

# Daily Grace Devotionals March 2020



emilyfurda.com/dailygracedevotionals

# I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Psalm 27:13 NIV

#### Welcome to Daily Grace Devotionals

We are women committed to growing in our Christian faith by the grace of God. Too often we become caught up in routine and our time with God is reduced to a checkmark on a list of daily activities. When we spend time with Him, we feel good about ourselves. When we don't, we're riddled with crippling shame and guilt. We strive for a perfect attendance record instead of life-giving moments with our loving God. It is our mission to change that, which is why we are called Daily Grace Devotionals.

Lay aside your striving for perfection and replace it with grace. Yes, God longs to spend time with you every day because He loves you. He also knows you're human and will have days when you don't spend time alone with Him. If you miss a day, God isn't waiting to punish you. He's a gentle, loving father welcoming you with open arms. Whether you're someone who never misses a day, you've missed months or years, or are brand new, you are welcome here.

#### A Note from the Director

When I was 11 years old, my worship dance teacher gave us all a small, hot pink booklet of devotionals for Christmas. That was my first devotional, and I've rarely been without a daily devotional since then.

Daily Grace Devotionals (formerly Her Binder Project and The Binder Co.) was started in 2014 by Morgan Harper Nichols to help her and others grow in their Christian faith. I started as a writer in 2016, and the more involved I became, the more this ministry and the women who read became a part of my heart. In 2018, Morgan gave this ministry to me. It is dear to both of our hearts. My joy comes when I see women come alive as they grow. Today, thousands of women from all over the world are studying together and growing in faith by the grace of God.

-Emily Furda

If you have any questions, contact me at emily@emilyfurda.com

#### How to Use Daily Grace Devotionals

These eBooks are designed for individual or group study for women of all ages. You can print view them in PDF format on your computer or mobile device. Each day has a daily Scripture, a short devotional, and a daily challenge to help you put into action what you've learned. Every month also includes several "Grace Days" without any scripture, devotional, or challenge, designed for you to use as you need; to catch up if you're behind, review, or to study our monthly topic more in depth on your own.

#### More Ways to Connect

Facebook Group: facebook.com/groups/dailygracedevotionals

Facebook Page: facebook.com/dailygracedevotionals Instagram: www.instagram.com/dailygracedevotionals

Twitter: <u>@DailyGraceDevos</u>
Pinterest: <u>DailyGraceDevotionals</u>

Use the hashtag **#DailyGraceDevotionals** on social media and we might feature your post on one of our pages. If you're interested in writing for Daly Grace Devotionals as a guest writer, please visit our Facebook Group for information. For More Downloads visit our website emilyfurda.com/dailygracedevotionals

#### This Month's Contributors

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Psalm 27 Do you believe God is good to you? Why or why not? What are you hoping to learn about the goodness of God? Journal your thoughts.	2 James 1:17 Every day this month, write down one good thing that happens.	3 Matthew 6:25-34 Pick at least one verse from today's Scripture reading and memorize it.	A Romans 8:1-2 Listen to "Clean" by Natalie Grant, and journal your thoughts the about the lyrics and today's reading. youtu.be/4S1ivtB2Pxk	5 Grace Day	6  Psalm 31:19-24  Listen to "Sovereign" by Chris Tomlin. youtu.be/yjfq1vWx3mU	7 Matthew 7:11 Are you afraid God might not be good to you all the time? Why or why not? How does today's scripture impact your view? Journal your thoughts.
8  Lamentations 3:19-25 Listen to "So Good to Me" by Zach Williams. youtu.be/3WflVCCl6nA	9 Grace Day	Genesis 2:4-7 When you think about how God created humans out of dust, how does it impact your view of what God can do things in and through your life.	11  Psalm 139:7-12 Listen to "Hope is Calling" by Bellarive. youtu.be/15orT3PZh_Y	12  Psalm 23  Write out Psalm 23 in your own words, making it personal to you.	13 Grace Day	14 Psalm 29:10-11 Listen to "Calm the Waters" by Watermark. youtu.be/w4zBBk2ZsfA
2 Corinthians 6:17, Romans 7:15-20 How can you show God's goodness in a genuine way to others? Find at least one way to do it this week.	Psalm 84:1-4 Listen to "Dwelling Place" by Greg and Rebecca Sparks. youtu.be/idQnm41oudY	John 9:1-3 Do you know someone who has an illness and still lets God display His goodness through them? What do you see in their life that shows God's goodness, and how does it impact you? Journal your thoughts, and encourage that person sometime this month.	John 9:4-34 We often place limits on what we think God can do or how He can do it. What limits do you place on God? How does today's reading impact those? Journal your thoughts.	19 Grace Day	Luke 7:18-28 How does knowing even John the Baptist had doubts and Jesus's response to him help you with your doubts? Journal your thoughts, and listen to "Hold Me Jesus" by Rich Mullins. youtu.be/6dHSAQHTLOI	21  1 Kings 17:7-16  Listen to "You Will Make a Way" by Mallary Hope. youtu.be/e6r-rpCeHoQ
Psalm 145 Make a list of every good thing it says God does in Psalm 147. How does this impact you? Journal your thoughts.	Psalm 145:3-6 Where is it the easiest for you to see God's goodness? Why or how does it show you God's goodness? Journal your thoughts.	24 Grace Day	25 2 Chronicles 20:15-24 Listen to "My Weapon" by Natalie Grant. youtu.be/4BpirBRWGUs	Psalm 84:11 What does it mean to you when it says that God doesn't withhold any good thing in today's scripture? Journal your thoughts.	Psalm 94:19 Do you struggle to let go and give God full control? How would that impacted if you fully believed God is always good to you?	28 1 Peter 1:3 Listen to "Reborn" by Finding Favour. youtu.be/De6gKeHmj_Y

Grace Day.

