

DAY 6

1 Peter 2:9 NIV

Nothing can compare to the way God sees us. Everything we see in others and want for ourselves—every quality, every trait, every talent—none is as great as what God has already given us. God created us uniquely. That means we're special in our own way just the way we are. And when we know and believe who we are in God is enough, we don't need to look elsewhere to try and compare. God has not only told us who we are, but also that it's more than enough.

Ask God to help you see yourself the way God sees you and celebrate the fact that, in God, you will always be enough.

DAY 7

Proverbs 4:23 NLT

When we work to memorize Scripture, we're not just putting words or verses in our minds. We're putting wisdom, truth, and encouragement directly from God in our minds! That's a powerful thing! We can't lean on, trust, or apply what we don't know! As we memorize verses like this one, we're putting in the effort to know God's Word so that we can lean on it when we're struggling, trust it when we need help, and apply it to our lives so that we can live God's best for us.

Continue trying to memorize this verse this week. Work on it each time you sit down for a meal! Let that remind you to think about it daily this week. Before you eat, take a second to recite it to yourself in your mind, working to get it in your brain more and more each day!

DAILY DEVOTIONAL

FOR AN
everyday faith.

CAUGHT UP / WEEK 2

MIDDLE SCHOOL

DAY 1

Psalms 147:5 NIV

We've all dealt with comparison before, and we'll all deal with it again! That's why it's important to think about how we want to respond. If we allow ourselves to compare ourselves, we focus on those lies instead of the truth of God. But if we lean instead on God's power—if we believe God's words about who we are and who God is—we'll find the strength to overcome those lies. We'll be set free from comparison!

This week, write down a few things you love about who God is and how God made you. Ask for God's power to help you celebrate these things when you feel tempted to compare.

DAY 2

John 3:1a NLT

Have you ever wondered what God thinks of you? The good news is we don't have to wonder long. God makes no secret of the way God feels about us. God not only loves us, God calls us children in the family of God. That means we belong to God, which is pretty cool! What a powerful truth to remember, knowing that because we are God's children, we will always be enough. We have no reason to compare because nothing will ever be better than that!

Spend two minutes right now thanking God that you are God's child and for loving you more than you'll ever understand.

DAY 3

Psalm 100:3 NIV

Take a look outside your window. God made each and every thing you see. Every blade of grass, every drop of rain, every tree growing tall, every flower in bloom, every person walking by on the sidewalk—every detail is a part of God’s creation. And just as God created and knows each one of those things, God created and knows you. In fact, God loves you just as you are—as one of God’s best creations. That’s what we can remember when we feel tempted to compare ourselves to others!

Take time this week to get outside. Let the beauty you see in the world around you remind you of the beauty God put in you, too!

DAY 4

2 Corinthians 10:17 NIV

When we believe that all we have is from God—achievements and abilities included—it changes the way we see the good things in our lives. Rather than celebrating what we have, we celebrate the One who gives it to us. And rather than focusing on what we don’t have, we appreciate the God who gives us all good things. That’s something to celebrate!

This week, as you find yourself tempted to compare or complain, try to celebrate instead. Celebrate what God has given you and even what you see that God has given others around you. Talk about this with a close friend or small group leader, encouraging each other to celebrate all you have because of God.

DAY 5

Hebrews 13:5 NLT

Written by Graham, age 18, from Monroe, Georgia, USA

You don’t need me to tell you that comparison is a struggle for students all over the world today. Including me! People are constantly comparing their lives to others, especially when it comes to the things we have. And when that happens, it can be easy to forget to celebrate what we do have. It can lead us to always want more.

When you find yourself comparing something about yourself to someone else, practice being grateful for what you do have. And one thing you’ll always have no matter what is God by your side. No matter what you have or don’t have, you can remember that God will always be with you and will never fail you.

So when you find yourself comparing something to others, choose to remember the truth that God will always be with you. Today, spend one minute thanking God for being with you always, and to help you choose to be grateful today for what you do have.