For the word of God will never fail.” Luke 1:37 NLT

When things don't go our way, it's so important for us to be honest with God. God wants to hear us and know what we're going through. Why? Because God cares! And more than that, because God's promises will never fail. So, when everything around you feels like it's letting you down, you can turn to the God who will never let you down. You can hold on to the fact that God's Word will always be true, even in times when you don't understand.

Take time this week to share with a friend or a trusted adult about an area of your life where you need encouragement to believe that God will not fail you. Ask them to help you remember God's promises are true for you!

DAY 7

“He was there before anything was made, and all things continue because of him.” Colossians 1:17 NCV

The more we memorize God's Word, the more we'll find confidence in God when we have questions. While we may not have all the answers, we can trust that God does!

Today, write each word of this verse on a different piece of paper. Then, mix up the papers and try to rearrange the words of the verse in correct order. Time yourself to see how quickly you can do put the verse together by memory each time!

DAILY DEVOTIONAL

FOR AN
everyday faith.

UNDER THE MICROSCOPE / WEEK 3

MIDDLE SCHOOL

DAY 1

“He existed before anything else, and he holds all creation together.” Colossians 1:17 NLT

Don't you wish there was a way to see the end result before you actually had to go through something? The fear of not knowing how things will work out can keep us from moving forward. But here's the thing: None of what you are going through is a surprise to God. Not only does God know what's going to happen, but God's with you, holding all things together. It's how God made the world, and it's how God cares for us still today.

Write down or memorize this short verse this week. Use it as a reminder of God's promise to be with you and go before you in moments where you find yourself stressed about the outcome of a situation in your life.

DAY 2

“I love all who love me. Those who search will surely find me.” Proverbs 8:17 NLT

Do you ever discover new things about your friends? The more time you spend with them, the more you get to know them. Getting to know Jesus works in a similar way. Whether you're brand new to this whole faith thing or have been walking with Jesus for a long time now, there is always something new to discover about who Jesus is. When we want to learn more about Jesus, He promises to show us more and more.

Is there something new you'd like to learn about Jesus? Make time to connect with Jesus this week to learn more. As you do, pray that you'll see new things about who Jesus is.

DAY 3

“For we live by believing and not by seeing.” 2 Corinthians 5:7 NLT

Sometimes life seems like an incomplete picture—something we’re supposed to try and put together all on our own. Not being able to see the bigger picture can certainly make it easy to doubt or question our faith. But the good news is that it’s actually our faith in Jesus that gives us the courage to take a step, even when we can’t see what is in front of us. We can move forward knowing that Jesus sees the complete picture, and we can place our trust in Him to piece it all together.

This week, ask a trusted friend about a time their faith in Jesus helped them keep going, even when they couldn’t see the whole picture.

DAY 4

“You can make many plans, but the Lord’s purpose will prevail.” Proverbs 19:21 NLT

Do you have a lot of hopes and dreams for your future? That’s great! It’s definitely an amazing thing to dream! But it can become an issue when those are the only plans we choose for our lives. When that happens, we close ourselves off to God’s plans, and without even realizing it, we might even become disappointed when our dreams don’t turn into reality. When we dream with God’s plans in mind, we can trust that God has what’s best for us. After all, God made the entire world! Can’t we trust God to take care of the details in our lives with the same care?

Is there a dream or plan you have for your life? Pray about it, trusting God with your plans and future as you do.

DAY 5

“He counts the stars and calls them all by name. How great is our Lord! His power is absolute! His understanding is beyond comprehension!” Psalm 147:4-5 NLT

Written by Danielle, age 14, from Burke, Virginia, USA

I’m sure we all faced some hardships over these past few years, especially when Coronavirus seemed to shut down the world. When my school became virtual, all of a sudden, I became more isolated and lonelier than I had ever been before. I lost most of my friends and any ability I might’ve had at being social. I missed out on my first year in middle school, and I was around my siblings all day every day.

We’ve all been through hard times before; they’re just part of life! In these times, sometimes we can begin to doubt whether God is really there for us, or wonder why God would let this happen to us. But God has an incredible plan in mind for all of us. Over my years of quarantine, I was blessed more than I realized at the time.

My family became closer, and I had the time for so many more adventures, especially outside in creation. I was able to experience God all around me in creation, even when things weren’t going the way I planned or even wanted at times. I was reminded that God was still good, even in the middle of something that doesn’t seem all that good.

So today, as you deal with whatever it is you are currently facing, look for God around you in creation. Then, tell a friend, small group leader, or another adult how you see God around you. Then, ask how they see God around them in creation, too!