

Commitment means making a plan and putting it into practice.



DAY 1

Read Ephesians 5:1-2

Fill in the blanks with your name below. Then read this verse aloud along with the blanks.

“_____, you are a child that God dearly loves.

So follow His example.

Lead a life of love, just as Christ did.

He loved you, _____.

He gave himself up for you.

He was a sweet-smelling offering and sacrifice to God.” Ephesians 5:1

(That last sentence might seem a bit confusing. It’s a reminder that Jesus took our place by taking the punishment for the wrong things we do when we died on the cross.

And He rose again so that we could have a relationship with God forever when we put our trust in Him.)

DAY 2

Read 1 Timothy 4:12

Name some things you cannot wait to do when you are older. Say them out loud or write them in the space below.

Maybe you’re thinking, man, I cannot wait to drive. I cannot wait to finish school! I cannot wait until I have my own refrigerator that I can fill up with my favorite ice cream that no one else eats except me!

While you might have to wait for the stuff you’ve listed above, there is one big thing you don’t have to wait for. When it comes to following God, you can start right now. You can set an example for others, even as an 8- or 9-year-old. You can choose to do the right thing, even when it’s hard. You can tell the truth. You can be kind even when the other person is unkind. You can listen and help. There are so many ways you can practice living for God, right now.

Ask God to help you today to make choices that honor Him. Remember that others (even those who are older) are watching your example as you practice living for God!

DAY 3

Read 1 Timothy 4:8

Set a timer for one minute. Complete the following tasks, resetting the timer for one minute for each one:

- Sit ups
- Squats
- Star jumps
- Push ups
- Jogging in place

Are you tired? What might happen if you kept doing that routine, day after day, week after week, increasing the time by one minute each week? Would you get stronger? Absolutely!

Today's verse reminds us that training the body has value but being godly is even better! We've been learning all month long that we can grow in our faith (and become godlier, more like Jesus) when **we practice hearing from God, praying to God, talking about God and living for God**. And when we live for God, it will make a difference right now and forever in heaven.

DAY 4

Read Mark 12:43-44

When is a little actually a lot?

Imagine standing with Jesus across from the spot where everyone dropped off their offering. You watch as several rich men drop in large sums with lots of showing off. Then a poor widow (a woman whose husband has died) walks up and quietly places two small coins in the box.

Who gave more? Which amount cost more?

The widow, of course. Those two small coins cost the widow far more than the large amount the wealthy men gave. The rich men gave out of all their extra. They still had plenty leftover, so it wasn't a sacrifice for them. But this widow, by giving all she had, showed that she trusted God to take care of her.

You might not think you have that much to give. But you do. Because this isn't just about money. Every time you are generous, every time you share, every time you listen or go out of your way to help, you are living for God.

As you practice living for God this week, ask yourself: **Is this honoring God?**

Remember, every little choice you make to live for God, points others to know Him too!

Practice living for God.