Isaiah 55:8-9

See today's devotional for

the Daily Challenge.

Psalm 9:1-2

See today's devotional for

the Daily Challenge.

I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Psalm 27:13 NIV

#### Sunday, March 1 2020

Devotional written by by Emily Furda Read Psalm 27

God's goodness is something we hear talked about, but do we really know God's goodness in a personal way, especially when things are hard? We often feel as if we're at war with situations beyond our control. Maybe it's health, finances, relationships, or school. Sometimes, a seemingly small situation, like breaking the cable on a phone charger, causes us to burst into tears. If God is good, where is His goodness?

In this month's scripture, David says how he is certain he will see God's goodness while he is still alive. Earlier in the Psalm, he talks about horrible things that have happened or could happen to him, but no matter what, he remains confident. David might have been known as a mighty man of God, but he was also a human being just like you. If he can be confident in God's goodness, you can too. That's our goal for this month.

God's goodness is personal, and He shows it to you in a way as unique as you are. Even if you can't see God's goodness right now, it is here for you.

#### Daily Challenge

Do you believe God is good to you? Why or why not? What are you hoping to learn about the goodness of God? Journal your thoughts.

#### Written by Emily Furda

instagram.com/emilyfurda emilyfurda.com

#### Monday, March 2 2020

Devotional written by by Emily Furda Read James 1:17

It's one thing to be told about the goodness of God, but what makes it real is experiencing the goodness of God. The question often remains of how to experience God's goodness. We often think of big things in our lives as signs that God is good to us, but what if it's so much bigger and so much smaller at the same time?

Today's reading tells us every good gift is from God. It's easy to think of things like a much-desired job, healing, or getting into the college we want as God showing us His goodness. While those are good gifts, we often miss the little ways God is speaking to us every day in every situation.

When something makes us smile, that's something good. When we see a beautiful sunrise, hear our favorite song, enjoy our favorite cup of coffee, hear an encouraging word from a friend, or receive some kindness from a stranger, that is God speaking to us. That is a moment where Jesus is giving us something good to remind us He sees us and loves us. It is A Jesus Moment

The next time you find yourself thinking the day is completely horrible and Jesus is nowhere to be found, ask yourself if there was one good thing that happened during the day. It may seem silly or small, but if it made you smile, then it was a God showing His goodness to you.

When we see God's goodness in the small moments, we realize His goodness is easy to find.

#### Daily Challenge

Every day this month, write down one good thing that happens. Make sure to add one for yesterday. You can use the page in the end of this eBook, your journal, or a piece of paper. We'll be using this list at the end of the month. Remember, it's often something small that means something to you that lets you experience God's goodness. If it makes you smile or warms your heart, it's something good.

#### Written by Emily Furda

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#### Tuesday, March 3 2020

Devotional written by Diane Marie Read Matthew 6:25-34

Stress. Anxiety. Depression. Worry. We hear these words every day because we live in such a fast-paced, hectic society. It seems everyone is worried about something. Whether it's TV, radio, or even social media, we are bombarded with images of pain and suffering from around the world. We stress about poverty, war, politics, human trafficking, and more. In our personal lives we struggle with addictions, relationships, finances, and health. These are real and legitimate concerns that make us question God's goodness. Yet, Jesus tells us not to worry. He tells us to cast our burdens on Him.

How do we do that? It seems nearly impossible to just let it all go. Real freedom, however, requires that we no longer allow ourselves to be bound up with worry. As long as we let our struggles and cares dominate our thoughts and influence our actions, we can't have the true freedom that Christ offers.

So, we need to take our eyes off the world and all of its cares and focus on Him. We need to be in his Word daily and memorize scripture we can say it to ourselves when we begin to have negative thoughts. We need to be in prayer daily, asking the Lord to guide us in areas where we lack faith. We need to consider who we're spending time with and surround ourselves with friends who will encourage us. If we need to, we should shut off the TV, radio, and phone.

We need to change our focus. It won't be easy, but the more we turn from our worries and turn to Him, the sooner we can break the chains that keep us from true freedom in Christ and experience God's goodness

#### Daily Challenge

Pick at least one verse from today's Scripture reading and memorize it.

#### Written by Diane Marie

instagram.com/letters from the word

Wednesday, March 4 2020

Devotional written by Emily Furda Read Romans 8:1-2

Sometimes, God's goodness can feel like a distant dream, not because of circumstances around you, but because of the battle inside you. Have you felt as if something from your past is keeping you experiencing God's goodness and love? Maybe, deep inside you wonder if you're the one person who God couldn't possibly show goodness to because of things you've done or things others have done to you.

Shame and condemnation can tangle around you like heavy chains. Sometimes, it's easier to simply go through the motions and act as if everything is okay because it's just too scary to admit your fears to anyone, including yourself. All you see is condemnation, fear, and a life permanently tainted with pain.

Today's verse challenges all of that.

So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus. And because you belong to him, the power of the life-giving Spirit has freed you from the power of sin that leads to death. Romans 8:1-2 NLT

Because God is good, He chooses not to condemn or see you as damaged when you go to Him. He sees you as His beloved, precious daughter. Instead of your soul being crushed and lifeless, God wants to put to death the condemnation and shame you feel.

If a good, holy God doesn't condemn you, why should you? It's time to accept God's goodness and healing.

#### Daily Challenge

Listen to "Clean" by Natalie Grant, and journal your thoughts the about the lyrics and today's reading. <a href="https://youtu.be/4S1ivtB2Pxk">youtu.be/4S1ivtB2Pxk</a>

Written by Emily Furda instagram.com/emilyfurda emilyfurda.com Thursday, March 5 2020

Grace Day

Today is a Grace Day designed for you to use in whatever way you need.

