

Daily Reflection on Scripture
Week of January 20
Love Wins Week 3
Hell



Sunday January 20

TODAY LOVE WINS: Every day we have the choice to say “No” to hell so we can say “Yes” to God’s Kingdom of love on earth. Today, pray for God to help you choose God’s love. Putting that prayer of love into action will show you and those around you how God’s love heals and never harms. That’s how love can win today, and win love wins we all win.

Scripture: Proverbs 10:12 Hate stirs up conflict, but love covers all offenses.

Morning Prayer: God, it is so easy for me to resent those who have hurt me. I have a tendency to want to lash out at those who bring pain into my life. Indeed, it stirs up a lot of conflict. Why do I choose to hold onto to resentment? Why do I choose to hold grudges? Why do I choose to live in what feels like hell? Is it true that love wins over the negative thoughts that I have of others? If so then my prayer today is quite simple. Help me to remember to love instead of ruminate on the hurt. Help me to believe that love is always greater than resentment. Help me to believe that love covers a multitude of offenses, and that love is always an option I can choose. Help me to believe that love wins. May it be so.

Noon Text: Pause and choose God’s love. Putting love into action will show you and those around you how God’s love heals and never harms. That’s how love can win today.

Evening Text: God, as I lay down to rest I release all the resentments I have felt toward anyone today. I rest in Your love by choosing love over any resentment of others.

Monday January 21

TODAY LOVE WINS: Every day we have the choice to say “No” to hell so we can say “Yes” to God’s Kingdom of love on earth. Ask God to help you make the choice to love today. When a negative thought comes, take a breath and say, “I choose love”. That’s how love can win today, and when love wins we all win.

Scripture: Lamentations 3:2 The faithful love of the Lord never ends! God’s mercies never cease.

Morning Prayer: God, knowing that your love is constant and unending is a great source of comfort and strength. The many circumstances of my life will change daily and seasonally, but knowing Your unwavering love is always with me, constant and true, helps me to move forward in dark times. Help me to live with my heart open to offering that same kind of love to others. Love is the key that unlocks relationships, brings healing, strengthens the faint hearted and leads us on. Jesus is our truest example. I want to love as Jesus loved. May it be so.

Noon Text: Take a moment to think about the idea that God’s love never ends. It is renewed every day. Whatever you face today, God’s love is with you. It is new every day.

Evening Text: God, I am thankful for Your love holding me and guiding me even when I am asleep and my mind, body and spirit are resting. Thank you for Your constant love.

Tuesday January 22

TODAY LOVE WINS: Every day we have the choice to say “No” to hell so we can say “Yes” to God’s Kingdom of love on earth. Instead of looking at the actions of others first, love should take us inward and ask what is in my heart? Is there love or ill will? Love for others begins in our own hearts. Let love begin there and you will see how love can win today, and when love wins we all win.

Scripture: John 3:17 God didn’t go to all the trouble of sending his Son merely to point an accusing finger, telling the world how bad it was. He came to help, to put the world right again.

Morning Prayer: God, no matter how good a day I have, at some point there may be some sort of conflict, with co-workers, friends or even family. How often is my first response in the midst of a conflict to quickly point an accusing finger, deflecting blame or refusing to accept my own responsibility for the situation? How much better would it be if I could step back and look at the situation through eyes of love, rather than try to assign blame. Help me stop and search my heart and make sure it is in alignment with Yours. If I encounter conflicts today let my actions model those of Jesus, reacting in love and working together to put things to right. May it be so.

Noon Text: What’s in your heart today? Are you reacting to those around you with love, even those who look, sound or think differently than you? Let love win today.

Evening Text: God, I am so grateful for the model of Jesus. My day was better because I made the effort to respond to others with love. Now I can rest easy in Your love.

Wednesday January 23

TODAY LOVE WINS: Every day we have the choice to say “No” to hell so we can say “Yes” to God’s Kingdom of love on earth. In God’s Kingdom all of us are given unconditional love. Choose to love as best you can. Try to look at others without judgment, see them as persons who feel hurt as you feel hurt. Then watch how love frees your soul from the hell of resentment. When that happens love wins and when love wins we all win.

