

# DAILY DEVOTIONAL

## Making Cents

### WEEK 1

YOU HAVE SOMETHING THAT MATTERS.

"God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts.

Use them well to

**SERVE  
ONE ANOTHER."**

1 Peter 4:10 NLT

#### DAY 1

Have you ever been embarrassed to give someone a gift? Maybe you thought your gift wasn't as nice or as expensive as the ones others had. Or maybe you just weren't sure if the person would actually like it. Somehow, a moment that was meant to be joyful suddenly became incredibly stressful. And rather than give the gift, you wanted to just hide it away. Life looks a lot like that sometimes. We all have something to give to others, but we often hesitate because we think it's just not going to be good enough. But God says that our willingness to use what we have to bless others is more important to Him than what it is we actually have to give. This week, ask God to help grow in you a willingness to give.



"A SPIRITUAL GIFT IS GIVEN TO EACH OF US SO WE CAN

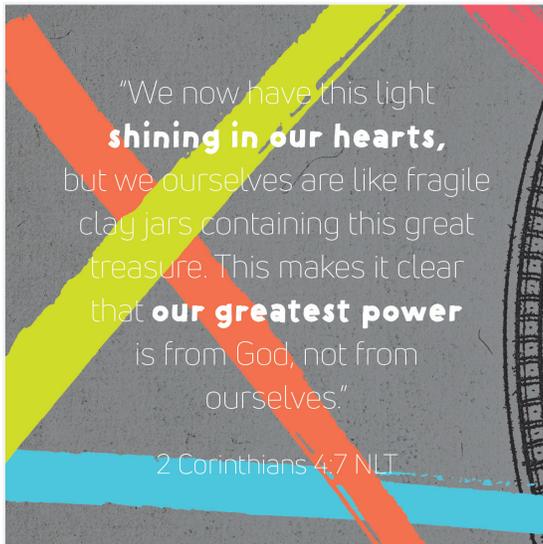
**HELP EACH OTHER."**

1 Corinthians 12:7 NLT

#### DAY 2

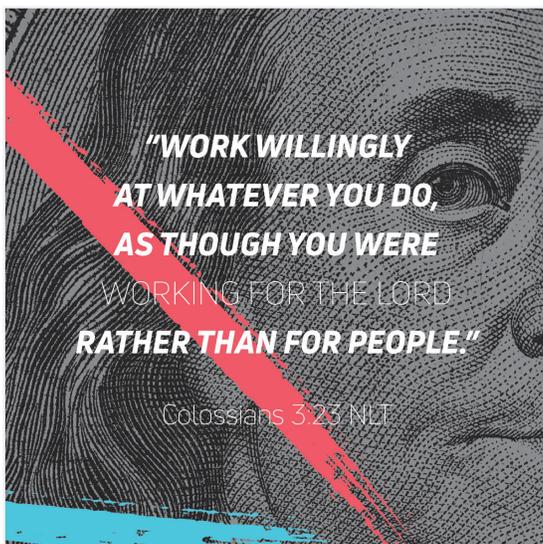
Giving is important to God. But it's not because He needs what we have to accomplish His plans and purposes in this world. God can do everything He wants to on His own. Still God invites us to use the gifts He's given us because He wants us to be a part of the story He's writing both in our lives and the lives of others. When we use the gifts we have to serve and help others, we're showing them a glimpse of God's love for them. And that's a pretty big deal! What's one gift you have to offer? This week, look for a way to use that gift to help or serve someone else.





### DAY 3

How do you respond when you see someone in need? Does it make you uncomfortable? Or sad? Do you feel unsure of what to do? Or do you look for a way to help? Whether you realize it or not, there are people in need all around you. And the way we respond to them is a reflection of what's happening in our hearts. When we have hearts full of God's love and power, we're more likely to respond to those in need with God's great love. We may not always have the ability to meet their physical needs, but we can meet their needs for love and compassion. As you pray today, ask God to keep your heart open to helping those in need around you.



### DAY 4

Serving others can be hard sometimes, but it's especially difficult when it's met without gratitude or reward. If we're being honest, I think we'd all say that something inside of us wants to be appreciated for the gifts and services we give to others. And that's okay—it's a natural thought! But remember that serving others isn't really about us; in fact, it's not even really about them, either. It's about God! It's about showing His love in action. And when we serve or give with God in the forefront of our minds, we walk away feeling good no matter how much appreciation we receive. Memorize this verse this week to help you remember that all your gifts and services to others are truly for God.



### DAY 5

Everything is better with a friend by your side, right? Rather than use your gifts to serve or love others on your own, why not invite a friend or two along for the ride? Encourage others around you to use the gifts God's given them to serve others. You'll be surprised at just how far a little encouragement can go to motivate someone to action. Make a list of 3 to 5 friends. Then, write down just one gift you see in each of them. Make a point to tell them the gifts you see in them as an encouragement this week.