Are you behind when it comes to this month's schedule? Then, you can use today to catch up. Is there something you want to spend more time on? Feel free to reread a previous day or skim through multiple days. Consider going back and making up your own challenge for a day. If it was to listen to music, try journaling or memorizing the Scripture. If you'd like, use today to learn more about grace on your own. A concordance or online searchable Bible or Bible app is perfect for this. Even take today and study something completely different.

Whatever you do, remember, God isn't looking for your performance or testing how much you know. He simply wants to spend time with you, speaking to your heart and showing you His love and grace.

Friday, March 6 2020

Devotional written by Danielle Nicole Read Psalm 31:19-24

Sometimes, life doesn't go the way we hoped. We might have had big plans for our future or our eyes were set on exactly how we wanted things to turn out. Even when our lives don't go the way we plan, God's goodness is still real. It's easy to think as soon as things go poorly, God doesn't care about us anymore. The truth is, no matter what happens, God is forever good and so are His plans for us.

If our lives don't go the way we plan, we must not give up hope. Even when life isn't going well, God is good. He already has a plan for our lives, and there is no need to worry about figuring this out on our own. We may feel He has left us alone here, but His goodness is still working through us in ways we can't even imagine.

Even as we walked through difficult seasons where we feel directionless and uncertain, it isn't a sign God has abandoned us. In this world, we will walk through difficult situations and times of doubt, but through it all His goodness is still present.

Our seasons don't define the power of the goodness of God. He's good through the trials and the joy. We can always trust His hand to hold us in every part of our lives.

Daily Challenge

Listen to "Sovereign" by Chris Tomlin. <a href="https://youtu.be/yjfq1vWx3mU">youtu.be/yjfq1vWx3mU</a>

Written by Danielle Nicole

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Saturday, March 7 2020

Devotional written by Emily Furda Read Matthew 7:11

If a child asked you for a piece of toast for breakfast, would you hand her a rock and tell her to eat it? What if you let her choose dinner and she asked for fish tacos? Would you give her a tortilla with a snake inside?

Of course not! You wouldn't expect her to eat a rock for breakfast, and you'd gladly give her a taco filled with flaky fish and toppings she loves instead of one with a danger noodle (more commonly known as a snake). You'd want to give her something good. Sometimes, what is good might be different than what we think of as good.

When you give a child toast, it probably won't come from bread baked by the world's most renowned pastry chef. She might see a picture of the artisanal loaf and want it, but you know she loves the bread with an unexpected cinnamon swirl in it from your local grocery store. So, that is what you give her. She might think she wants caviar on her fish taco. While caviar is something some people love, you know she'd hate it, so you'd get her the salsa you know she enjoys instead. In those moments, she has a choice. She can sulk because she didn't get exactly what she wanted, or she can enjoy her food trusting you are good and know her desires better than she does.

On our best days, the good we show others pales in comparison to the goodness God shows us. If we, with all of our flaws, give good things to others, why wouldn't our perfect God give even better things? It might look different than we imagine, but it will be good for us. Sometimes, we don't understand why God answers a prayer one way until much later.

A job might you got might not be the one you thought was the best, but years later, when the company you wanted to work for closes, you see He gave you something good. Maybe the friends you wanted to have seemed like amazing women, but you just didn't quite fit personality wise. Later, you might realize the people who eventually became your close friends, don't just tolerate your quirks, but have the same ones. You can be sure God gave you not just okay friends, but great ones.

Sometimes we're afraid to ask God for what we want because we're afraid of what His answer will be. We worry maybe He won't be good to us, but today's scripture promises He will give us something good. So, don't hold back. Go to God and tell Him what you want and need, then trust Him to answer with something good specifically for you.

#### Daily Challenge

Are you afraid God might not be good to you all the time? Why or why not? How does today's scripture impact your view? Journal your thoughts being honest with yourself and God. He is good and won't punish you for your honest thoughts and feelings.

Written by Emily Furda

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#### Sunday, March 8 2020

Devotional written by Emily Furda Read Lamentations 3:19-25

Sometimes, our emotions are jumbled. We're in unimaginable pain, yet we also see God's goodness, or at least we remember He's supposed to be good. There are times we even feel both anger and a desire to worship God at the same time. Other times, we go back and forth from anger at God to feeling delighted in God. It can be so confusing and make us question if our faith is real.

In today's scripture, Jeremiah was passionately lamenting what was happening to him. This wasn't some scripted prayer with walled off emotions. He said exactly what was on his mind without holding back. In the middle of it all, Jeremiah stopped. He fully knew what he was going through, but he knew there was more. Jeremiah said this:

Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope: Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. Lamentations 3:21-22 NIV

Even in his pain, Jeremiah reminded himself of God's love. Yes, horrible things happened to Jeremiah and his emotions were far from settled, but he was still able to still see God's good and loving presence. He knew no matter how overwhelmed he felt, He would not be consumed by his feelings or circumstances.

Our thoughts and emotions don't have to fit into neat little boxes. We can hurt and remind ourselves of God's goodness at the same time. We can wait and let God make sense of it all.

#### Daily Challenge

Listen to "So Good to Me" by Zach Williams. youtu.be/3WfIVCCI6nA

Written by Emily Furda

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### Monday, March 9 2020

Grace Day

Today is a Grace Day designed for you to use in whatever way you need.

Are you behind when it comes to this month's schedule? Then, you can use today to catch up. Is there something you want to spend more time on? Feel free to reread a previous day or skim through multiple days. Consider going back and making up your own challenge for a day. If it was to listen to music, try journaling or memorizing the Scripture. If you'd like, use today to learn more about grace on your own. A concordance or online searchable Bible or Bible app is perfect for this. Even take today and study something completely different.

