

Live It Out—Discover how to love like Jesus

DAY 1

Read Romans 15:7

Look up the word “accept” in the dictionary or ask a trusted adult to help you google it and write the definition below. HINT: There will probably be several definitions. Choose the one that makes the most sense when you read today’s verse.

ACCEPT:

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To show someone acceptance means that you recognize that the other person is uniquely and wonderfully made just like you. Acceptance says, “I choose to be your friend. I choose to accept who you are without expecting you to be anyone other than who God made you to be.”

Why should you accept others? Because Christ has accepted you! And how do you know that? Because Jesus loved you enough to give His life for you. He was put on a cross and rose again three days later so you could be forgiven. Jesus didn’t ask you to be perfect or fix all your mistakes. He faced the punishment because He loves you. What an awesome Friend!

DAY 2

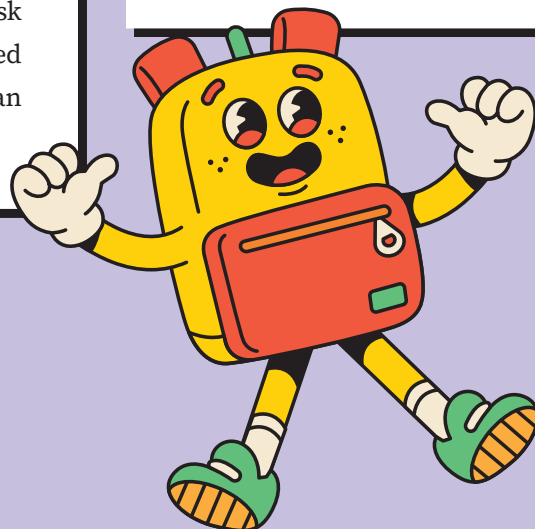
Read Romans 2:11

Do you treat everyone the same? It’s hard, right? Acceptance means that you try not to judge someone else based on how they look or act. It means you show patience when you have to wait and treat everyone the same.

That includes:

- ➔ the mean kid
- ➔ the kid who always gets the right answer
- ➔ the new kid
- ➔ the kid everyone picks on
- ➔ the kid with crutches
- ➔ the kid who always pushes to the front
- ➔ the super quiet kid

God made you, loves you, accepted you and also made everyone single kid on the list above and loves them all just the same. So be a good friend and choose to treat everyone the same— with acceptance and love.





DAY 3

Read Galatians 5:14

In the Old Testament, the Israelites, God's chosen people, had a list of over 600 rules they had to follow! Can you imagine learning and following over 600 rules?

In the New Testament, we see how Jesus came to show us that following God isn't about a bunch of rules. Following God is about a relationship. All those rules really come down to one thing: to love and accept your neighbor as you love yourself.

Rule #1

Grab a piece of paper. Write down all the rules you can think of in any order and in any way you want to. You can write some sideways or upside down. You can write them super small or **SUPER BIG**. In large letters across the center of the page write the #1 rule: Love others as you love yourself. Hang this up to remind you to be a good friend this week.

DAY 4

Read Philippians 2:1-2

Ever wonder how you make God happy? Want to know how to make God's "joy complete?" The key is found in this verse. God wants us to love each other, agree with each other. God hates it when we argue and fight, like when our arguments and fights are about things like who gets to line up first or who gets the next turn on the swings. God is happy when we choose to get along and agree with one another instead of insisting on our own way.

Pray About It

Think of a time lately when you argued with a friend. Were you more concerned about winning that argument or keeping the friendship? Pray and ask God to help you react differently the next time you and a friend disagree.



Accept one another.