

2020
GENERATION OF
LIGHT YOUTH
DEVOTIONAL
WEEK 21

DAY 141: WE ARE NOW IN GOD'S FAMILY

PRAY THIS PRAYER: GOD, I THANK YOU THAT I KNOW YOUR VOICE AND THAT YOU WILL SPEAK TO ME AS I READ AND STUDY YOUR WORD TODAY.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READING:

EPHESIANS 1:3-6, NEW CENTURY VERSION (NCV): 3 PRAISE BE TO THE GOD AND FATHER OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST. IN CHRIST, GOD HAS GIVEN US EVERY SPIRITUAL BLESSING IN THE HEAVENLY WORLD. 4 THAT IS, IN CHRIST, HE CHOSE US BEFORE THE WORLD WAS MADE SO THAT WE WOULD BE HIS HOLY PEOPLE—PEOPLE WITHOUT BLAME BEFORE HIM. 5 BECAUSE OF HIS LOVE, GOD HAD ALREADY DECIDED TO MAKE US HIS OWN CHILDREN THROUGH JESUS CHRIST. THAT WAS WHAT HE WANTED AND WHAT PLEASED HIM, 6 AND IT BRINGS PRAISE TO GOD BECAUSE OF HIS WONDERFUL GRACE. GOD GAVE THAT GRACE TO US FREELY, IN CHRIST, THE ONE HE LOVES.

EPHESIANS 2:13, NEW CENTURY VERSION (NCV): BUT NOW IN CHRIST JESUS, YOU WHO WERE FAR AWAY FROM GOD ARE BROUGHT NEAR THROUGH THE BLOOD OF CHRIST'S DEATH.

NOW ANSWER SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT YOU READ. THERE IS NO RIGHT OR WRONG ANSWER. JUST WRITE WHAT YOU BELIEVE GOD IS SPEAKING TO YOU.

ARE YOU A PART OF GOD'S FAMILY? WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A PART OF GOD'S FAMILY? _____

DO YOU SEE GOD AS YOUR FATHER? WHAT DO YOU THINK A FATHER SHOULD DO FOR HIS CHILDREN?

CHILDREN OF GOD ARE PROMISED "EVERY SPIRITUAL BLESSING." WHAT DO YOU THINK ARE SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS? _____

DAY 142: WE ARE COMMANDED TO LOVE

PRAY THIS PRAYER: GOD, I THANK YOU THAT I KNOW YOUR VOICE AND THAT YOU WILL SPEAK TO ME AS I READ AND STUDY YOUR WORD TODAY.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READING:

MATTHEW 22:34-40, NEW CENTURY VERSION (NCV): 34 WHEN THE PHARISEES LEARNED THAT THE SADDUCEES COULD NOT ARGUE WITH JESUS' ANSWERS TO THEM, THE PHARISEES MET TOGETHER. 35 ONE PHARISEE, WHO WAS AN EXPERT ON THE LAW OF MOSES, ASKED JESUS THIS QUESTION TO TEST HIM: 36 "TEACHER, WHICH COMMAND IN THE LAW IS THE MOST IMPORTANT?" 37 JESUS ANSWERED, "LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, ALL YOUR SOUL, AND ALL YOUR MIND.' 38 THIS IS THE FIRST AND MOST IMPORTANT COMMAND. 39 AND THE SECOND COMMAND IS LIKE THE FIRST: 'LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOU LOVE YOURSELF.' 40 ALL THE LAW AND THE WRITINGS OF THE PROPHETS DEPEND ON THESE TWO COMMANDS."

ROMANS 12:9-13, LIVING BIBLE (TLB): 9 DON'T JUST PRETEND THAT YOU LOVE OTHERS: REALLY LOVE THEM. HATE WHAT IS WRONG. STAND ON THE SIDE OF THE GOOD. 10 LOVE EACH OTHER WITH BROTHERLY AFFECTION AND TAKE DELIGHT IN HONORING EACH OTHER. 11 NEVER BE LAZY IN YOUR WORK, BUT SERVE THE LORD ENTHUSIASTICALLY. 12 BE GLAD FOR ALL GOD IS PLANNING FOR YOU. BE PATIENT IN TROUBLE, AND PRAYERFUL ALWAYS. 13 WHEN GOD'S CHILDREN ARE IN NEED, YOU BE THE ONE TO HELP THEM OUT. AND GET INTO THE HABIT OF INVITING GUESTS HOME FOR DINNER OR, IF THEY NEED LODGING, FOR THE NIGHT.