Whatever you do, remember, God isn't looking for your performance or testing how much you know. He simply wants to spend time with you, speaking to your heart and showing you His love and grace.

#### Tuesday, March 10 2020

Devotional written by Emily Furda Read Genesis 2:4-7

At times, we've all tried to control our lives as if we are the ones who know best. When we're hurting and want a solution, we often go after what makes sense to us. We see something that looks right and dive in headfirst. Usually, that leaves us even worse off than before we started. At first, that may seem like pride, thinking we know best or can make it on our own, but what if it's not?

Perhaps the real issue is this side of heaven, with our human, finite minds, we will never be able to fully grasp how good, wise, powerful, and loving God is. His perspective and ways are different and better than ours. We forget He often does things in a way that might not make sense to up.

When we look under out furniture and see dust bunnies, we wonder if we really need to clean or if it could wait until they multiply into a mini bunny army. In Genesis, God saw dust on the ground and decided it was exactly what He needed to create a complex human being, made in His image. He said this about what came from dust:

God saw all that he had made, and it was very good... Genesis 1:31 NIV

God's goodness to us is seen in the simplest of things. He takes our dirty, dusty mess and creates something not just adequate, but something very good.

We might be prone to take matters into our own hands because we can't fully understand God's goodness. We will never understand the scope of who God is this side of heaven, but even when we tried to take control yet again, He will always faithfully and lovingly care for us.

#### Daily Challenge

When you think about how God created humans out of dust, how does that impact your view of what and how God can do things in and through you?

Written by Emily Furda

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#### Wednesday, March 11 2020

Devotional written by Emily Furda Read Psalm 139:7-12

Sometimes, it seems as if the night will never end. It's in those moments we have to keep trusting that God is good, and His presence is always with us. His goodness is sometimes hard to see, but just like the sun never stop shining, God's goodness never stops shining on us.

When it's nighttime, the sun hasn't stopped giving light. It just can't be seen in the same way it can during the day. When you look up and see the moon, it's evidence the sun is still shining. The moon doesn't give off its own light. It simply reflects the light from the sun.

What about the nights when even the moon isn't visible? Has the sun stopped shining then? It takes the moon approximately 29 days to orbit the earth. It gradually becomes more visible and then less visible. The reason why isn't because more or less sunlight is reaching the moon. It's simply because the side reflecting the sun is facing away from earth. On the night when the moon is incapable of being seen from earth, it's called the New Moon. It's not the end of us being able to see the light it reflects; it's just the beginning of something new. Soon, the darkness we see will be turned into light once more.

God's goodness is the same way. It's always shining on you. Sometimes, it's just not visible from your perspective. You and everything you carry is always seen by God. It's in those darkest moments when God is calling to you and often beginning something new in your heart. To Him, even darkness is filled with light.

The next time you see a moonless sky, remember, it's not the end. It's the beginning of something new.

#### Daily Challenge

Listen to "Hope is Calling" by Bellarive. youtu.be/15orT3PZh Y

Written by Emily Furda instagram.com/emilyfurda emilyfurda.com

#### Thursday, March 12 2020

Devotional written by Emily Furda Read Psalm 23

Sheep can be rather helpless creatures. They need a shepherd to guide them, making sure one doesn't run ahead or got lost. They need calm water to drink and a safe place to rest and eat. They're easily scared, prone to wander away, and mostly defenseless. They sound a lot like humans, don't they?

As God guides us through our lives, He knows when we need to move, and when we need to rest. He sees circumstances that threaten our lives, many we're unaware of, and He protects us and guides us through them.

In John 10:14 Jesus said: "I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me" NIV

Just as a shepherd knows his sheep's every need, Jesus knows you. He doesn't just know about you or read a list of your best and worst qualities on a piece of paper. He knows every tiny nuance that makes you who you are. He knows what frightens you and what makes your heart overflow with happiness. He knows what you need, even when you don't. He sees your past, knows how to tend to your needs now, and guide you through your future.

Jesus isn't just an adequate shepherd or one who is new to the job. He is a good shepherd. He isn't just good at what He does, goodness is His very nature. He is your good shepherd

#### Daily Challenge

Write out Psalm 23 in your own words, making it personal to you.

#### Written by Emily Furda

instagram.com/emilyfurda emilyfurda.com

#### Friday, March 13 2020 Grace Day

Today is a Grace Day designed for you to use in whatever way you need.

Are you behind when it comes to this month's schedule? Then, you can use today to catch up. Is there something you want to spend more time on? Feel free to reread a previous day or skim through multiple days. Consider going back and making up your own challenge for a day. If it was to listen to music, try journaling or memorizing the Scripture. If you'd like, use today to learn more about grace on your own. A concordance or online searchable Bible or Bible app is perfect for this. Even take today and study something completely different.

Whatever you do, remember, God isn't looking for your performance or testing how much you know. He simply wants to spend time with you, speaking to your heart and showing you His love and grace.



Saturday, March 14 2020

Devotional written b Emily Furda Read Psalm 29:10-11

Do you ever feel as is life is too much, as if a flood of problems and responsibilities are swirling around you? It can be overwhelming, and it's easy to feel as if you'll be swept away. When all you can see is crashing water around you, threatening to pull you under, it's hard to think about anything but survival. Yet, it's vital to look take your eyes off of what is overwhelming and remember what is going on above it.

Psalm 29:10 tells us: "The Lord sits enthroned over the flood; the Lord is enthroned as King forever." NIV

God's goodness is not dependent on your circumstances. He is good not matter what is happening. It may feel as if He's about to let you drown, but He won't. He doesn't just watch you fighting to stay afloat, He rules over the crashing waves. In order for you to see Him and His goodness, even when you feel like you're fighting for your life, you have to shift your perspective. You have to look above the crashing waters. Sometimes, the storm is so intense you can't see beyond it, but even when you can't see God, you can still trust in His goodness and His power over the storms in your life. Just because you can't see God at the moment, doesn't mean He isn't there.

