

Connected Teens:

# New Life

## 2026 Devotional Guide



Children & Teen Guides Available online



# WEEK ONE – PARTNERSHIP & PARTICIPATION

## *Connection Starts With Christ*

### WEEK ONE INTRO (GOING DEEPER – TEEN VERSION)

At the core of the Christian life is **connection**, not performance. Jesus never invited people to impress Him—He invited them to remain with Him. In John 15, Jesus explains that real life, real growth, and real purpose only flow from staying connected to Him. When connection is missing, faith becomes exhausting and life feels fragmented.

This week is about rethinking how we see faith. Christianity isn't something we add to our lives—it's the source of our lives. Jesus invites us into partnership, meaning we don't just believe in Him, we learn to walk with Him. Before purpose, before growth, before calling, there must be connection.

### DAY 1 – STAY CONNECTED

**Biblical Truth:** “I am the vine; you are the branches.” – John 15:5

**Context:** Jesus is preparing His disciples for life without His physical presence. He teaches them that connection—not proximity—is what sustains spiritual life.

**Point to Ponder:** Connection fuels everything that grows.

**What I Purpose To Do Today:** I will intentionally stay connected to Jesus today.

**Point to Pray:** “Jesus, help me stay close to You in my thoughts and actions.”

**Point to Pen:** What competes most for my connection with God?

### DAY 2 – WE WORK WITH GOD

**Biblical Truth:** “We work together with God.” – 1 Corinthians 3:9

**Context:** Paul reminds believers that God invites them to join His work, not replace it or resist it.

**Point to Ponder:** God invites me into partnership, not control.

**What I Purpose To Do Today:** I will align my choices with what God is doing.

**Point to Pray:** “God, help me move with You, not ahead of You.”

**Point to Pen:** Where have I been trying to do things without God?

## **DAY 3 – GOD SHAPES MY DESIRES**

**Biblical Truth:** “God works in you to will and to act.” – Philippians 2:13

**Context:** Paul teaches that God transforms us from the inside out, reshaping what we want.

**Point to Ponder:** Connection changes desire before behavior.

**What I Purpose To Do Today:** I will allow God to shape what I want.

**Point to Pray:** “God, change my heart where it needs alignment.”

**Point to Pen:** What desires need to be reshaped?

## **DAY 4 – JESUS LIVES IN ME**

**Biblical Truth:** “He lives with you and will be in you.” – John 14:17

**Context:** Jesus promises the Holy Spirit so His presence will remain with believers.

**Point to Ponder:** I never walk into a space alone.

**What I Purpose To Do Today:** I will live aware of God’s presence.

**Point to Pray:** “Holy Spirit, help me recognize You with me.”

**Point to Pen:** Where do I forget that God is present?

## **DAY 5 – CUT WHAT BLOCKS GROWTH**

**Biblical Truth:** “Every branch that bears fruit He prunes.” – John 15:2

**Context:** Pruning removes what limits future growth, not what defines worth.

**Point to Ponder:** God removes to prepare, not punish.

**What I Purpose To Do Today:** I will let go of habits that block growth.

**Point to Pray:** “God, give me courage to release what’s unhealthy.”

**Point to Pen:** What needs to be pruned from my life?

## **DAY 6 – WE GROW TOGETHER**

**Biblical Truth:** “They all joined together constantly.” – Acts 1:14

**Context:** The early church grew through shared faith, prayer, and community.

**Point to Ponder:** Isolation weakens growth.

**What I Purpose To Do Today:** I will choose community over isolation.

**Point to Pray:** “God, connect me to the right people.”

**Point to Pen:** Who strengthens my faith?

## **DAY 7 – REMAIN**

**Biblical Truth:** “Remain in me.” – John 15:4

**Context:** Remaining is an ongoing choice, not a one-time decision.

**Point to Ponder:** Consistency builds connection.

**What I Purpose To Do Today:** I will remain connected even when busy.

**Point to Pray:** “Jesus, anchor me in You.”

**Point to Pen:** What pulls me away most easily?

## **\*\*CONNECTED – TEEN GROUP DISCUSSIONS\*\* DISCUSSION**

### **QUESTIONS**

1. Jesus says, “Remain in Me” (John 15:4). What do you think He meant by that in everyday teen life?
2. Why do you think Jesus focused on **\*\*connection\*\*** instead of rules or performance?
3. What are some things that compete for your connection with Jesus (school, friends, social media, pressure)?
4. How does social media give the *\*feeling\** of connection without always providing real community?
5. Why is it easier to scroll than to stay spiritually connected?

