



MON 8-1

- ▼ SCRIPTURE
- ▼ THOUGHT

Philippians 1:6

"And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns." [NLT] With each decision, we write the story of our lives. Little by little we build a legacy that will impact people in unknown ways. For all of our days, God gives us the chance to make a difference. Even if mistakes have been made, a new day is a new chance to edit the story! God doesn't give up on us.

- ▼ PRAYER

Everlasting God, help me to see the big picture of my life and recognize how every move I make ties into the story. Thank you for loving me and making me a part of your story. Amen.

NOTES: _____

TUES 8-2

- ▼ SCRIPTURE
- ▼ THOUGHT

Psalms 86:11

"Teach me your way, LORD, so that I can walk in your truth. Make my heart focused only on honoring your name." [CEB] It is easy for the focus of our lives to become divided. When we keep our purpose singular and clear, we are most effective! What are your current distractions?

- ▼ PRAYER

Precious Lord, you deserve all the honor and glory that I can give you. Show me the things in my life that pull my focus away from honoring you. Give me the courage to let go of those things. Amen.

NOTES: _____

WED 8-3

- ▼ SCRIPTURE
- ▼ THOUGHT

Hebrews 12:1

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us." [NLT] What an important reminder for us--to keep a bird's eye view of our lives! We are running the marathon not the sprint! Each step matters and takes us closer, and we must keep the end goal in sight.

- ▼ PRAYER

Eternal God, help me become more aware of the things that hinder the growth of my faith. I want to run the best race I can so I can become who you have intended me to be. Thank you for renewing my energy each day to keep pressing on even when the steps seem small. Amen.

NOTES: _____



THURS 8-4

- ▼ **SCRIPTURE** Psalm 78:4
- ▼ **THOUGHT** “We will not hide these truths from our children; we will tell the next generation about the glorious deeds of the LORD, about his power and his mighty wonders.” [NLT] Does the story of your life tell the truths about the glorious deeds of God? To make this a reality, we must start with an openness to God's spirit of love working in us. When we cooperate with what God is doing, wonderful things emerge!
- ▼ **PRAYER** Wonder-working God, I want in! I want to be a piece of the puzzle, part of the grand picture of who you are. Use me, change me, inspire me. Thank you for including me as one of your beloved children. Amen.

NOTES: _____

FRI 8-5

- ▼ **SCRIPTURE** Psalm 103:17
- ▼ **THOUGHT** “But the love of the LORD remains forever with those who fear him. His salvation extends to the children’s children...” [NLT] There is a generational component to our life of faith. We must remember that our personal faith journey is not just about us. Our legacy of faith impacts the picture of God that future generations will see. Salvation for our children's children is an exciting motivator!
- ▼ **PRAYER** Loving God, help me to be obedient as I strive to live how you taught us, keeping the example of Jesus always in my mind. Thank you for showing me your magnificent ways and eternal love in Christ. Amen.

NOTES: _____

SAT 8-6

- ▼ **SCRIPTURE** Deuteronomy 6:5-6
- ▼ **THOUGHT** "Love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your being, and all your strength. These words that I am commanding you today must always be on your minds." [CEB] Simple but not easy! Think of a way you can keep these words in front of you. Consider writing them down and putting them somewhere so you will be reminded each day of what is most important.
- ▼ **PRAYER** Loving God, thank you for these wise words. My mind is often overloaded, and I forget to create space for this foundational instruction. Renew my mind and help me offer you all I am. Amen.

NOTES: _____

DIGGING DEEPER

- ▼ **Intro** **What Story Do I Want to Tell?**
Your life is more than random, disconnected events. It's a story being written. Whether it's a thoughtful response or an emotionally fueled reaction, we write the stories of our lives one decision at a time.

- ▼ **Reflect**
 - Can you identify a decision in the past that served as the beginning of a new and better chapter in the story of your life? What decision introduced a chapter you would rather forget?

 - What was the catalyst for those decisions?

 - Read Genesis 39:1-10. What stands out to you about how Joseph handled this situation?

 - Do you know anyone whose story, through no fault of their own, set them up to write a story characterized by bitterness and resentment, but they decided to move their story in a healthy direction?

 - Think of an area of your life where the decisions you are making now could significantly impact your next five years. Would you say you are currently making decisions that will likely create the story you want to tell? Explain.

 - Is there a potentially catastrophic decision tempting you now? Are you willing to find someone to help you steer clear of it?

- ▼ **Prayer** **Loving God, I want my story to make a lasting, positive impact on the people in my life and on future generations. Help me connect the dots, seeing every decision as a part of my story. Give me courage, perseverance, and patience as I commit to making good decisions for the long run. Amen.**



DIGGING DEEPER

▼ What did I learn? _____

▼ How might it apply in my life? _____

▼ What is a next step I can take? _____

