

“For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised” (2 Cor. 5:14-15).

Be Welcoming

WEEK ONE

KEY SCRIPTURE:

A verse to memorize and meditate on this week

“Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. Show hospitality to one another without grumbling” (1 PETER 4:8-9).

TAKING IT FURTHER:

A section of Scripture to ponder in depth

“Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me. The one who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and the one who receives a righteous person because he is a righteous person will receive a righteous person’s reward. And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward” (MATT. 10:40-42).

QUESTIONS:

Considerations to renew your mind and move you to action

1. What stands out in this Scripture when you first read it?
2. Are there things in this Scripture that remind you of what God in Christ Jesus has done for you or who He has made you to be?
3. What does this Scripture teach us about God’s will in regard to the habit we are focusing on this month?
4. What is God calling you to repent of and change in your life?
5. How can you put into action what God has taught you?

HOW I WILL:

Ways to practice this discipline

- Set a date to treat your pastor or other church worker to a meal.
- Make someone new feel welcome at church or in some other setting.

This week do one of the above or a similar action that fits your context.

PRAYER:

Words to turn your heart to God and ask for His blessing

O holy and most merciful God, all Your ways are perfect and good. We ask You to make us, Your people, know and believe this always. According to Your promises, give us every blessing of body and soul as we seek first Your kingdom. Help us daily to live in the newness of life we have received through Your Holy Spirit in our Baptism. Since we have been connected to Jesus’ lifegiving death and resurrection in those waters, grant us each day to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

“What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me — practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you” (PHIL. 4:9).