## WEEK TWO – PRUNING & PLOWING

### *God Shapes Us Through Correction*

#### DAY 8 – GOD HELPS ME CHANGE

**Biblical Truth:** God removes what limits growth so greater fruit can grow. (John 15:2)

**Scripture Context:** In vineyards, healthy branches were pruned so energy could be redirected. Jesus teaches that growth requires intentional removal, not just addition.

**Point to Ponder:** Growth often requires letting something go.

**What I Purpose To Do Today:** I will allow God to help me change.

**Point to Pray:** “God, help me release what no longer helps me grow.”

**Point to Pen:** What habit or attitude might God be asking me to change?

#### DAY 9 – DON’T QUIT TOO SOON

**Biblical Truth:** Growth takes time, and quitting too early cuts it short. (Galatians 6:9)

**Scripture Context:** Paul encourages believers to remain faithful even when results are slow or unseen.

**Point to Ponder:** Consistency matters more than quick results.

**What I Purpose To Do Today:** I will keep doing what’s right even when it’s hard.

**Point to Pray:** “God, give me strength to keep going.”

**Point to Pen:** Where am I tempted to quit too early?

#### DAY 10 – CORRECTION IS LOVE

**Biblical Truth:** God’s correction is proof of His love. (Hebrews 12:11)

**Scripture Context:** Discipline in Scripture is never about rejection but formation.

**Point to Ponder:** Correction shapes character.

**What I Purpose To Do Today:** I will receive correction without shutting down.

**Point to Pray:** “God, help me learn instead of resist.”

**Point to Pen:** How do I usually respond to correction?

## **DAY 11 – PUT GOD FIRST**

**Biblical Truth:** When God is first, everything else finds its place. (Matthew 6:33)

**Scripture Context:** Jesus teaches that priorities determine direction.

**Point to Ponder:** What I put first shapes my future.

**What I Purpose To Do Today:** I will put God first in my choices.

**Point to Pray:** “God, reorder my priorities.”

**Point to Pen:** What currently competes with God for first place?

## **DAY 12 – DROP THE WEIGHTS**

**Biblical Truth:** Some things slow growth even if they aren’t sinful. (Hebrews 12:1)

**Scripture Context:** The writer urges believers to remove anything that hinders progress.

**Point to Ponder:** Not everything allowed is beneficial.

**What I Purpose To Do Today:** I will let go of what slows me down.

**Point to Pray:** “God, show me what to release.”

**Point to Pen:** What is weighing me down spiritually?

## **DAY 13 – GOD CARES ABOUT MY PRESSURE**

**Biblical Truth:** God invites us to give Him our stress and worries. (1 Peter 5:7)

**Scripture Context:** Peter reminds believers that God is personally concerned with their burdens.

**Point to Ponder:** God cares about what stresses me.

**What I Purpose To Do Today:** I will bring my stress to God.

**Point to Pray:** “God, I trust You with what’s heavy.”

**Point to Pen:** What pressure do I need to release to God?

## **DAY 14 – THE WORD CLEANS ME**

**Biblical Truth:** God’s Word reshapes how we think and live. (John 15:3)

**Scripture Context:** Jesus explains that truth cleans and prepares believers for growth.

**Point to Ponder:** Truth clears confusion.

**What I Purpose To Do Today:** I will let God’s Word guide my thinking.

**Point to Pray:** “God, align my mind with Your truth.”

**Point to Pen:** What thought patterns need renewing?

## WEEK TWO – PRUNING & PLOWING DISCUSSION

### QUESTIONS

1. Why do you think pruning feels negative even though it helps growth?
2. How can correction feel like rejection for teens?
3. What habits, influences, or relationships might God be trying to prune in teen culture today?
4. How does God’s discipline differ from punishment?
5. Why is it hard to accept boundaries in a culture that celebrates freedom?

## WEEK THREE – POURING & PLANTING

*God Supplies What We Need to Grow*

### DAY 15 – GOD FILLS ME

**Biblical Truth:** God fills believers with spiritual life and strength. (John 7:38)

**Scripture Context:** Jesus promises living water to those who believe.

**Point to Ponder:** What fills me shapes me.

**What I Purpose To Do Today:** I will let God fill me, not distractions.

**Point to Pray:** “God, fill me with what lasts.”

**Point to Pen:** What drains me the most?

### DAY 16 – CONFIDENCE IN CHRIST

**Biblical Truth:** Confidence rooted in Christ lasts. (Hebrews 10:35)

**Scripture Context:** Biblical confidence flows from trust in God, not approval from others.

**Point to Ponder:** Likes fade; identity lasts.

**What I Purpose To Do Today:** I will find confidence in Christ, not comparison.

**Point to Pray:** “God, ground my confidence in You.”

**Point to Pen:** Where do I seek validation?

### DAY 17 – CONSISTENCY OVER HYPE

**Biblical Truth:** Faithfulness produces lasting growth. (1 Corinthians 15:58) **Scripture**

**Context:** Paul emphasizes steady commitment over emotional highs. **Point to Ponder:**

Consistency builds maturity.

