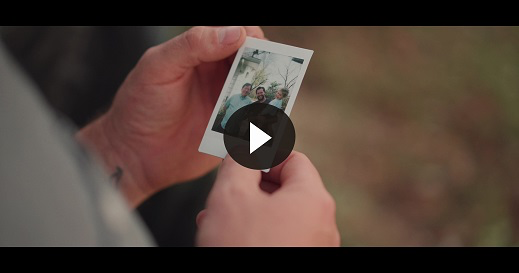
**Personal Devotion**

**Day 1**

**Engage**

Read Luke 15:1–7.



**Consider**

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| **QUESTION**  Who often came to hear Jesus teach? |

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| **QUESTION**  What was the response of the religious leaders to Jesus eating with sinners? |

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| **QUESTION**  What message was Jesus trying to get across to those listening? |

**Reflect**

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| **QUESTION**  Why do you think Jesus was eager to teach the sinners who came to hear Him? |

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| **QUESTION**  What message did Jesus often share with those who didn’t know God? |

**Activate**

Look for opportunities God gives you to be with those who are lost. Then share the love of God with them.

**Pray**

Father, help me to be strong enough to be around those who are lost in sin without falling into sin myself. Please give me courage to share Your love with others. I want a genuine love for those who have yet to hear the good news of Your Son, Jesus. I ask that You empower me by Your Holy Spirit to be a witness for Jesus. Amen.

**Personal Devotion**

**Day 2**

**Engage**

Read Matthew 13:1–23.

**Consider**

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| **QUESTION**  What are the four different types of places the seeds fell? |

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| **QUESTION**  Why didn’t the seeds grow in the first three types of soil? |

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| **QUESTION**  What was the outcome of the seed in good, fertile soil? |

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| **QUESTION**  What is good soil according to Matthew 13:23? |

**Reflect**

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| **QUESTION**  How would you describe your heart according to the types of soil mentioned? Why? |

**Activate**

Each time you read God’s Word, ask for the Holy Spirit’s help to understand and obey it.

**Pray**

God, help me to hear and understand Your Word in greater ways than ever before. Help me to truly listen to the voice of Your Holy Spirit as I read Your Word. Please help me to love the Word, understand it, and share it with others. Amen.

**Personal Devotion**

**Day 3**

**Engage**

Read Matthew 18:21–35.

**Consider**

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| **QUESTION**  What question did Peter ask Jesus? |

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| **QUESTION**  How did the king respond to the man with the large debt when he first asked for mercy? |

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| **QUESTION**  How did the king respond after the man with the large debt showed no mercy to someone who owed him only a little? |

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| **QUESTION**  What do you think is the message behind this parable? |

**Reflect**

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| **QUESTION**  Do you have an easy time forgiving others? Why or why not? |

**Activate**

Take a moment to pray for anyone in your life whom you should forgive. Then, if you feel it would be helpful to the relationship, let them know that you’ve forgiven them.

**Pray**

Lord, help me to forgive those who have wronged me. I want to be a person who freely forgives, just as You forgave me for my wrongs. Thank You for forgiving me of all my sin. Today, I choose to follow Your example, but I need Your help to do this. I also pray for my family and friends that they would be able to forgive like You. Amen.

**Personal Devotion**

**Day 4**

**Engage**

Read John 8:1–11.

**Consider**

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| **QUESTION**  Who brought the woman in front of the crowd and Jesus? |

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| **QUESTION**  What two things did Jesus communicate to the woman in John 8:11? |

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| **QUESTION**  According to John 8:6, what were the accusers trying to do to Jesus? |

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| **QUESTION**  What does this story teach us about the heart of God? |

**Reflect**

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| **QUESTION**  What words would you use to describe Jesus after reading this story? |

**Activate**

Write out the words you came up with to describe Jesus in your Bible next to the story, in a journal, or somewhere you’ll see it from time to time. Some examples of words you might choose would be *merciful, loving, kind*, etc.

**Pray**

Father, thank You that You are gracious toward us, and You offer forgiveness. I ask You to continue to extend forgiveness to me for the things I do, but also help me to not throw stones at others who have sinned. Rather, I want to be like Jesus and help people find a loving Father in You. I want to help them turn their life around as Jesus did with this woman. Amen.

**Personal Devotion**

**Day 5**

**Engage**

Read Luke 19:1–10.

**Consider**

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| **QUESTION**  What did Zacchaeus do in order to get a look at Jesus? |

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| **QUESTION**  How do you think others felt when they saw Jesus going home with someone they considered to be a thief? |

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| **QUESTION**  What did Zacchaeus commit to do? |

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| **QUESTION**  What did Jesus say He came to do? |

**Reflect**

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| **QUESTION**  What can we learn about the heart of God from Jesus’ experience with Zacchaeus? |

**Activate**

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| **QUESTION**  Have you wronged anyone? |

Now, do what you can to make things right, just as Zacchaeus did.

**Pray**

Heavenly Father, show me Your heart in greater ways than I’ve ever understood it. Give me a hunger to go to any extent to see Jesus, just as Zacchaeus did. Help me to make things right between me and anyone I’ve hurt or offended. Give me a heart like Yours, and help me to love as You do. Thank You. Amen.