ROMANS 13:8-10, NEW CENTURY VERSION (NCV): 8 DO NOT OWE PEOPLE ANYTHING, EXCEPT ALWAYS OWE LOVE TO EACH OTHER, BECAUSE THE PERSON WHO LOVES OTHERS HAS OBEYED ALL THE LAW. 9 THE LAW SAYS, "YOU MUST NOT BE GUILTY OF ADULTERY. YOU MUST NOT MURDER ANYONE. YOU MUST NOT STEAL. YOU MUST NOT WANT TO TAKE YOUR NEIGHBOR'S THINGS." ALL THESE COMMANDS AND ALL OTHERS ARE REALLY ONLY ONE RULE: "LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOU LOVE YOURSELF." 10 LOVE NEVER HURTS A NEIGHBOR, SO LOVING IS OBEYING ALL THE LAW.

NOW ANSWER SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT YOU READ. THERE IS NO RIGHT OR WRONG ANSWER. JUST WRITE WHAT YOU BELIEVE GOD IS SPEAKING TO YOU.

WHY IS LOVING GOD THE MOST IMPORTANT COMMANDMENT? _____

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO "LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR?" _____

PLEASE RATE YOUR LOVE FOR OTHERS. IS YOUR LOVE FOR OTHERS SMALL, MEDIUM OR LARGE? PLEASE SHARE WHY YOU RATED YOURSELF THAT WAY. _____

DAY 143: JESUS LOVES CHILDREN

PRAY THIS PRAYER: GOD, I THANK YOU THAT I KNOW YOUR VOICE AND THAT YOU WILL SPEAK TO ME AS I READ AND STUDY YOUR WORD TODAY.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READING:

MARK 10:13-16, NEW CENTURY VERSION (NCV): 13 SOME PEOPLE BROUGHT THEIR LITTLE CHILDREN TO JESUS SO HE COULD TOUCH THEM, BUT HIS FOLLOWERS TOLD THEM TO STOP. 14 WHEN JESUS SAW THIS, HE WAS UPSET AND SAID TO THEM, "LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME TO ME. DON'T STOP THEM, BECAUSE THE KINGDOM OF GOD BELONGS TO PEOPLE WHO ARE LIKE THESE CHILDREN. 15 I TELL YOU THE TRUTH, YOU MUST ACCEPT THE KINGDOM OF GOD AS IF YOU WERE A LITTLE CHILD, OR YOU WILL NEVER ENTER IT." 16 THEN JESUS TOOK THE CHILDREN IN HIS ARMS, PUT HIS HANDS ON THEM, AND BLESSED THEM.

NOW ANSWER SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT YOU READ. THERE IS NO RIGHT OR WRONG ANSWER. JUST WRITE WHAT YOU BELIEVE GOD IS SPEAKING TO YOU.

WHY DO YOU THINK THE PEOPLE WERE TRYING TO STOP THE CHILDREN FROM COMING TO JESUS?

THE BIBLE SAYS THAT THE KINGDOM OF GOD BELONGS TO CHILDREN. WHAT DO YOU THINK THAT MEANS? _____

THE BIBLE SAYS WE NEED TO ACCEPT THE KINGDOM OF GOD LIKE A LITTLE CHILD. HOW DO YOU ACCEPT THE KINGDOM OF GOD LIKE A LITTLE CHILD? _____

DAY 144: GOD SEES US THROUGH THE LENS OF LOVE

PRAY THIS PRAYER: GOD, I THANK YOU THAT I KNOW YOUR VOICE AND THAT YOU WILL SPEAK TO ME AS I READ AND STUDY YOUR WORD TODAY.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READING:

PSALM 103:8-17, NEW CENTURY VERSION (NCV): 8 THE LORD SHOWS MERCY AND IS KIND. HE DOES NOT BECOME ANGRY QUICKLY, AND HE HAS GREAT LOVE. 9 HE WILL NOT ALWAYS ACCUSE US, AND HE WILL NOT BE ANGRY FOREVER. 10 HE HAS NOT PUNISHED US AS OUR SINS SHOULD BE PUNISHED; HE HAS NOT REPAID US FOR THE EVIL WE HAVE DONE. 11 AS HIGH AS THE SKY IS ABOVE THE EARTH, SO GREAT IS HIS LOVE FOR THOSE WHO RESPECT HIM. 12 HE HAS TAKEN OUR SINS AWAY FROM US AS FAR AS THE EAST IS FROM WEST. 13 THE LORD HAS MERCY ON THOSE WHO RESPECT HIM, AS A FATHER HAS MERCY ON HIS CHILDREN. 14 HE KNOWS HOW WE WERE MADE; HE REMEMBERS THAT WE ARE DUST. 15 HUMAN LIFE IS LIKE GRASS; WE GROW LIKE A FLOWER IN THE FIELD. 16 AFTER THE WIND BLOWS, THE FLOWER IS GONE, AND THERE IS NO SIGN OF WHERE IT WAS. 17 BUT THE LORD'S LOVE FOR THOSE WHO RESPECT HIM CONTINUES FOREVER AND EVER, AND HIS GOODNESS CONTINUES TO THEIR GRANDCHILDREN.

NOW ANSWER SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT YOU READ. THERE IS NO RIGHT OR WRONG ANSWER. JUST WRITE WHAT YOU BELIEVE GOD IS SPEAKING TO YOU.

GOD'S LOVE FOR US IS AS HIGH AS THE SKY IS FROM THE EARTH. HOW WOULD YOU EXPLAIN TO SOMEONE ELSE HOW BIG THE LOVE OF GOD IS?

GOD REMOVES OUR SIN FAR AWAY FROM US - AS FAR AS THE EAST IS FROM THE WEST. THIS JUST MEANS THAT GOD IS SERIOUS ABOUT FORGIVING US. HOW WOULD YOU EXPLAIN GOD'S FORGIVENESS TO SOMEONE ELSE?

DO YOU WANT YOUR FUTURE CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN TO KNOW ABOUT THE GOODNESS OF GOD? WHAT DO YOU WANT YOUR FUTURE CHILDREN TO KNOW ABOUT GOD? _____

DAY 145: SHOW LOVE IN EVERYTHING YOU SAY & DO

PRAY THIS PRAYER: GOD, I THANK YOU THAT I KNOW YOUR VOICE AND THAT YOU WILL SPEAK TO ME AS I READ AND STUDY YOUR WORD TODAY.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READING:

1 CORINTHIANS 13:1-3, NEW CENTURY VERSION (NCV): 1 I MAY SPEAK IN DIFFERENT LANGUAGES OF PEOPLE OR EVEN ANGELS. BUT IF I DO NOT HAVE LOVE, I AM ONLY A NOISY BELL OR A CRASHING CYMBAL. 2 I MAY HAVE THE GIFT OF PROPHECY. I MAY UNDERSTAND ALL THE SECRET THINGS OF GOD AND HAVE ALL KNOWLEDGE, AND I MAY HAVE FAITH SO GREAT I CAN MOVE MOUNTAINS. BUT EVEN WITH ALL THESE THINGS, IF I DO NOT HAVE LOVE, THEN I AM NOTHING. 3 I MAY GIVE AWAY EVERYTHING I HAVE, AND I MAY EVEN GIVE MY BODY AS AN OFFERING TO BE BURNED. BUT I GAIN NOTHING IF I DO NOT HAVE LOVE.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:14-15, NEW CENTURY VERSION (NCV): 14 THE LOVE OF CHRIST CONTROLS US, BECAUSE WE KNOW THAT ONE DIED FOR ALL, SO ALL HAVE DIED. 15 CHRIST DIED FOR ALL SO THAT THOSE WHO LIVE WOULD NOT CONTINUE TO LIVE FOR THEMSELVES. HE DIED FOR THEM AND WAS RAISED FROM THE DEAD SO THAT THEY WOULD LIVE FOR HIM.