When you're terrified drowning, it's natural thrash about, trying to do anything to stay afloat. The thing is, when you're in water and you can't swim, the worst possible thing you can do is to thrash about. You might pull yourself under, swallow water making it hard to breathe, move yourself to an even more dangerous place, make it difficult for you to be rescued, and you'll exhaust yourself before help can come. Even treading water will quickly sap you of all strength. The safest thing to do is to simply be still, float, and find something to hold on to.

God is the only one who can keep you afloat in the middle of the turbulent waters of your soul. Quit fighting on your own. It's time to hold on to Him, and rely on Him alone to rescue you.

#### Daily Challenge

Listen to "Calm the Waters" by Watermark. voutu.be/w4zBBk2ZsfA

Written by Emily Furda instagram.com/emilyfurda emilyfurda.com



#### Sunday, March 15 2020

Devotional written by Christine Perry Read 2 Corinthians 6:17, Romans 7:15-20

There isn't a day that goes by that we don't fall short. We may try to restrain ourselves, but we often end up saying the wrong thing, doing the wrong thing, grumbling, complaining, gossiping, or giving into the very thing we told ourselves we wouldn't. You name it, we do it. The apostle Paul expresses this struggle in Romans 7:15-20.

But if we had it all together, we wouldn't need a Savior. Jesus came not only to save us. He also came to call us to come out from among the world and be separate. We are called to be ambassadors of light and show Hid goodness in this dark world. We are called to not be overcome by evil but to overcome evil with good. We are called to be patient, faithful, good stewards, gentle, peaceful, and we called to be holy as He is holy. Jesus calls to walk as Jesus walked, and Jesus walked in humility.

Just like Jesus humbled Himself and made Himself of no reputation, it's that example that the world needs to see from us. In a world when everyone seems to be putting each other down to prove who's right. Why not take a moment to listen? When we make a mistake, why not own it or be the first one to apologize?

In order to live as Jesus lived, Jesus needs to be our life and our all because, apart from Christ we can do nothing.

#### Daily Challenge

How can you show God's goodness in a genuine way to others? Find at least one way to do it this week.

#### Written by Christine Perry

<u>instagram.com/thefearlesssojourner</u> learningtobefearless.org

#### Monday, March 16 2020

Devotional written by Danielle Nicole Read Psalm 84:1-4

When our world gets flipped upside down and our lives messed up, we need somewhere to go or be that will give us peace, a place where we can surrender and find rest.

God offers us a dwelling place with Him. We may wonder how we know God's dwelling place of His presence is true. How do we know it won't let us down? How do we know it is good? What differs in His dwelling place from a worldly one?

While there are many different places we could dwell in hard times and good, there is only one that will sustain us. There's only one with such a firm foundation we could never be let down by it. If our dwelling place can't hold us through the roughest of times, how steady is it? If it can't bring us peace when our hearts hurts, does it really bring true peace? If it only lasts for some seasons or can heal only certain hurts, does it hold any power at all?

This is how we know our God's dwelling place is a true and good dwelling place: it doesn't matter how dark the place we're in when we get there, He stands with open arms ready to embrace us. His dwelling place is good because He is good. He provides us with a peace that surpasses all we know and understand. He brings healing and truth to our hurts and carries a freedom like no other.

This is how God's dwelling place is different from ones we may find in our world. We can truly see He can and will sustain us, no matter our circumstances.

#### Daily Challenge

Listen to "Dwelling Place" by Greg and Rebecca Sparks. youtu.be/idQnm41oudY

#### Written by Danielle Nicole

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#### Tuesday, March 17 2020

Devotional written by Diane Marie Read John 9:1-3

The ninth chapter of John tells the story of Jesus healing a man who was blind from birth. As the story unfolds, the man moves from being unsure who Jesus even was, to a man who professes faith in Christ.

When Jesus' disciples saw the man who was blind from birth, their assumption was that either he or his parents had somehow sinned, and the sin had caused his blindness. While there are times when our sin can, by natural consequences, bring in physical disease, this is definitely not always the case.

It is wise to consider our physical health and what we can do to improve it, but there are some things over which we have no control. When this happens, we can allow God to use it, as He did with the blind man, to display His mighty works.

Sometimes, God works through miracles, and sometimes through doctors. Other times, we are not healed on this side of heaven. This does not mean God can't work through you. Some of the most beautiful demonstrations of faith and of God's grace and mercy are shown through those who suffer greatly, yet still love, follow, and worship the Lord, and believe in His goodness.

Whatever our situation, whether we are healed or are still suffering, we should always be open to being used to display the goodness and the works of almighty God.

#### Daily Challenge

Do you know someone who has an illness and still lets God display His goodness through them? What do you see in their life that shows God's goodness, and how does it impact you? Journal your thoughts, and encourage that person sometime this month.

#### Written by Diane Marie

instagram.com/letters from the word

#### Wednesday, March 18 2020

Devotional written by Diane Marie Read John 9:4-34

Jesus was, and still is, in the business of healing. Although His primary purpose for coming to Earth was to die for our sins, He also spent a significant amount of time healing the sick

Today, we continue the story in John Chapter 9 of the man who was born blind. While it may seem strange to us, Jesus spit on the ground, made some mud, and put it on the man's eyes. Jesus then sent him off to the pool of Siloam to wash it off. When he did, he could see! Jesus used mud to make something good.

