

Crossroads Daily Guide
Week of August 14, 2016
Week 2:
Finding Hope in the Darkness...
A 21 Day Spiritual Experience



Week Two: Finding Hope in the Darkness... a 21-day spiritual experience

These next seven days are critical in this 21-day spiritual experience of transformation. This is the point where we can begin to get bored with the process and begin to wane a bit in our daily practices of pausing three times a day to reflect and record how gratitude, service and reflection are helping us to find hope. Even if it feels as though not much is happening, stay with it. This is the week to break through any slump.

If you haven't signed up to receive the daily reminders, via text messages, then text the word, crossroads, to 41411 and you will receive three texts each day to help you stay with the process of transformation.

The scriptures for this week focus on service as being core to all that Jesus taught and did. They help us to see that serving has always been at the center of how we express our love for God, others and self. By joining action and contemplation together we receive, the scripture says, more than we give.

Every act of service, from a simple smile to going out of our way to help someone, shines as light in the world. It brightens both our hearts and the hearts of those we serve. No matter how dark the world might seem to be, our prayerful acts of service, which is what every act of service is, shines God's light of hope right where we are. Darkness cannot overcome it.

If you were not able to be in worship this past week then it would be helpful to go online:

<http://everydaylifewithgod.org/> click the audio message tab to listen or go to iTunes and subscribe to Crossroads Ashburn Podcast to receive weekly messages. You can also watch the entire 11am service online as well.

May these daily practices of gratitude, service and reflection, coupled with short scripture passages help us to find a renewed hope as we do as the Psalmist said: Let us serve the Lord with gladness!

Sunday, August 14, 2016

Matthew 23:11 - But the one who is greatest among you will be your servant.

Remember to name three things for which you grateful as an act of love and worship, look for chances to serve and how you are served then end the day with a time of reflection recognizing God's presence/guidance. Text the word crossroads to 41411 to receive daily reminders.

Monday, August 15, 2016

Matthew 7:12 - In everything, do to others what you would want them to do to you. This is what is written in the Law and in the Prophets.

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Tuesday, August 16, 2016

Hebrews 6:10 - God is fair. He will not forget what you have done. He will remember the love you have shown him. You showed it when you helped his people. And you show it when you keep on helping them.

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Wednesday, August 17, 2016

Luke 6:38 - Give, and it will be given to you. A good portion—packed down, firmly shaken, and overflowing—will fall into your lap. The portion you give will determine the portion you receive in return."

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Thursday, August 18, 2016

1 Peter 4:10 - And serve each other according to the gift each person has received, as good managers of God's diverse gifts.

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Friday, August 19, 2016

Romans 12:11-13 - Don't hesitate to be enthusiastic—be on fire in the Spirit as you serve the Lord! Be happy in your hope, stand your ground when you're in trouble, and devote yourselves to prayer. Contribute to the needs of God's people, and welcome strangers into your home.

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Saturday, August 13, 2016

Galatians 5:13 - As for you, my friends, you were called to be free. But do not let this freedom become an excuse for letting your physical desires control you. Instead, let love make you serve one another.

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