

**Daily Reflection on Scripture
Week of February 3
Love Wins Week 5
Confirmation**



Sunday February 3

TODAY LOVE WINS: Surprise someone at a drive through or in line getting coffee by paying for the person behind you. In small acts of kindness and generosity, love wins and when love wins we all win.

Scripture: Ephesians 3:17 I ask that Christ will live in your hearts through faith. As a result of having strong roots in love, I ask that you'll have the power to grasp love's width and length, height and depth, together with all believers.

Morning Prayer: God, today's scripture captures my heart's intention. I want to live today remembering and believing that Christ already lives in my heart. I want to continue to grow deep roots in the soil of Your unconditional love. Just like the roots of trees grow beneath the surface and extend outward beyond themselves, may Your love that is growing in my heart extend way beyond myself. Help me to both give and receive love. Help me to feed and nurture the roots of Your love through prayer, silence, listening, humility, serving, and an abiding faith. May it be so.

Noon Text: Small acts of kindness for self and others is a gift of love. Surprise yourself as well as someone else with an act of kindness and watch how love wins.

Evening Text: God, as the dark of night settles in I am settling down to rest. Help me to release anxiety, tension and fear by turning my attention to Your great love.

Monday February 4

TODAY LOVE WINS: Be intentional about smiling at others today. Greet them with a "Good morning" or "Good afternoon" and watch how they smile and greet you in return. Love is as simple and profound as a smile that tells someone they matter. Love wins with a smile and when love wins we all win.

Scripture: Ephesians 3:18 And I pray that you and all God's holy people will have the power to understand the greatness of Christ's love—how wide, how long, how high, and how deep that love is.

Morning Prayer: God, I confess that it is difficult for me to comprehend the scope of Your great love for us. But, I know that it is a good thing for me to continue to reflect on this unfathomable love so that I might better understand what it means for me to love without limits. It seems impossible to fathom, but I know that simply by turning my attention to this wonderful intention, I will continue to grow in my understanding of Your love. My prayer today is for this greater understanding, and that with it comes greater wisdom and compassion to lead me to love more. May it be so.

Noon Text: Have you experienced expressions of love toward you today? Have you offered expressions of love to others? Make that your focus for the rest of the day.

Evening Text: God, today I have done my best to love as you love. Now I will rest knowing that I don't have to earn Your love. It is my birthright as your child.

Tuesday February 5

TODAY LOVE WINS: Be intentional about listening to what others are saying. Try not to judge what people are saying as they speak. Instead listen with an open mind and heart. Love wins when we listen with our hearts, and when love wins we all win.

Scripture: Ephesians 3:19 Christ's love is greater than anyone can ever know, but I pray that you will be able to know that love. Then you can be filled with everything God has for you.

Morning Prayer: God, Your love through Christ is more than I can sometimes wrap my brain around. So help me instead to wrap my heart and soul around Your love and soak it in. Let me be filled with all that You have for me, so much so that it overflows from my very being to be shared with everyone I encounter. Your love is a gift that is to be shared so everyone else can experience it as I do; everyone can know Your great love. May it be so.

Noon Text: How are you listening to others today? Listen intently but listen without judgement. Listen with an open mind and heart. Then love wins and we all win.

Evening Text: God, it has been a good day. Your love has surrounded me and filled me, enabling me to share it with others through a listening, loving attitude. Now I rest.

Wednesday February 6

TODAY LOVE WINS: Be intentional about offering words of affirmation. Love wins when we speak positive words, words that build up and not tear down, and when love wins we all win.

Scripture: I John 3:1a Consider how much love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God.

Morning Prayer: This morning as I think about the day ahead Lord, may I be a shining example of Your Grace and Love. No day goes as planned. Those around me will not measure up to my expectations. Lord, help me to react to others as you react to me when I don't measure up. Through Your words You love me no matter what I do or say. Help my words to show Your Love in dealing with today. May it be so.

Noon text: This morning others may not have met all my expectations. Rather than ridicule, I will guide others through my words of love, just as God guides me with love.

Evening Text: "What an awesome job you did today!" Those are the words I love to hear. Tonight, I hear those words from You to me. Tomorrow, help me to speak them to others.

Thursday February 7

TODAY LOVE WINS: Look in the mirror and say to yourself, "I love you." Love for others begins with our love for self. Love yourself, just as you are, and love wins in your heart and when love wins in our hearts we all win.

Scripture: I John 4:11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we must also love one another.

Morning Prayer: God, please let Your unwavering love be my inspiration for loving others, let Your forgiveness of all of my faults be my motivation for forgiving the faults of others, let Your compassion for me be my example for showing compassion toward others, and may the gift of Your grace teach me to give the gift of grace to others. May it be so.

Noon Text: God, teach me to overcome any obstacles to loving others the way You love me. Give me the humility to show love when pride has hardened my heart.

Evening Text: God, as the day ends, I reflect on the acts of love shown me today, the acts of love I showed others and the opportunities for showing love that I let slip by.

Friday February 8

TODAY LOVE WINS: If you notice a friend or family member appearing to be down, trust your instinct and ask them how they are. Maybe they need someone to talk with. When we reach out to others love wins, and when love wins we all win.

Scripture: 1 John 4:7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God, and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

Morning Prayer: God, it is not always easy to love. Disagreements or differences of opinion challenge me. But this scripture is clear. Let us love one another. We are all Your children and just as You love me, I am to love others. Help me to live this, to show my love to others so through me they can know You. Help me to always look beyond differences and reach out in love. May it be so.

Noon Text: Are you tuned in to your friends and family – an unspoken need or concern? Take time to be present with your whole self to someone who needs love today.

Evening Text: God, I rest in Your loving grace tonight, grateful for the opportunities presented today to share with someone who needed the encouraging words of Your love.

Saturday February 9

TODAY LOVE WINS: How can you make someone feel really special today? Everyone wants to be reminded that they are loved. Make someone's day by doing something special just for them. When you help someone feel loved you will also feel loved and in that love wins, and when love wins we all win.

Scripture: 1 John 4:16b God is love, and all who live in love live in God, and God lives in them.

Morning Prayer: God, this morning I am wondering if I can ever hear the word "love" too many times. For four weeks now we have been talking about love winning. I can actually see it happening at times, and yet at other times it is not so clear. I want love to win. I want love to win in my decisions. I want love to win in my words. I want love to win in my actions. Bottom line is, I want love to win all the time. Help me to remember that Your love is winning whether I can see it or not. Help me to believe that my decisions, words and actions are what put skin on Your love throughout my day. As I pray those words I realize how hard that is to do at times, and so the truth for me is, I can't hear the word "love" too many times. May I hear it clearly today so that I live in Your love and in so doing others will see and experience the power of Your love through me. May it be so.

Noon Text: Pause and reflect on how you feel when you know that you are loved and accepted. How can you help someone today experience and feel such love and acceptance?

Evening Text: God, the swirling of the day has brought me to this time to unwind and find rest. I take in a deep breath to feel and allow Your love to help me settle down.