This didn't make some of the Pharisees happy. It was bad enough that He was going around healing people, but this particular healing was done on the Sabbath. Apparently, healing was considered work. This meant there was no way he could be from God. Others couldn't understand how a sinner could perform such signs.

The formerly blind man, however, understood. He knew he had been blind since birth but had been healed by Jesus. This wasn't something that happened every day. He knew that apart from God, man could never do such a thing. Jesus's goodness to Him came from God's goodness. He knew Jesus had been sent from God and believed.

Consider all God has done for you. See and believe!

#### Daily Challenge

We often place limits on what we think God can do or how He can do it. What limits do you place on God? How does today's reading impact those? Journal your thoughts.

#### Written by Diane Marie

instagram.com/letters from the word

#### Thursday, March 19 2020

Grace Day

Today is a Grace Day designed for you to use in whatever way you need.

Are you behind when it comes to this month's schedule? Then, you can use today to catch up. Is there something you want to spend more time on? Feel free to reread a previous day or skim through multiple days. Consider going back and making up your own challenge for a day. If it was to listen to music, try journaling or memorizing the Scripture. If you'd like, use today to learn more about grace on your own. A concordance or online searchable Bible or Bible app is perfect for this. Even take today and study something completely different.

Whatever you do, remember, God isn't looking for your performance or testing how much you know. He simply wants to spend time with you, speaking to your heart and showing you His love and grace.

#### Friday, March 20 2020

Devotional written by Christine Perry Read Luke 7:18-28

Have you ever questioned God? Have you ever felt so heartbroken, so confused, and so shattered that you can't fathom what God is doing and why He's doing it? In those moments, it's hard to see Him as good.

Life is full of heartbreak, disappointment, loss, the unexpected, and the unfathomable. We all eventually come to a point where we wonder if Jesus is who He says He is and if He is good. In any relationship, we go through bumps, and we will go through bumps with Jesus too.

In Luke 7:18-23, John the Baptist, after spending his life proclaiming Jesus as Messiah, sent his disciples to question if Jesus was who He said He was. Why? Because John had spent his life preparing people for Jesus's arrival. And then, for speaking the truth, John was thrown in prison, facing beheading. Jesus answered John's disciple with a resounding "Yes" by showing them what He did.

In John 16:33, Jesus says, "...In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." NIV

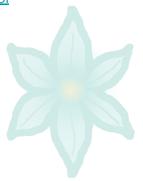
We will not have all the answers this side of eternity, but that's why Jesus asks us to walk by faith and not by sight. When we feel completely out of faith, Jesus is still holding on to each one of us, and He can handle the doubts we have.

#### Daily Challenge

How does knowing even John the Baptist had doubts and Jesus's response to him help you with your doubts? Journal your thoughts, and listen to "Hold Me Jesus" by Rich Mullins. youtu.be/6dHSAQHTLOI

#### Written by Christine Perry

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Saturday, March 21 2020

Devotional written by Emily Furda Read 1 Kings 17:7-16

Do you ever feel as if God is asking you to give more than you have? Sometimes, it feels easier, and more sensible, to resign yourself to the fate that awaits you if you just quit.

In today's Scripture, we see a woman who thought she was at her end. Then, God asked more from her. There had been a drought in the land, and her plan was to make one final meal for herself and her son using the last of her oil and flour. Then, they would die.

Knowing what little she had, God sent Elijah to her. Elijah asked her for bread. She told him her plan and how she didn't have any extra oil and flour to make him bread, but he said to make him bread anyhow. He told her to not be afraid, and she wouldn't run out of oil and flour.

Can you imagine what went through her mind? Did she believe him? Maybe she was too numb to think. Did she think that without the last meal their deaths would come sooner and maybe it was going to be easier that way? Was she muttering to herself the entire way home about how crazy this was? Was she remembering what Elijah said and hoping God would do a miracle?

What would you be thinking if you were in her place?

What if she had said no? She would've missed out on a lifesaving miracle. Can you imagine the wonder and amazement she felt as she made the bread, and there was still flour and oil left? Was she smelling the fresh bread baking, trying not to burn it, as she stared in amazement at her jars?

When God asks you to give something and you feel like you have nothing to give, He will never leave you empty handed. He knows your needs, physically, emotionally, and spiritually. When you're afraid to do what God asks of you, remember His goodness. Remember the miracle He did for this widow who had already resigned herself to quit. Even when you've resigned yourself to quit, because God is good, He will never fail you.

It might be easier to say "no" when God asks you to do something and you feel like you have nothing left to give, but what could happen if you trust His goodness and say "yes"?

Daily Challenge

Listen to "You Will Make a Way" by Mallary Hope. <a href="youtu.be/e6r-rpCeHoQ">youtu.be/e6r-rpCeHoQ</a>

Written by Emily Furda instagram.com/emilyfurda emilyfurda.com



#### Sunday, March 22 2020

Devotional written by Emily Furda Read Psalm 145

Sometimes, we find ourselves dwelling on only the negative things that have or are happening to us. Those things can consume us and can overtake our thoughts leaving us wondering if God's goodness exists.

God's goodness is all around us in every situation. The problem we often have is we're focusing on the wrong thing. David knew the power of meditating, or dwelling on, the good things God does. In Psalm 145, he says how he will intentionally meditate on the things God has done. When we let our thoughts linger on the good things, we naturally have less time dwell on the negative ones.

This isn't pretending everything is fine when it isn't. In fact, it's the opposite. Because there are so many painful things we're experiencing, we need to remind ourselves of the power and goodness of God. When we remember all He has and will do, it helps us to keep going and gives us comfort in our pain.

