

STUMIN

FAMILY DAILY DEVOTIONAL



START THE PARTY! | SEPTEMBER 13-19, 2023
YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO BE AN INFLUENCER.

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

John 10:10 NIV

>> SEPTEMBER 13

One of the best ways to start the party in our faith is to memorize Bible verses. Scripture reminds us of what's true about God and the life God wants us to live.

Snap your fingers to a beat as you repeat the words of the verse. Try to add some fun new rhythms to the beat until you find one that makes the words flow nicely. Repeat the verse to the beat as you work to memorize it in a new way!

I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

Philippians 4:13 NIV

>> SEPTEMBER 14

Do you ever find yourself dreading something on your to-do list? Maybe you have a big test, or need to have a hard conversation with a friend, or there is a really difficult game on your team's schedule. Things like that certainly don't make our days feel like the party Jesus promised, do they?

Whatever it is that's causing you to not look forward to the day ahead, remember you aren't facing it alone. God's strength is there to support you and give you courage to face whatever may come your way.

*The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and he helps me.
My heart leaps for joy, and with my song I praise him.*

Psalms 28:7 NIV

>> SEPTEMBER 15

One important thing at any party is the music. A good song can get people out on the dance floor, and a solid playlist sets the vibe for the whole room. Music has a way of sticking with us in such a meaningful way. The writer of this Psalm, a guy named David, wrote a lot of music to reflect on all God was doing in his life. He often made it a point to remind himself (and us!) that God wants to turn the volume up on love, joy, and comfort in this world. That's a soundtrack for a good party!

My dear brothers and sisters, how can you claim to have faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ if you favor some people over others?

James 2:1 NLT

>> SEPTEMBER 16

One of the things that Jesus prioritized was including others. He always made a point to connect with people from diverse backgrounds—especially those that were outcasts or overlooked by the rest of the world. Jesus wanted to remind them of how equally valued, loved, and welcomed into His party they are. And as influencers, Jesus wants us to do the same!

Think about someone in your community that seems often overlooked or left out. Write them an encouraging note, DM, or text this week. Let them know you notice them and are glad they're part of the community you're in. It's a simple way to follow Jesus' example of including and caring for all people this week.

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Hebrews 10:24-25 NIV

>> SEPTEMBER 17

Most people feel sad when their friends are invited to a party and they aren't. It's hard being left out, isn't it? The good news is that Jesus never forgets to invite us to the party. His invitation is open to everyone! In fact, He often went out of His way to show love, kindness, and more to all. It's what He does for us, and it's what He calls us to do for others.

So this week, do just that! Spend time with your small group, friends, teammates, or even your family. While you're together, take time to talk about what it might look like to invite someone new into your group. Think about how you can get into the habit of not just spending time together but also inviting and including others.

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

Colossians 3:12-13 NIV

>> SEPTEMBER 18

Have you ever spent a ton of time in front of a mirror trying on clothes to find the perfect fit? God gives us great advice on how to put on some quality characteristics that will get noticed by others in all the best ways. They're the kinds of things God's Spirit can help us put on and show off in the way we live every single day.

Look at the characteristics listed in Colossians 3:12-13. Ask yourself, "Am I struggling to wear any of these well?" As you look over the list, write down the characteristics you struggle to use in your everyday life. Ask God to help you focus more on those things today.

You have heard that it was said, 'Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.' But I tell you, do not resist an evil person. If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also. And if anyone wants to sue you and take your shirt, hand over your coat as well. If anyone forces you to go one mile, go with them two miles.

Matthew 5:38-41 NIV

>> SEPTEMBER 19

We live in a society that constantly tells us we deserve to take what is ours, that we need to fight for the recognition we deserve for our great works. But Jesus calls us to a different way. Jesus calls us to put the needs of other people above our own. He tells us we should choose to go above and beyond what's required of us in order to serve other people. Maybe this is choosing not to just do the chores your parents give you with a grumpy attitude but to do them while intentionally choosing a positive attitude. Jesus instructs us to go the extra mile. When we do, we wind up bringing glory to God through our humility and actions.