



FOLLOW

Two-Week Household Devotional

*10 days of reflection and learning
to help you start 2019*



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Two-Week Household Devotional

In Crofton Parish in 2019, we want to be:

*'Faithful in PRAYER,
Willing to CARE,
Ready to SHARE.'*

This two-week devotional is a great way for you and your household to begin 2019 with Jesus at the centre.

The devotionals should only take you 10 minutes and are designed for all ages.

We hope you are encouraged as you begin a New Year.

Week 1

Day 1

What does 2019 hold for you? What are you looking forward to? Is there anything you are anxious or apprehensive about?

(If you want to, you can draw a picture of something you are looking forward to in 2019.)

Take a moment to give the year ahead to Jesus. Ask him to help you follow him closely throughout the year ahead.

Day 2

Read Mark 1.14-20

Jesus says, 'Follow me!'

What's it like to follow someone? Have you ever had to follow someone?

What is the difference between 'believing in' Jesus and 'following' him?

Write down 3 characteristics of people who follow Jesus. Pray that they would be true of you today.

Day 3

In 2019, we want to be

*'Faithful in PRAYER, Willing to CARE
and Ready to SHARE'.*

Which one of these do you relate to most strongly? Why?

Whichever phrase you have chosen, ask God that he would help you be that this year.

Day 4

One of the ways we are going to be 'Faithful in Prayer' is by *prayer-walking* the streets of our community. We will be using a passage from Jeremiah 29 as our inspiration:

'Seek the peace and prosperity of the place to which I have brought you. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.' Jeremiah 29.7

Do you know your neighbours? If you do, pray for them today. If not, how could you get to know them this year?

Day 5

In 2019, we also want to be 'ready to share'. 1 Peter 3.15 says, 'Always be ready to give an answer to anyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope you have.'

Spend a moment or two thinking or talking about how you would answer the question, 'Why are you a Christian?'

Then, talk a moment to pray for everyone you might meet today who doesn't know Jesus like you do.

Week 2

Day 1

If you could compete in any kind of race, what would it be? Running, sailing, Formula 1, something else? (If you like, you can draw a picture of yourself competing.)

The Bible often uses the picture of a race to describe following Jesus. Why do you think this is?

Day 2

Read Hebrews 12.1-3

The race Hebrews 12 describes is different from most races. It is 'race marked out for YOU' and different for each person. We aren't racing against each other but running alongside Jesus, who got us started and will help us finish.

How would describe the stage of your race that you are in? You could think about: life-stage, relationships, employment, responsibilities.

Day 3

Reread Hebrews 12.1-3

What does it mean to 'fix your eyes on Jesus' in daily life?

Here's a simple prayer you could use throughout the day:

Lord Jesus, keep my eyes fixed on you.

Try praying this prayer through the day today.

Day 4

In 2019, we want to be 'Willing to Care'. Galatians 6.2 says, 'Carry each other's burdens and in this way you will fulfil the law of Christ.'

Draw a spider diagram of the relationships around your household (family, friends, neighbours, etc). Pray for those people today. As you pray for them, is there anyone in particular that needs your care? What simple things could you do to help?

Day 5

Read John 21.15-19

Even at one of the worst moments of his life, Peter heard Jesus say, 'Follow me'. The year ahead will have ups and downs, but through it all Jesus will gently say to us, 'Follow me'. For our final day of this New Year devotional, offer him the year ahead again. Ask him to help you hear his voice, even in the ups and downs of life.



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