**What I Purpose To Do Today:** I will stay consistent in my faith.

**Point to Pray:** “God, help me stay faithful.”

**Point to Pen:** Where do I need more consistency?

## **DAY 18 – START WHERE YOU ARE**

**Biblical Truth:** Obedience begins with the next step. (John 14:31)

**Scripture Context:** Jesus models obedience even when the path is difficult.

**Point to Ponder:** Growth starts with obedience.

**What I Purpose To Do Today:** I will take the next step God is calling me to.

**Point to Pray:** “God, give me courage to move.”

**Point to Pen:** What step am I avoiding?

## **DAY 19 – GUARD YOUR HEART**

**Biblical Truth:** The heart directs life. (Proverbs 4:23)

**Scripture Context:** Wisdom literature emphasizes protecting inner life.

**Point to Ponder:** What I allow in shapes who I become.

**What I Purpose To Do Today:** I will guard what shapes my heart.

**Point to Pray:** “God, protect my heart.” **Point to Pen:** What

influences me most? **DAY 20 – GOD STILL SPEAKS**

**Biblical Truth:** God reveals Himself to those who seek Him. (Psalm 25:14)

**Scripture Context:** God shares wisdom with those who revere Him.

**Point to Ponder:** Listening requires slowing down.

**What I Purpose To Do Today:** I will listen for God’s voice.

**Point to Pray:** “God, speak—I’m listening.”

**Point to Pen:** How do I listen best?

## **DAY 21 – I MATTER TO THE BODY**

**Biblical Truth:** Every believer contributes to the church. (Ephesians 4:16)

**Scripture Context:** Paul teaches that the church grows when everyone participates.

**Point to Ponder:** My presence matters.

**What I Purpose To Do Today:** I will use my gifts to help others grow.

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**Point to Pray:** “God, show me where I fit.”

**Point to Pen:** What gift can I offer?

## WEEK FOUR – PRODUCE & PROSPER

*Connection Leads to Mission & Community*

### DAY 22 – STAY ROOTED

**Biblical Truth:** Lasting fruit comes from connection. (John 15:5)

**Context:** Disconnected branches cannot survive.

**Point to Ponder:** Roots determine resilience.

**What I Purpose To Do Today:** I will stay rooted in Christ.

**Point to Pray:** “Jesus, keep me grounded.”

**Point to Pen:** What strengthens my connection?

### DAY 23 – REAL FRIENDS MATTER

**Biblical Truth:** God designed growth to happen in community. (Luke 10:1)

**Context:** Jesus sent disciples out together.

**Point to Ponder:** Community shapes character.

**What I Purpose To Do Today:** I will choose friends who help me grow.

**Point to Pray:** “God, surround me with the right people.”

**Point to Pen:** Who influences me most?

### DAY 24 – GOD IS PRESENT

**Biblical Truth:** God never abandons His people. (John 14:18)

**Point to Ponder:** Presence brings peace.

**What I Purpose To Do Today:** I will trust God’s presence.

**Point to Pray:** “God, thank You for being with me.”

**Point to Pen:** When do I feel most alone?

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#### **DAY 25 – GOD USES IT ALL**

