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# DAILY DEVOTIONAL

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All I Want For Christmas / Week 2

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## WEEK 2

IF YOU WANT TO LIGHT THE WAY FOR OTHERS, LOVE THEM LIKE JESUS.

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**“You are the light  
of the world. A  
town built on a hill  
cannot be hidden.”**

MATTHEW 5:14 NIV

### DAY 1

As followers of Jesus, we are meant to stick out from the crowd—but in a different way than you might think.

What if instead of sticking out from the crowd for our appearances, the number of followers we have, or our achievements, we stuck out for our *generosity*? What if you rose above the noise by being someone who invests their time for a cause they believe in, shares your things with a friend, or uses your energy to rally your community around someone going through a tough time? That kind of generous living shines God’s light to the world around you, and that’s something worth sticking out for!

**What’s one way you can shine generosity into the world around you today?**

**Don’t look out  
only for your own  
interests, but take an  
interest in others, too.**

PHILIPPIANS 2:4 NLT

### DAY 2

Good friends are friends who show up for each other and have each other’s back. Whenever there’s a bad day or just a tough situation, good friends are just there for one another. They put their own interests aside to help. And believe it or not, that kind of friendship is also a form of generosity! It’s not us thinking about ourselves, but instead about how we can show up for the people we care about.

**Talk to one of your friends today and see how you can show up for them in their life.** Maybe it’s helping with an end-of-the-semester project, talking with them about a broken relationship, or just going out and having fun after a tough week. Whatever it is, when you choose to reach out to a friend and choose to prioritize their interests and what they need, you’re practicing generosity.

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“Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”

MATTHEW 5:16b NIV

### DAY 3

Have you ever heard the phrase, “Leave a legacy”? A legacy is what others will remember about you one day. You could leave a legacy at your high school after you graduate, on your family after you move out of the house, and even in your community after you pass away one day.

While there are many things that could make up a great legacy, one of the best is *generosity*. What if you lived your life so generously that people came to not only know you as generous, but also to know the God who inspired you to live that way? What if you gave of your time, talents, and even money in a way that made people pause and think about why you’d choose to be so generous in the first place?

Now that’s a legacy worth leaving! And it’s one that reflects the God who gives so generously to us. **Pray and ask God to help you notice new ways to be generous toward friends, family, and even strangers this week.**

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**Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.**

GALATIANS 6:9 NIV

### DAY 4

Let’s be honest: Being generous can be hard. We don’t have enough time, we don’t have enough energy, and we definitely don’t have enough money! Those limitations make *generosity* a challenge. We may even feel like our small efforts are pointless in the big scheme of things. That’s why verses like this are so encouraging. Basically, through this verse in Galatians, God is telling us that our efforts doing good are *never* wasted. Why? Because, eventually, “we will reap a harvest”—something good will come of it! Now, this verse isn’t promising that everything will always turn out perfect—but it is promising that our effort isn’t for nothing!

Is there a relationship or situation going on in your life right now where you feel like “giving up”? Don’t! **Keep persevering, even if it doesn’t feel like the situation or relationship is going anywhere right now.** You never know how God may use it for something good down the road.

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**Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.**

ROMANS 12:12 NIV

### DAY 5

Joyfulness, patience, and faithfulness—if we really want to be generous people, we need all three of these things.

We need to have a sense of JOYFULNESS—instead of obligation—as we give some of our time, talents, energy, and money to the people and causes around us.

We need to have PATIENCE to persevere—even in the moments we don’t feel like we’re making a difference with our generosity.

We need FAITHFULNESS to point our generosity toward God—instead of making our generosity all about how awesome we are.

**Today, write these three words—joyfulness, patience, faithfulness—down on a notecard or in your phone as a reminder of what it looks like to be a person who is truly generous.**