When you find yourself consumed with worry, take some time to identify what you're dwelling on. It's good to acknowledge what is going wrong, but what are you letting your mind think about over and over? Is it what's going wrong or is it on the provision and strength God promises you? There is no way to go through this life without experiencing pain, but it is possible to not be consumed by it

#### Daily Challenge

Make a list of every good thing it says God does in Psalm 147. How does this impact you? Journal your thoughts.

#### Written by Emily Furda

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#### Monday, March 23 2020

Devotional written by Danielle Nicole Read Psalm 145:3-6

Even when you are struggling to see God's goodness in your life, there will always be ways to find it. From looking back to where you've been, to where you are now, you can see His hand in so many things. You also have nature, and God's Word, which are full of evidence pointing towards His goodness

When you look back at all God has brought you through, you can see how God has been good through it all. Maybe there was a time in your life where you endured something super difficult, a season where trust was hard, or a time where you held many worries. When you look at those memories, don't forget to see how God carried you through them, and back into the light. It's those seasons that point directly to God's goodness through it all.

If you are looking to find His goodness in where you stand right now, take a moment to look around, and see how He is providing. It might be how you wake up to having food for each day, or how He is making a way for you even when life is trying to knock you down. Maybe you see His goodness in the prayers He has been answering.

Even when you struggle to see God's touch in your own life, look outside and see His creation. He provides even for the birds, the trees, and plants. His goodness can be found everywhere we look, including the stories we read in His Word. You can see the goodness of God in so many things. No matter where you are today, there's a way to see His hand moving here. Whether it's in your past, present, the world around you, or in His word, God's goodness is evident and real.

#### Daily Challenge

Where is it the easiest for you to see God's goodness? Why or how does it show you God's goodness? Journal your thoughts. It could be kind words from a friend, nature, music, Scripture, or anything. Why does it show you God's goodness, and how can you make it a point to look for God's goodness even more in that area? Journal your thoughts.

#### Written by Danielle Nicole

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#### Tuesday, March 24 2020

Grace Day

Today is a Grace Day designed for you to use in whatever way you need.

Are you behind when it comes to this month's schedule? Then, you can use today to catch up. Is there something you want to spend more time on? Feel free to reread a previous day or skim through multiple days. Consider going back and making up your own challenge for a day. If it was to listen to music, try journaling or memorizing the Scripture. If you'd like, use today to learn more about grace on your own. A concordance or online searchable Bible or Bible app is perfect for this. Even take today and study something completely different.

Whatever you do, remember, God isn't looking for your performance or testing how much you know. He simply wants to spend time with you, speaking to your heart and showing you His love and grace.



#### Wednesday, March 25 2020

Devotional written by Emily Furda Read 2 Chronicles 20:15-24

When you're facing insurmountable odds, when you've been hurt by others, or when life is overwhelming, it can feel as if you're in a war. The truth is, you are in a war, a war for your heart and mind, and your freedom is at stake.

King Jehoshaphat knew what it was like to be in war. His kingdom was about to be attacked by people who wanted to ruthlessly destroy it and him. Most people would send their strongest warriors to the battlefield first, but God told him to do something unusual. He told King Jehoshaphat to send the worshippers first.

Imagine the shock the people must've felt. Instead of sending those who could attack and defend using their physical strength, they saw musicians and singers. By any earthly measurement, this had disaster written all over it. Fortunately, God isn't bound to earthly rules. The presence of God was their weapon, and it was greater than any earthly one. They didn't have to fight even one attacker. Because they were worshipping God, He took care of their enemies.

It takes nerve to do something as unusual as King Jehoshaphat did. It requires trusting that God is good and always has a good plan for us. When we know deep in your heart God is good, it makes it easier to follow what He says, even when it makes no sense to us or those around us. The presence of our good God is what we need to fight any battle we're up against. When Jehoshaphat told his people to worship, it made the presence of God something tangible. It took their eyes off the battle and shifted their focus to the God who could bring about a victory better than they could ever imagine. The same is true for us today. When we worship God, His presence becomes our greatest weapon against anything we face.

#### Daily Challenge

Listen to "My Weapon" by Natalie Grant. youtu.be/4BpirBRWGUs

Written by Emily Furda instagram.com/emilyfurda

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#### Thursday, March 26 2020

Devotional written by Christine Perry Read Psalm 84:11

Is there something you've been waiting for that hasn't happened? Maybe is a relationship that needs to be reconciled. Maybe it's healing. Maybe it's a career move. Maybe it's a baby. Maybe it's a spouse. In the midst of waiting have you ever questioned God's goodness? You know God's good, but maybe you wonder, is He really good to me?

Sometimes, it's easy to hold out for good for others, but when it comes to our own lives it's hard to see it or hold out for it.

In Psalms 84:11 it says, ... No good thing does he withhold from those who walk uprightly. ESV

God doesn't hold back His goodness. He offers His goodness to each one of us every single moment of every single day. We may not have what we wish for, but if we were given another day of life, there is goodness. Why? because God is in it. He loves each one as if there were only one of us

#### Daily Challenge

What does it mean to you when it says God doesn't withhold any good thing in today's scripture? Journal your thoughts.

#### Written by Christine Perry

<u>instagram.com/thefearlesssojourner</u> <u>learningtobefearless.org</u>

#### Friday, March 27 2020

Devotional written by Danielle Nicole Read Psalm 94:19

When the world is weighing heavy on us, and everything feels out of our control, it can be hard to have peace or see God's goodness. We can feel like we should be able to take hold of all the things that are falling out of our reach and bring change the situations ourselves. Even when we feel like this, we need to know who is in control, and who will bring us peace. It's not up to us to hold the world on our shoulders.

To find peace in these moments, we need to learn to let go of what we feel we should be carrying and in control of. We need to surrender it to God and allow Him to take over. We can't find peace in a situation when we are still trying to fix on our own or trying to handle by ourselves. We were never created to do this alone.