ROMANS 12:15 NEW CENTURY VERSION (NCV): BE HAPPY WITH THOSE WHO ARE HAPPY, AND BE SAD WITH THOSE WHO ARE SAD.

NOW ANSWER THIS QUESTION ABOUT WHAT YOU READ. THERE IS NO RIGHT OR WRONG ANSWER. JUST WRITE WHAT YOU BELIEVE GOD IS SPEAKING TO YOU.

OUR ACTIONS MEAN NOTHING WITHOUT LOVE. WHY IS LOVE SO IMPORTANT? WHAT WOULD THE WORLD BE LIKE IF WE DIDN'T HAVE LOVE? _____

WHAT ARE SOME WAYS WE CAN LET THE LOVE OF GOD BE THE MOTIVATION FOR OUR LIVES? _____

CAN YOU SHARE ABOUT A TIME WHEN YOU WERE HAPPY ABOUT SOMETHING GOOD THAT HAPPENED TO SOMEONE ELSE? _____

DAY 146: GOD WANTS TO SHOW MERCY

PRAY THIS PRAYER: GOD, I THANK YOU THAT I KNOW YOUR VOICE AND THAT YOU WILL SPEAK TO ME AS I READ AND STUDY YOUR WORD TODAY.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READING:

2 PETER 3:8-9, NEW CENTURY VERSION (NCV): 8 BUT DO NOT FORGET THIS ONE THING, DEAR FRIENDS: TO THE LORD ONE DAY IS AS A THOUSAND YEARS, AND A THOUSAND YEARS IS AS ONE DAY. 9 THE LORD IS NOT SLOW IN DOING WHAT HE PROMISED—THE WAY SOME PEOPLE UNDERSTAND SLOWNESS. BUT GOD IS BEING PATIENT WITH YOU. HE DOES NOT WANT ANYONE TO BE LOST, BUT HE WANTS ALL PEOPLE TO CHANGE THEIR HEARTS AND LIVES.

MICAH 7:18-19, NEW CENTURY VERSION (NCV): 18 THERE IS NO GOD LIKE YOU. YOU FORGIVE THOSE WHO ARE GUILTY OF SIN; YOU DON'T LOOK AT THE SINS OF YOUR PEOPLE WHO ARE LEFT ALIVE. YOU WILL NOT STAY ANGRY FOREVER, BECAUSE YOU ENJOY BEING KIND. 19 YOU WILL HAVE MERCY ON US AGAIN; YOU WILL CONQUER OUR SINS. YOU WILL THROW AWAY ALL OUR SINS INTO THE DEEPEST PART OF THE SEA.

ROMANS 2:4, NEW CENTURY VERSION (NCV): 4 HE HAS BEEN VERY KIND AND PATIENT, WAITING FOR YOU TO CHANGE, BUT YOU THINK NOTHING OF HIS KINDNESS. PERHAPS YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND THAT GOD IS KIND TO YOU SO YOU WILL CHANGE YOUR HEARTS AND LIVES.

NOW ANSWER SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT YOU READ. THERE IS NO RIGHT OR WRONG ANSWER. JUST WRITE WHAT YOU BELIEVE GOD IS SPEAKING TO YOU.

WHEN SOMEONE SHOWS US MERCY, IT MEANS THEY ARE NOT GIVING US SOMETHING THAT WE DESERVE. GOD SHOWS US MERCY BY FORGIVING US INSTEAD OF PUNISHING US FOR OUR SINS. CAN YOU SHARE ABOUT A TIME WHEN SOMEONE SHOWED YOU MERCY? _____

CAN YOU SHARE ABOUT A TIME WHEN YOU SHOWED SOMEONE MERCY? _____

DOES GOD'S MERCY AND KINDNESS MOTIVATE YOU TO LIVE YOUR LIFE FOR GOD? WHAT ARE SOME OTHER THINGS THAT MOTIVATE YOU TO LIVE FOR GOD? _____

