

STUMIN

FAMILY DAILY DEVOTIONAL



IT'S BEGINNING TO LOOK A LOT LIKE CHRISTMAS | DEC. 8-14, 2021
BOTTOM LINE: WHERE THERE IS NOT PEACE, BRING IT.

I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit.
Romans 15:13 NLT

>> DECEMBER 8

Hope, joy, and peace are all words we see everywhere during the Christmas season. But when was the last time you stopped to think about why those words show up so much? What do they actually mean for us? As this verse reminds us, hope, joy, and peace are all things we can have when we trust in God. Why? Because God is actually the Creator of all those things!

Where in your life do you feel like you need more hope, joy, or peace?

Memorize this verse, inserting your own name where you see the word "you." Then, pray it that way, asking God to completely fill you up with the hope, joy, and peace promised to us.

Therefore, since we have been made right in God's sight by faith, we have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us.
Romans 5:1 NLT

>> DECEMBER 9

It can be hard to stay motivated to try and connect with God, especially when you feel like you've made a bunch of mistakes. When you feel like you've messed up, you can even wonder if all the things God says are true. You can wonder if things like peace can be possible when we're not always living the way God wants us to live. The great thing about God though, is that we don't have to do anything for God to love or accept us. We can confidently know that because of Jesus, God accepts us when we seek forgiveness. That's where we can find peace.

Today, go somewhere that brings you peace as a reminder that with God, peace is always possible.

And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body you are called to live in peace. And always be thankful.
Colossians 3:15 NLT

>> DECEMBER 10

Peace is one of those words you hear a lot at Christmas. It's a big part of the holiday season. But peace isn't just a feeling we're supposed to have because decorations are up and Christmas music is blaring everywhere you go. Peace is something we're meant to experience every day with the people around us. Of course, that's not easy! Conflict can, and does, happen in all of our relationships. Yet it's our job to work at living in peace with everybody. And the only way we can do that successfully is if we ask Jesus to help us. Jesus makes peace possible in all places.

Today, talk with your family about one way you can work to live at peace with someone in your life this week.

*Give all your worries
and cares to God,
for he cares about you.
1 Peter 5:7 NLT*

>> DECEMBER 11

Think about the top three things you worry about in life. For some, it's family, or grades, or your friend group. For others, it's the health of a family member, or your family's financial situation, or not making the team this year.

Whatever worries you, God wants you to be able to feel peace instead of anxiety in those places. How? By trusting God to take care of the people or things you care about most. It can be hard to know what giving God your worries actually looks like, but it can be as simple as talking to God about them.

Tell God your top three worries. Pray about them. Say, "God, I'm going to trust that You will take care of my worries."

*Glory to God in highest
heaven, and peace on
earth to those with
whom God is pleased.
Luke 2:14 NLT*

>> DECEMBER 12

Peace can be so hard to find in our day-to-day life, especially during the Christmas season. From figuring out what to give someone in your family for Christmas, or having lots of projects or Christmas concerts at school in the weeks leading up to Christmas, this time can be really overwhelming and anything but peaceful.

The truth is that our circumstances are not what actually give us peace though. We can find peace in Jesus!

Jesus is the One that allows us to experience lasting peace. Jesus is the One who can give us a sense of relief and a sense of comfort. With Jesus, you have peace inside of you even when there is not peace around you.

*The Lord gives his people
strength. The Lord
blesses them with peace.
Psalm 29:11 NLT*

>> DECEMBER 13

Right now, it's the gift-giving season! People give and receive all kinds of gifts around Christmas. And the truth is, God does the same! God gives us the gift of strength to handle tough situations and the gift of peace in the middle of difficult circumstances. Often, God gives us these gifts through other people in our lives who can help us when times are tough. And sometimes, God uses us to be that gift in the lives of others!

Who in your life is going through a tough time right now? Think of one way you can show them God's strength and peace. Then, do that thing today as a Christmas gift to them.

*For a child is born to
us, a son is given to us.
The government will
rest on his shoulders.
And he will be called:
Wonderful Counselor.
Isaiah 9:6 NLT*

>> DECEMBER 14

A counselor isn't just someone that helps talk you through tough times. They are also a person who speaks and fights for you when you might not be able to on your own. Knowing Jesus is a Wonderful Counselor for us means that we can have peace, knowing He speaks and fights for us when we need it. So, memorize this verse this week to help you find peace in knowing Jesus is your Helper and Counselor.

Write the verse on a mirror in dry-erase marker and erase a few words each day to test your memorization skills!