

STUMIN

FAMILY DAILY DEVOTIONAL



REBELLIOUS | JANUARY 12-18, 2022

BOTTOM LINE: BE REBELLIOUS ENOUGH TO DO SOMETHING YOU DON'T THINK YOU CAN DO.

*And may the Lord
make your love for
one another and for
all people to grow
and overflow, just
as our love for you
overflows.*

**1 THESSALONIANS
3:12 NLT**

>> JANUARY 12

In the Bible, Jesus tells us that the second greatest commandment is to love our neighbor as ourselves. So, the question we should ask is this: Who is our neighbor? We have neighbors who live in our neighborhoods and communities, but we also have global neighbors who live all around the world. Just as much as God has called us to love those people we know and interact with every day, God has also called us to love the neighbors in the world that we may never meet. God is calling us to serve everyone with His overflowing love.

This week, start by praying that God would show you ways to serve both the neighbors in your neighborhood and the ones living across the world.

*A new command
I give you: Love
one another. As I
have loved you, so
you must love one
another.*

JOHN 13:34 NIV

>> JANUARY 13

Have you ever considered what it means to love someone well? Love can be a very personal thing. What makes one person feel loved and appreciated, another person may not care that much about. So how do you make sure that you're showing love to your parents, your siblings, or your friends? Ask them!

Take the time to talk to those who are closest to you. Ask them to tell you some small things that you can do to show them that you love and care for them. Then, make a point to do at least one of the things they shared with you to serve and love them well this week.

*Everyone who
believes that Jesus is
the Christ has become
a child of God. And
everyone who loves
the Father loves his
children, too.*

1 JOHN 5:1 NLT

>> JANUARY 14

Do you have brothers and sisters? What about friends that are so close they feel like family? If you do, then you know how great it can be to have someone that close to you. Well, if you're a follower of Jesus, then you're a child of God—part of a family of people who love and believe in God just the way you do. And that's pretty cool! It means that you have a group of people to support and encourage you as you follow God's leading together.

Today, reach out to the people in your small group or other members of your church family! Thank them for how they encourage you to love and serve others just like Jesus did.

And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.

MARK 12:30 NLT

>> JANUARY 15

Have you ever wanted to do something to serve someone else but were afraid to do it? Maybe you thought you didn't have what it would take, or you weren't sure where to start, or you didn't feel ready to go for it. When we feel afraid, or unqualified, or unprepared to do big things that might impact the world for good, we can remember this call from Jesus. When we love God with everything we have, we can do big things with big confidence. We can be sure that we not only have what it takes, but that we're following God's greatest call on our lives.

What's one big thing you want to do to serve others? Pray that God would give you courage to use everything you have to serve others out of God's great love.

Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.

JOHN 15:13 NIV

>> JANUARY 16

Part of loving and serving other people is sacrifice. That simply means giving up something we want for the good of the other person. Jesus modeled this for us when He gave up His life for us. That's how great His love for us is! That act of service—that sacrifice—changed everything. It not only showed us God's great love for us, but it gave us an example of how we can give up something to show love to someone else.

Take some time this week to think about how you can sacrifice your time, your resources, or your talent to serve someone else. How can you show someone the kind of love Jesus has shown you?

Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

JAMES 1:27 ESV

>> JANUARY 17

Let's be completely honest. Serving isn't always fun. It can be hard and thankless. Although serving is not always enjoyable, there's a good reason to do it. Think about the person or people who told you about Jesus. They used whatever they had to serve God in a way that connected you to Him. Now, God wants to use you to reach others. When we serve others—when it's fun or when it's hard, when it's convenient or when the sacrifice is big—we are showing God's kindness to others. Serving gives people a real-life example of God's love for them.

So next time you are tempted to skip out on serving, remember the reason you are doing it: to pay it forward by showing God's care and love to others.

And the King will say, 'I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!'

MATTHEW 25:40 NLT

>> JANUARY 18

Doing big things to serve others can feel scary at times. It's something we definitely don't want to do alone! Memorizing Scripture helps remind us that we're not alone. It's like having a note from a friend tucked away to encourage us when we need it! To help yourself memorize this verse this week, look it up online in different translations. Find the translation that sounds closest to the way you would say it.