**Biblical Truth:** God works everything for good. (Romans 8:28)

**Scripture Context:** God connects every part of our lives for His purpose—even the hard parts.

**Point to Ponder:** Nothing in my life is wasted.

**What I Purpose To Do Today:** I will trust God with every part of my story.

**Point to Pray:** “God, help me trust Your plan.”

**Point to Pen:** What part of my story do I struggle to trust God with?

#### **DAY 26 – WE ARE THE CHURCH**

**Biblical Truth:** The church grows when everyone participates. (Acts 2:44)

**Scripture Context:** The early church grew because believers supported and served one another.

**Point to Ponder:** I belong, and I matter.

**What I Purpose To Do Today:** I will be involved and supportive in my church community.

**Point to Pray:** “God, help me be an active part of Your church.”

**Point to Pen:** How can I support my church or youth group?

#### **DAY 27 – WALK IT OUT**

**Biblical Truth:** Living by the Spirit requires daily choices. (Galatians 5:25)

**Scripture Context:** Paul teaches that spiritual growth happens through consistent obedience.

**Point to Ponder:** Daily faith builds lasting strength.

**What I Purpose To Do Today:** I will choose obedience even when it’s not easy.

**Point to Pray:** “God, help me follow Your lead every day.”

**Point to Pen:** What habit helps my faith grow?

#### **DAY 28 – SENT WITH PURPOSE**

**Biblical Truth:** Every believer is called to make an impact. (Matthew 28:19)

**Scripture Context:** Jesus sent His followers to share God’s love with the world.

**Point to Ponder:** My faith is meant to be shared.

**What I Purpose To Do Today:** I will live my faith out loud through love and service.

**Point to Pray:** “Jesus, show me who I can impact.”

**Point to Pen:** Where is God sending me this year?

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## BONUS DAYS

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### DAY 29 – BE BRAVE

**Biblical Truth:** God gives strength and courage. (Joshua 1:9)

**Scripture Context:** God reminded Joshua that courage comes from knowing God is present.

**Point to Ponder:** God's presence gives me courage.

**What I Purpose To Do Today:** I will face challenges knowing God is with me.

**Point to Pray:** "God, give me courage to trust You."

**Point to Pen:** What do I need courage for right now?

### DAY 30 – FAITH THAT SHOWS

**Biblical Truth:** A life connected to God draws others. (Psalm 34:8)

**Scripture Context:** When people see God working in us, they want to know Him too.

**Point to Ponder:** My life points others to God.

**What I Purpose To Do Today:** I will reflect God's love through my actions.

**Point to Pray:** "God, let my life show Your goodness."

**Point to Pen:** Who needs to see God through me?

### DAY 31 – GOD WILL FINISH

**Biblical Truth:** God completes what He starts. (Philippians 1:6)

**Scripture Context:** God never abandons His work in our lives.

**Point to Ponder:** God isn't done with me yet.

**What I Purpose To Do Today:** I will trust God with my growth journey.

**Point to Pray:** "God, finish the work You started in me."

**Point to Pen:** What growth do I trust God to continue?

## **TEEN CITY NIGHT – WEEK FOUR DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

### **Theme: Producing & Prospering | Living Like Jesus**

#### **ICEBREAKER (Choose 1)**

1. What's something you've been working on consistently lately (sports, school, music, fitness, faith)?
  2. Who is someone that makes life better just by being around them?
  3. If your phone battery could show your *spiritual battery*, what percent would it be right now?
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#### **STAY CONNECTED (Days 22 & 27)**

4. Jesus says we can't do anything meaningful without staying connected to Him. What makes it hard to stay connected during the week?
  5. What helps you feel closest to God—music, prayer, reading, talking, serving, something else?
  6. Why do you think consistency matters more than hype or big emotional moments?
  7. What's one small habit that could help you stay spiritually connected this week?
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#### **BETTER TOGETHER / WE ARE THE CHURCH (Days 23 & 26)**

8. Why do you think God designed us to grow with other people instead of alone?
  9. How can friends help or hurt your faith?
  10. What does it mean that *you matter* to the church—even as a teen?
  11. Where do you feel like you belong at Teen City or New Life?
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#### **NEVER ALONE / GOD USES IT ALL (Days 24 & 25)**

12. Have you ever felt alone even when people were around? What helped?
  13. Romans 8:28 says God uses everything for good. Is that easy or hard to believe? Why?
  14. What's something hard in your life that you hope God is still working through?
  15. How does knowing God is always with you change how you face challenges?
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#### **SENT WITH PURPOSE (Day 28)**

16. What do you think it means to “live your faith out loud” without being fake?
  17. Where do teens have the biggest influence—school, sports, online, home?
  18. Who in your life might be impacted just by how you live?
  19. What would it look like to represent Jesus in everyday situations?
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#### **COURAGE & COMPLETION (Days 29–31)**

20. What's something God might be asking you to be brave about right now?
  21. Why is it encouraging to know God isn't finished with you yet?
  22. How can trusting God's process help when growth feels slow?
  23. What's one way you've grown spiritually this month?
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#### **CLOSING APPLICATION (Choose 1)**

24. What's one thing you want to take from this week and apply immediately?
  25. If you could pray for one area of your life right now, what would it be?
  26. Who can help keep you accountable in your faith journey?
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