

# DAILY DEVOTIONAL

FAM / Week 3

*“How good and pleasant it is when God’s people live together in unity!”*

*Psalm 133:1 NIV*

## DAY 1

Think about your favorite sports team. Or maybe even your favorite band or music group. In order to complete the goal of winning or putting on a good show, each person must work together as one. In other words, they have to have unity. And the same is true for us. No matter who makes up our family, it’s important that we work to live in unity with them. In order to be truly at peace, we need to be at peace with the people closest to us—the people in our fam. That’s true, and according to this Psalmist, it’s something worth pursuing. This week, talk to your family or those closest to you about what choosing unity might look like for you.

*“Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.”*

*James 1:17 NIV*

## DAY 2

Who makes up your family? Is it parents and siblings? Grandparents, aunts, or uncles? Foster parents or friends? Maybe even your Small Group? Whoever it is, think about those people today. Think about what each of the people in your fam bring to your life. The kindness, the fun, the love—every good thing you have in your fam comes from God. And He gives you those people in your life because He loves you. This week, take time to thank God for the people who make up your unique fam. Then, let those people know what they bring to your life. Appreciate who they are and what they do for you by letting them know how you feel.

*“We love because he first loved us.”*

*1 John 4:19 NIV*

## DAY 3

Love. When we really think about it, love is pretty interesting, right? You may think love is something that just sort of “happens” between people. But when we think about love in the context of our family, we realize that love is also a choice. There are definitely days when we loving your family is easy, but there are other days when it’s much more difficult. It doesn’t come easy. And that’s when we have to choose it. The good news is, God helps us choose love. He loves us so that we can love others. And when we don’t feel like love comes easy, He is there to help us choose it. Pray today and ask God to fill you with His perfect love — especially for your imperfect family.

<p><i>“He predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will.”</i></p> <p><i>Ephesians 1:5 NIV</i></p>	<p><b>DAY 4</b></p> <p>Adoption is an amazing way to make a family! It’s exactly the way God makes His family—by adopting us into it through Jesus. He chooses us to be a part of His forever family. So no matter what our family looks like here on Earth, we can find comfort in knowing we belong to a bigger family of faith. Our belief in Jesus makes us a part of His family, and that is something we can celebrate! Today, thank God for the family He’s given you in your fellow believers. Thank Him for adopting you and giving you a place in His family that will never change.</p>
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<p><i>“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade.”</i></p> <p><i>1 Peter 1:3-4a NIV</i></p>	<p><b>DAY 5</b></p> <p>Did you know there are things you can inherit from your fam? Things that are of lasting, important value? Things like your dad’s sense of humor, or your aunt’s compassion, or your best friend’s kindness, or your adopted parents’ humility. Those gifts and traits never fade, wear out, or get run down. They are lasting. They’re unique. They’re what matter. They’re gifts from God Himself. Think about the qualities you’ve inherited from those in your fam. Make a list of them and then let the people in your fam know that you appreciate that quality in them and in yourself!</p>
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<p><i>“Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments.”</i></p> <p><i>Deuteronomy 7:9 NIV</i></p>	<p><b>DAY 6</b></p> <p>When was the last time a family member broke a promise to you? How did you feel? Hurt? Frustrated? Angry? Disappointed? We all know the feeling of broken promises. In fact, we’ve all probably broken a few ourselves. The good news is that we serve a God who never breaks His promises. So, when things in our family change—when promises get broken—we can fix our eyes on the God who stays the same. The God whose promises will never change or let us down. Take some time this week to look up a few of the promises God made to us. Ask your Small Group Leader, parent, or a trusted friend for help. Talk about which one of those promises means the most to you right now.</p>
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<p><i>“By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”</i></p> <p><i>John 13:35 NIV</i></p>	<p><b>DAY 7</b></p> <p>One of the best ways to show our faith to our family is to memorize Scripture that will help remind us what our faith looks like in action. Work on memorizing this verse this week. Try texting it to a friend at different times this week, working each time to memorize it a little more. By the end of the week, text it by memory alone and talk to your friend about how you are working to love others in your family this week.</p>
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