DAY 147: LOVE ONE ANOTHER

PRAY THIS PRAYER: GOD, I THANK YOU THAT I KNOW YOUR VOICE AND THAT YOU WILL SPEAK TO ME AS I READ AND STUDY YOUR WORD TODAY.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READING:

JOHN 15:9-15, NEW CENTURY VERSION (NCV): 9 I LOVED YOU AS THE FATHER LOVED ME. NOW REMAIN IN MY LOVE. 10 I HAVE OBEYED MY FATHER'S COMMANDS, AND I REMAIN IN HIS LOVE. IN THE SAME WAY, IF YOU OBEY MY COMMANDS, YOU WILL REMAIN IN MY LOVE. 11 I HAVE TOLD YOU THESE THINGS SO THAT YOU CAN HAVE THE SAME JOY I HAVE AND SO THAT YOUR JOY WILL BE THE FULLEST POSSIBLE JOY. 12 "THIS IS MY COMMAND: LOVE EACH OTHER AS I HAVE LOVED YOU. 13 THE GREATEST LOVE A PERSON CAN SHOW IS TO DIE FOR HIS FRIENDS. 14 YOU ARE MY FRIENDS IF YOU DO WHAT I COMMAND YOU. 15 I NO LONGER CALL YOU SERVANTS, BECAUSE A SERVANT DOES NOT KNOW WHAT HIS MASTER IS DOING. BUT I CALL YOU FRIENDS, BECAUSE I HAVE MADE KNOWN TO YOU EVERYTHING I HEARD FROM MY FATHER.

COLOSSIANS 3:12-14 NEW CENTURY VERSION (NCV): 12 GOD HAS CHOSEN YOU AND MADE YOU HIS HOLY PEOPLE. HE LOVES YOU. SO YOU SHOULD ALWAYS CLOTHE YOURSELVES WITH MERCY, KINDNESS, HUMILITY, GENTLENESS, AND PATIENCE. 13 BEAR WITH EACH OTHER, AND FORGIVE EACH OTHER. IF SOMEONE DOES WRONG TO YOU, FORGIVE THAT PERSON BECAUSE THE LORD FORGAVE YOU. 14 EVEN MORE THAN ALL THIS, CLOTHE YOURSELF IN LOVE. LOVE IS WHAT HOLDS YOU ALL TOGETHER IN PERFECT UNITY.

1 JOHN 3:16-18, NEW CENTURY VERSION (NCV): 16 THIS IS HOW WE KNOW WHAT REAL LOVE IS: JESUS GAVE HIS LIFE FOR US. SO WE SHOULD GIVE OUR LIVES FOR OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS. 17 SUPPOSE SOMEONE HAS ENOUGH TO LIVE AND SEES A BROTHER OR SISTER IN NEED, BUT DOES NOT HELP. THEN GOD'S LOVE IS NOT LIVING IN THAT PERSON. 18 MY CHILDREN, WE SHOULD LOVE PEOPLE NOT ONLY WITH WORDS AND TALK, BUT BY OUR ACTIONS AND TRUE CARING.

NOW ANSWERS SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT YOU READ. THERE IS NO RIGHT OR WRONG ANSWER. JUST WRITE WHAT YOU BELIEVE GOD IS SPEAKING TO YOU.

WE ARE COMMANDED TO LOVE OTHERS THAT SAME WAY GOD LOVES US. HOW HAS GOD SHOWN HIS LOVE FOR YOU? WHAT IS ONE WAY YOU CAN SHOW GOD'S LOVE TO OTHERS? _____

GIVING IS ONE WAY WE CAN SHOW LOVE. WHAT ARE SOME WAYS THAT YOU HAVE SHOWN LOVE THROUGH GIVING? WHAT ARE SOME WAYS THAT OTHERS HAVE SHOWN LOVE TO YOU THROUGH GIVING? _____

WHAT IS ONE WAY YOU WILL SHOW GOD'S LOVE TO SOMEONE THIS WEEK? _____

