

Live It Out—Discover how to love like Jesus

DAY 1

Read 1 Timothy 2:1

Are you thankful for your friends? Do they know that? What do you love most about them? Have you ever told them?

Good friends are really important. God gave you friends to celebrate the good times (like a birthday or scoring the winning goal) and the bad (like when your cat runs away, or you fail a test). There's something you can do anytime, anywhere to help your friends. No matter where you are, you can pray and talk to God about your friends.

Friendship Prayers

Is there something your friends need prayer for? This verse asks us to pray for others, to ask God to bless them and provide for them, and to thank God for them. Take a few minutes to list three friends on a piece of paper. Under each of their names, list one thing to pray for, one thing you're thankful for, and one thing you hope for each of them. Then use your list to pray for each of them.

DAY 2

Read Matthew 5:44

What does the word 'enemy' mean? Write your definition below:

When you think about an enemy, probably the LAST thing you want to do is love them. When you think about an enemy, you probably want to get even. Jesus gives us a different set of commands. He tells us to love our enemies and to pray for those who hurt us. That seems pretty impossible, right?

What if you flipped those two commands around? In the moment when you are hurt by someone else, what if you stopped and said a prayer? Maybe talking to God about it would be the key to choosing love over getting even. If Jesus tells us to love our enemies and pray for them, wouldn't He also give us the courage to do what He's asked us to do?

Pray First

Here's your challenge for the week. When someone hurts you and you REALLY want to hurt them back, stop and pray. Ask Jesus to help you choose love over getting even.

**MAY THE GOD WHO GIVES
ENDURANCE AND ENCOURAGEMENT
GIVE YOU THE SAME ATTITUDE OF
MIND TOWARD EACH OTHER THAT
CHRIST JESUS HAD.**

ROMANS 15:5, NIV

DAY 3

Read I Thessalonians 5:17

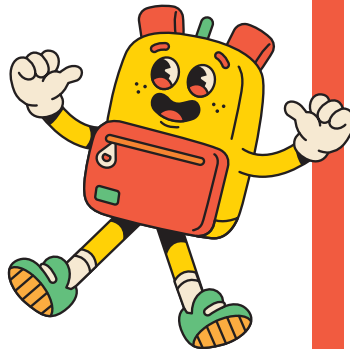
How long can you...

- ➔ Jog in place?
- ➔ Stare at someone without laughing?
- ➔ Sing “La, la, la....”?
- ➔ Stand on one foot?

Even if you could jog in place or stare at someone without laughing longer than any other kid on your block, you couldn’t do any of these things forever, right? You’d eventually have to stop. There are limits to what your body can do.

You might read today’s verse and think, “Never stop praying?” How is that possible? Today’s verse isn’t asking us to pray continually every single minute of every day. Instead, this is a reminder to connect with God. We can talk to God anytime, anywhere, about anything—after all, God is always with us. God hears us and will answer us, every single time.

- ➔ Worried?
- ➔ Happy?
- ➔ Frustrated?
- ➔ Tired?
- ➔ Excited?
- ➔ Scared?
- ➔ Surprised?
- ➔ Anxious?



Pray continually, in every situation, without hesitation, because God hears and cares for you.

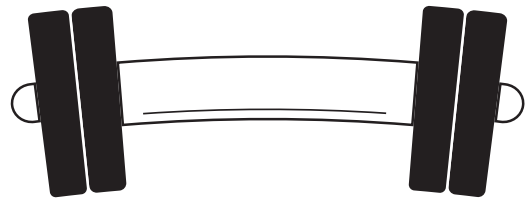
DAY 4

Read James 5:16

Have you ever had someone say, “I’m praying for you”? How did it make you feel? It’s nice to know someone else is concerned about you enough to pray and talk to God.

Do you pray for your friends? When you know they’re sad or confused or anxious, what do you do? Did you know that praying for them could actually make a difference? Today’s verse is a reminder that prayer is powerful—that things can happen when we pray! And while your prayers might not fix things the way you want them to be fixed, they **WILL** make a difference.

“The prayer of a godly person is



Things happen because of it.”

James 5:16

Inside the barbell below, write the word **POWERFUL** in big block letters.



Care for one another.

