

Daily Reflection on Scripture
Week of January 6
Love Wins Week 1



Sunday January 6

LOVE WINS: Love is a verb. By showing loving acts we demonstrate the power of God's love to change us and others. Today help love win by being patient and kind. Patience and kindness have the power to break down walls of misunderstanding. When that happens, love wins; when love wins we all win.

Scripture: 1 Peter 4:8 Most of all, love each other as if your life depended on it. Love makes up for practically anything.

Morning Prayer: God, of all the things that I have to do today, today's scripture tells me what is most important for me to do. I am to love others as if my life depended on it. For some people that will be easy. For some others that will be really challenging. Thank you for the people in my life who love me and whom I love. Help me to be patient with those whom I struggle to understand. Help me to be kind to those who can easily irritate me. Most of all help me to remember what my number one responsibility is for today. I am to love others as though my life depended on it. May it be so.

Noon Text: Patience and kindness have the power to break down walls of misunderstanding. When that happens, love wins; when love wins we all win.

Evening Text: God, it's time for me to slow down. Help me to know it's okay to set aside my work for now remembering that my greatest responsibility is to love and be loved.

Monday January 7

LOVE WINS: Love is a verb. By showing loving acts we demonstrate the power of God's love to change us and others. Today help love win by being being humble instead of proud. Humility has the power to overcome arrogance and pride. When that happens, love wins; when love wins we all win.

Scripture: Colossians 3:14 ...regardless of what else you put on, wear love. It's your basic, all-purpose garment. Never be without it.

Morning Prayer: God, as I move into the New Year I want to love in ways I have never loved before. As this scripture says, I want to be "clothed" in love, covered in love, wrapped in love, so that when someone encounters me they encounter love. Without love, it doesn't matter what else I do, or say, or accomplish, or become. If I do not embody love then it is all for nothing. I want to open my heart to receive Your love in new ways so that I can give love more freely. You are my teacher and example. May it be so.

Noon Text: Every person you meet is loved equally by God and therefore deserving of your love as well. When you love extravagantly, then love always wins.

Evening Text: My last thoughts tonight will be about how I can love more extravagantly tomorrow. Expand my heart, God. Break it open, so that love can pour in and out.

Tuesday January 8

LOVE WINS: Love is a verb. By showing loving acts we demonstrate the power of God's love to change us and others. Today help love win by affirming people for their gifts and presence. Affirmation has the power to build strong and loving relationships. When that happens, love wins; when love wins we all win.

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 16:13-14 Stand firm in the faith. Be courageous. Be strong. And do everything with love.

Morning Prayer: God, as I begin another day, before I turn on the news and listen to stories of conflict and discord in our world, let me take some quiet time to soak in Your love and grace. Instead of allowing myself to be discouraged, I resolve to stand firm in my faith, to be courageous and strong. Let me extend Your love and grace with words of affirmation, words designed to build up instead of tear down. May it be so.

Noon Text: Stop and take stock. How are you showing love to others today? Have you been affirming your family, friends and co-workers? Affirmation demonstrates love.

Evening Text: God the day draws to a close and I reflect on how in offering affirmation to others I was affirmed myself because when we love each other it is win-win.

Wednesday January 9

LOVE WINS: Love is a verb. By showing loving acts we demonstrate the power of God's love to change us and others. Today help love win by serving others. Service has the power to breakthrough stereotypes. When that happens, love wins; when love wins we all win.

Scripture: Ephesians 4:2 Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love.

Morning Prayer: God as today begins, help me to look at every one in my path through Your eyes. Help me to see through previous experiences, preconceived ideas, and labels to see each person as an individual created by You, each with a purpose to be loved and to be love. By seeing others through eyes of acceptance and grace love wins. May it be so.

Noon text: Service has the power to break through stereotypes. When that happens, love wins; when love wins we all win. Help me show the power of love by serving others.

Evening Text: Tonight before I close my eyes, help me to rest in the reality that when I release unmet expectations and disappointments as an act of trust, that love wins.

Thursday January 10

LOVE WINS: Love is a verb. By showing loving acts we demonstrate the power of God's love to change us and others. Today help love win by listening with both of your ears. Listening makes people feel valued and loved. When that happens, love wins; when love wins we all win.

Scripture: Luke 6:35 "Love your enemies! Do good to them. Lend to them without expecting to be repaid. Then your reward from heaven will be very great, and you will truly be acting as children of the Most High..."

Morning Prayer: God, please give me the strength to let go of resentments and anger that I harbor toward others. Give me the humility to reach out to these people with sincere expressions of love but expecting nothing in return, except for the peace that comes from surrendering my anger to love.

Just like You love us, warts and all, give me the wisdom to love others, even if they have harmed me in some way. May it be so.

Noon Text: God, give me the strength to let go of resentments and anger and replace it with love and forgiveness.

Evening Text: God, as the day draws to a close, give me the peace that comes from replacing anger with love.

Friday January 11

LOVE WINS: Love is a verb. By showing loving acts we demonstrate the power of God's love to change us and others. Today help love win by seeing the goodness of God in others. Seeing God's goodness in others has the power to change how you see the world. When that happens, love wins; when love wins we all win.

Scripture: Ephesians 5:2 Live a life filled with love, following the example of Christ.

Morning Prayer: God today I want to live my life filled with love. But I know that it will not be easy. Situations and people will challenge me. My first reactions to these challenges may be negative. Help me to not act on my first impulses but instead be reminded of the example of Christ, who taught us to respond in love. Remind me that everyone I encounter today is Your child; in each person let me see not our differences but instead see Your goodness. May it be so.

Noon Text: Look at everyone you encounter today as God looks at them, with love. You will see the goodness of God reflected in them & in you. God's love changes the world.

Evening Text: God, the week has drawn to an end. I can rest well tonight secure in Your love and grace and tomorrow wake to share that abundant love.

Saturday January 12

LOVE WINS: Love is a verb. By showing loving acts we demonstrate the power of God's love to change us and others. Today help love win by seeing God's divine love inside everyone. Seeing the essence of God's love in others has the power to help us see that we are all one human race. When that happens, love wins; when love wins we all win.

Scripture: Psalm 86:15 But you, O God, are both tender and kind, not easily angered, immense in love, and you never, never quit.

Morning Prayer: God, as the first week of the new year comes to a close the news is still the same as before. There are so many divisions, angry words spoken, and disparities all over the world. Often I feel paralyzed not knowing how I can make a difference. Maybe the answer to my question is as simple and profound as serving others. Perhaps the greatest and only change I can bring into the world is me. Help me to have eyes peeled for moments of serving. May my acts of serving break through stereotypes and divisions in ways that show the power of love. May Your love in and through me win yet again today. May it be so.

Noon Text: The grace to see God's love in others has the power to help you see that we are all one human race. When that happens, love wins; when love wins we all win.

Evening Text: God, I don't know for sure how my acts of service today changed another person's life, but I can feel some change in me. In that I can rest with renewed hope.