Scripture: Matthew 5:45 Here is what God does. God gives the best—the sun to warm and the rain to nourish—to everyone, regardless: the good and bad, the nice and nasty.

Morning Prayer: God, today more than ever, I ask You to help me guard my heart and mind so that I can see You in everybody I come across. May I remember that everyone is lovingly created to shine Your light in the world. May the light of Your love seen in me help others see their eternal value. I truly believe that putting this prayer into action will show how love wins when others feel loved by God with skin on. May it be so.

Noon text: Who in my life do I judge? Today may I see them as they are: imperfect and yet perfectly loved by You for who they are. If I can do that, then love wins.

Evening Text: As I sit in peace tonight, today was the day I worked on the “little things” not becoming “big things” in my life. May tomorrow bring peace like it did today.

Thursday January 24

TODAY LOVE WINS: Every day we have the choice to say “No” to hell so we can say “Yes” to God’s Kingdom of love on earth. Today ask God to help you to choose love others as God loves you. When that happens love wins, and when love wins we all win.

Scripture: John 1:17b God’s unfailing love and faithfulness came through Jesus Christ.

Morning Prayer: God, let me experience hope through the love of Jesus Christ. Teach me to lean on Christ as the ultimate example of compassion, forgiveness and grace. Forever remind me that it is through Christ's love that I convey love toward others and offer them the same love that he shows toward me.

Noon Text: God, teach me how to lean into Christ as the ultimate reality of compassion, forgiveness service and wisdom. In doing so love wins.

Evening Text: God, as the day draws to a close, let me rest in the confidence of knowing that nothing can separate me from Your love.

Friday January 25

TODAY LOVE WINS: Every day we have the choice to say "No" to hell so we can say "Yes" to God's Kingdom of love on earth. All around you is the grace of God. Look for it and you will be blessed. In this way you will be choosing love for self and others. When that happens love wins and when love wins we all win.

Scripture: Titus 2:11 For the grace of God has been revealed, bringing salvation to all people.

Morning Prayer: God, I will face many choices today. In reality I know that sometimes I will choose wisely and other times I will choose poorly. Before I make these important decisions help me to search my heart and listen for Your wisdom. How are my choices and my actions blessing others and revealing Your grace? In all that I say and do today, let me choose to speak and act with love. May it be so.

Noon Text: Pause and reflect. How is God being revealed through your words and actions today? Are you choosing to speak and act in love? When you do, love wins for all.

Evening Text: God, the week has drawn to a close. I am grateful for the ways Your love has been revealed to me this week. I can rest peacefully, secure in that love.

Saturday January 26

TODAY LOVE WINS: Every day we have the choice to say "No" to hell so we can say "Yes" to God's Kingdom of love on earth. Choosing to judge others creates a lot of separation in our families, communities, and world. Ask God to help you move from judgement to understanding that everyone is carrying a burden. When that happens love wins, and when love wins we all win.

Scripture: 1 Peter 4:6 For this reason the gospel was preached also to those who are dead, so that even though they might be judged according to persons in the flesh, they might live according to God in the spirit.

Morning Prayer: God, it is so easy for me to judge others. Why? Why do I judge anyone before I know their story? Why do I judge others who are different in thought and lifestyle? I remember reading in the Bible that if I judge others then I am setting myself up to be judged as well. Today I want to be free of judgment. I want to try to understand why others act the way they do. Help me to have an open heart and mind so I can be free of the hell that judging others has brought into my life. May it be so.

Noon Text: Choosing to judge others creates a lot of separation in our world. Ask God to help you move from judgement to understanding that everyone is carrying a burden.

Evening Text: God, I want a peaceful rest tonight. So I ask for forgiveness of any unfair judgements that I have made of others today. Help me to forgive as you forgive.