

HOW TO WIN WITHIN WEEK 3

DAY 1: READ 1 SAMUEL 18:1-6 & 1 SAMUEL 20

As the son of King Saul, Israel's first king, Jonathan was heir to the kingdom. Being obedient and sensitive to God's will meant Jonathan was aware of his place and God's superceding authority to choose someone else like David to become Israel's second king. Outside of God's will, Jonathan technically had a perfectly legitimate claim to the throne, yet he listened to the Lord and humbly looked after the one God had appointed. Have you ever sensed the Holy Spirit's direction to care for and build up others? Ask the Lord for clear, Spirit-filled vision to see those around us as God sees them and understand what He desires for them. Now, be like Jonathan and humbly serve those people how God intends.

DAY 2: READ PROVERBS 5

Whether in our marriages, families, friendships, work or other relationships, we must be aware of the often slow, quick-sand-esque ways others can influence and affect us. Today, ask the Lord to reveal unhealthy or unhelpful relationships in your life that are incongruous with Him and His purpose for your life. Practically, what actions or conversations can we have to address these situations? Consider finding a spiritually mature, trustworthy Christian (or two!) to hold you accountable.

DAY 3: READ PROVERBS 13:13 - 14:27

Time to remind ourselves that wisdom, discernment and truth come from the Lord. Let's pray for God to generously remind us of the truth and, by His Holy Spirit for His purposes, give us wisdom and discernment to better choose to look like Christ and demonstrate the love and grace of Jesus to others who don't yet know.



DAY 4: READ PROVERBS 28:1-10

Whether we are told by a friend or the Holy Spirit convicts us in our hearts, let's not resent or reject the truth when we are corrected or reproofed. Let's be sensitive to the Holy Spirit, our closest friend, and strive to understand and make the necessary changes and steps to become a more obedient, truer Christ-follower.

DAY 5: READ AMOS 5

What's your motivation to win within? Is it to be a better person? Live a nicer life? Improve your mental health? Just like Israel missed the point with Mosaic law and their covenant with the Lord, our desire, attention and commitment must remain wholly based in the love of our Triune God. Rather than focus on the ritual steps, decisions and changes we need to make, we've missed the point if our hearts are not swallowed up in the love of Christ. Let's check our emotions and let God fight the battles and do the transforming, as only He can.

DAY 6: READ JOHN 15:1-17

Jesus has called us friends! We are no longer called servants because we are no longer ignorant of what our master is doing. What do verses 14 and 16 say we are called to do? How does that relate to Jesus' allegory of the vinedresser in verses 1-9? What is this lasting, spiritual fruit Jesus is talking about that we are supposed produce if we are obedient and abiding in Him?

DAY 7: READ JOHN 15:18-27

When has your lifetime growth with Christ been opposed by others? Whether it surfaces in conflicts in personal relationships or becomes outright persecution for all who call on Christ, if the world hated Jesus, we must understand that we aren't promised any different either. As we, saturated in the love and truth of Christ, transform more into the image-bearers of Christ, let's not be discouraged when we encounter opposition, persecution or conflict. Our Heavenly Father and God the Son sent us His Holy Spirit to work through us and bear witness to the world as we obey His call. So, let's lean into Him, learn His Word and let Him work in us and through us, as only He can do.