When we have allowed God to take over for us, we need to trust His peace is enough to allow us to rest. This will mean putting our faith in Him, trusting He is good, and believing He has the power to calm our weary hearts.

When we have allowed God to take over the situation, and provide us with peace, we need to trust He will handle everything for us in the exact way it needs to be dealt with. He may not always do exactly what we desire, but He will do what He knows needs to be done.

We can always trust, that even as we go through all of this, God won't leave us feeling concerned about it. Instead, He will come, and comfort us. His peace and goodness aren't only reserved for the good times but will hold us even when all things feel out of our hands.

#### Daily Challenge

Do you struggle to let go and give God full control? How would that impacted if you fully believed God is always good to you?

#### Written by Danielle Nicole

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#### Saturday, March 28 2020

Devotional written by Danielle Nicole Read 1 Peter 1:3

It doesn't matter where we have been, or what we have done, for through Jesus we can be reborn. Because of His goodness, He gives us the chance to have a new hope, one that can't let us down, and a new life apart from the old. He has already paid the price, so we just need to give our lives to Him.

Without Jesus coming to earth and being the ultimate sacrifice for our lives, we wouldn't be able to be reborn. We wouldn't be able to hold the never-ending grace He brought, or the hope He gives our lives. We would still be lost and broken.

He came so we could have new life in Him. He came so our burdens could be lifted, our hurts could be healed, and that we could find freedom from our old selves. No longer will we be tied to our sins, because His life made a way for us to be saved.

His coming brought us a new hope, and through Him we are a new creation. We can now rely on His strength to get us through, His freedom to set us free, and grace to save us. Being reborn in Christ changes our lives, for it opens a new door for hope to capture our lives.

#### Daily Challenge

Listen to "Reborn" by Finding Favour. voutu.be/De6gKeHmi Y

#### Written by Danielle Nicole

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### Sunday, March 29 2020

Grace Day

Today is a Grace Day designed for you to use in whatever way you need.

Are you behind when it comes to this month's schedule? Then, you can use today to catch up. Is there something you want to spend more time on? Feel free to reread a previous day or skim through multiple days. Consider going back and making up your own challenge for a day. If it was to listen to music, try journaling or memorizing the Scripture. If you'd like, use today to learn more about grace on your own. A concordance or online searchable Bible or Bible app is perfect for this. Even take today and study something completely different.

Whatever you do, remember, God isn't looking for your performance or testing how much you know. He simply wants to spend time with you, speaking to your heart and showing you His love and grace.

#### Monday, March 30 2020

Devotional written by Emily Furda Read Isaiah 55:8-9

Have you ever had a day when everything happened at the wrong time and completely threw off your plans? You wanted to get to the store before it's crowded, but you can't find your wallet. You were in the middle of a project for work, and the internet went out. Maybe your GPS's idea of fastest route took you through the middle of a corn field. You had lunch plans, and your child accidentally gave you a new hair accessory made of chewing gum.

In those moments, it often doesn't seem as is God is being very good towards us. It's generally human nature to assume our plans are the best plans, but what if they aren't?

What if those things that go wrong make way for God to give us something better? Perhaps getting to the store late meant the stranger you smiled at was shown kindness for the first time in weeks. You would've missed her if you had been there an hour earlier. The downed internet meant you had time to get a cup of much needed coffee and a chat with a friend. Maybe the incorrect fastest route provided some interesting scenery and a funny family memory that will last forever. Perhaps the chewing gum hair accessory led you to get a new haircut you adore but wouldn't have tried otherwise.

God goodness has a way of showing up in not just unusual places but also at unusual times. The next time something seems to be happening at the absolute worst time, stop for a second, and ask God to show you the bigger picture. Ask Him to show you His goodness and how things are working out for something better than you could ever plan.

#### Daily Challenge

Journal about a time when things seemed to be happening at a bad time. What was your attitude and what happened? How does today's reading impact how you see that day and future days like it?

Written by Emily Furda

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#### Tuesday, March 31 2020

Devotional written by Emily Furda Read Psalm 9:1-2

It can be hard to grasp the vastness of God's goodness to us. It's not because we don't want to or don't believe He is good. It's that it feels like something abstract and we can't connect the dots. We might say a quick "thank you" in prayer when something good happens or even tell a friend about it or put it on social media. Then, it quickly slips from our mind. One in a while something sticks, but mostly it's a blur. We need to see the big picture, and the only way to see the big picture is to look at all the smaller pieces it's made of.

In today's Scripture, David declares how he will tell or talk about what God does. Often, the person we need to tell the most is ourselves. We need to make a conscious effort to look for and remember each good thing God does for us. We need to frequently remind ourselves of them. When we do that, we begin to see the bigger picture of His goodness woven throughout our lives. Our problems might persist, but we find hope because we see God's presence in even the direst of situations.

God's goodness isn't dependent on what you do or don't do. Your circumstances do not dictate how good God is. He is there, every day, in every situation, showing you His goodness. You will see His goodness; all you have to do is look.

#### Daily Challenge

This month you made a list of one good thing that happened every day. Carefully read over that list. Do you see how God is showing you His goodness? How does it make you feel? How does it help you see God's goodness constantly present in your life? Journal your thoughts. Also, listen to "Goodness of God (Nothing Compares)" by Kellie and Kristen. youtu.be/cMTcYqVrCbk

Written by Emily Furda instagram.com/emilyfurda emilyfurda.com



When something good happens, that's a sign of God's goodness to you. It's A Jesus Moment. Each day write down one good thing that happens. It can be anything. Nothing is too small or silly.

1	16
2	
3	18
4	19
5	20
6	21
7	
8	23
9	
10	25
11	26
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13	
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	31