

DAILY DEVOTIONAL

What To Do When You Don't Know What To Do

WEEK 4

WHEN YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO, REMEMBER THAT YOUR PROBLEMS CAN POSITION YOU FOR A PURPOSE.

I have fought the good
fight, I have finished
the race, I have **kept
the faith.**

2 TIMOTHY 4:7, NIV

DAY 1

A lot of people think this letter to Timothy was one of the last things Paul wrote before dying. He was writing while looking back on his life, reflecting on what he had done. And what had he done? Fought the good fight. Paul didn't say he had won the fight or knocked out the competition. He wrote that he had done what he could. That he could look at his life and be content that he lived a way he could be proud of. In other words, Paul wasn't writing about winning. He was writing about finishing well—not giving up, not quitting, not caving in, even at the end. You may find yourself in a season when it doesn't feel like you're winning at much. Remember that the goal isn't to win; it's to finish the race you're on to the best of your ability.

This week, try to memorize this short Scripture. Let it push you to persevere through the journey, no matter what it looks like for you. Though you may stumble or struggle from time to time, you won't ever give up.

For our light and
momentary troubles
are achieving for us an
**eternal glory that far
outweighs them all.**

2 CORINTHIANS 4:17, NIV

DAY 2

You might be facing some difficult stuff in your life right now. Maybe it's something big, or maybe it's something small. Maybe it's something going on at home, in a friendship, or an issue in your faith.

Whatever it is, you need to know God doesn't shy away from our struggles. He works with us and through us in the midst of them. God can handle it. All of it. And nothing is wasted with God. Even our pain can have a purpose. That doesn't mean God causes our pain or that our difficulties aren't that big of a deal. It just means God never allows the worst thing to be the last thing.

Take a moment to pray today, being real with God about what you are struggling with right now. Ask Him to help you recognize His presence with you through it. Pray that He would open your eyes to what He is doing through this difficult season.

The Lord has made
everything for **his own**
purposes.

PROVERBS 16:4A, NLT

DAY 3

Did you ever play with LEGO Bricks when you were a kid? If you did, then you know just how intricate and detailed a process building something out of them can be. As you're creating, you may not see the big picture but the final product is always amazing!

The same is true for the way God sees our lives. We are His creation—His design. And because of that, we are made with a specific and good purpose. Though we may not be able to see it all the time, we can trust that God—the One who created us—has His eye on the big picture and ultimate purpose for our lives. **Who in your life can you encourage with the truth that they are God's purposeful creation today?**

For from him and
through him and for
him are all things.

ROMANS 11:36, NIV

DAY 4

When God created the universe, He put His glory on display. Everything was created through Him and points back to Him. Think about that for a moment! That means we can look all around us and find evidence of God's intention. There are times when this can be easier to believe than others. But when we find ourselves in seasons where we feel alone or unsure of His presence, we can remember that every part of creation is there to show us something about who He is.

Spend time outside this week. Look around and pay attention. Take in some of God's creation! Sometimes finding evidence of God's work is as simple as slowing down. As you do, reflect on the things you see and what you think they show you about who God is.

Let perseverance
finish its work so that
you may be mature
and complete, not
lacking anything.

JAMES 1:4, NIV

DAY 5

If you've ever baked something, you know there's a specific list of ingredients and directions you have to follow to get the finished product you want. If you leave even just one ingredient out, the end result just won't be the same. The whole thing is thrown off.

In this verse, James is saying the same is true in terms of our faith. Our faith needs perseverance in difficult circumstances, maturity in tough circumstances, and determination to keep going and turn out the way it was intended to. All those things work together to help transform us into mature and complete followers of Jesus. And isn't that the result we all want in the end? **Take a moment to pray, asking God to help you develop these qualities in yourself as you keep going on your journey of faith.**