

# DAY 6

**And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father.**

**(Colossians 3:17 NLT)**

Who are the people in your life you represent? Maybe a coach, teacher, or parent? What are the activities you represent? Your sport, band, or the video game you're great at. We all represent multiple things from various aspects of our lives; we represent our families, friends, teams, activities, and hobbies. But, one of the most important things we represent is our relationship with God. With that in mind, we remember that the things we say and do are also representations of our relationship with God. If what we are doing and saying about ourselves or others is tearing each other down because of comparison, we're not representing how thankful we are for what God has already given us.

**Today, ask God to show you ways you may be tearing others down because of comparison. Then, ask God to help you live in a way that represents how grateful you are for all God has given you. This isn't about feeling guilt or shame, it's about being real and experiencing the life change God offers to us.**

# DAY 7

**Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life.**

**(Proverbs 4:23 NLT)**

Comparison can produce some pretty negative emotions in our hearts and minds: things like jealousy, envy, and bitterness. Proverbs 4:23 reminds us that it's our job to protect our hearts from allowing emotions like jealousy, envy, and bitterness to take root and cause us to act out. Protecting your heart can look like taking a break from certain apps or social media or even sharing what makes you jealous with someone you trust so they can help you refocus.

**Today, write this verse somewhere you will see it often and then share it with someone you trust. When you share it with them, ask them to pray for you as you work toward guarding your heart.**

# DAILY DEVOTIONAL

FOR AN  
**everyday faith.**

THIEF OF EVERYTHING / WEEK 2

## DAY 1

**Great is our Lord and mighty in power; his understanding has no limit.**  
**(Psalm 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

**See how very much our Father loves us, for he calls us his children, and that is what we are!**  
**(John 3:1a NLT)**

There's something very special and powerful about what it feels like to truly belong. Where you belong and who you belong with varies from person to person, but when it happens it can help you feel confident, loved, appreciated, and accepted. That's exactly how God wants us to feel in our relationship with Him. God sees us as beloved children that fit perfectly into His family and because of that, we don't have to wonder how we might compare to others or if we are good enough because we are good and loved!

**Today, spend some time in prayer thanking God for the unconditional love God gives you that makes you a part of the family.**

## DAY 3

Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.(Psalm 100:3 NIV)

What's your favorite aspect of nature? Some people like the freshness from a recent rain; others like the shapes the constellations make. Whatever fascinates you about nature was created by God—on purpose. In fact, you are a fascinating part of nature yourself! God put thought into who you are and what makes you truly you. And just like the things we love about nature are worth celebrating, YOU are worth celebrating too.

**Today, jot down three fascinating things that make you, you. Then, later, if you are tempted to have negative thoughts about yourself, think about your favorite thing in nature and remember that YOU are created uniquely by God and there's nothing that can change that.**

## DAY 4

But, "Let the one who boasts boast in the Lord."  
(2 Corinthians 10:17 NIV)

Sometimes, the concepts of boasting or being prideful are things we have to keep a tight reign on in our personalities and character traits. No one wants to be around the snobby person or people who are full of themselves. It can be tempting to try to earn more achievements and accolades than others in order to feel worthy of being celebrated. But the one thing we can always celebrate is what God chooses to do in our lives. It's not about whether we have the approval of others, but how we can help others to see what it looks like to be accepted, loved, and valued by God.

**Today, make a list of three things you hope to accomplish and then three things you hope God accomplishes in your life. Then, say a prayer asking God to help you celebrate items from both lists and not just the one.**

## DAY 5

Don't love money; be satisfied with what you have. For God has said, "I will never fail you. I will never abandon you."  
(Hebrews 13:5 NLT)

*Written by Josiah, age 18, from Wright City, Missouri, USA*

Have you ever gotten up early in the morning to hear the birds sing? If you listen close enough, you'll realize they all sound different. But they don't let that stop them from singing. Each bird has a unique song and noise that's specific to that type of bird. Same with humans, there is not one person who will be like you. You are unique just like the birds that sing in the morning. In all the different songs the birds sing, when they come together it's a masterpiece of music that points to God, who created them.

**Today I encourage you to be comfortable with who you are. Be content with what God has given you. Today's verse is a great reminder of this. We have all that we need in Christ, just like Paul writes about in Philippians 4:19: "And my God will supply all**

**your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus." Tomorrow, I encourage you to go outside early in the morning. Listen to how the birds sing. Notice how they don't compare themselves to the other birds. They just proudly sing their unique song for the world to hear. Let their song remind you that your uniqueness can reflect the God who created you, to the world around you.**