



DAYS 1-2

Evil can take many faces. Let's look at a few of them.

DEBAUCHERY

To degrade the nobility of one's humanity

READ Galatians 5:19 and Jeremiah 2:5.

How glorious that God made us in His image to be noble creatures, children of the King! And yet we have fallen to a place of degradation, filth, wantonness, and unrestrained behavior.

How have you at times been less than noble of your own humanity? What were the consequences?

INJUSTICE

To degrade the nobility of another's humanity

READ Micah 3:1-3a.

This is a graphic picture of how we sometimes tear each other apart in words and action and inaction. Pride, sarcasm, anger, physical and emotional abuse, laziness, and selfishness are all pictures of injustice. There are obvious world-wide effects of injustice such as poverty or human trafficking, but let's bring it closer to home.

PRAY for God to gently reveal a circumstance in which you have degraded another person. **PRAY** that He reveals His heart for that person. **PRAY** for that person.

REBELLION

To disrespect or disobey or refuse to submit to God-ordained authorities

READ Hebrews 3:15-16a & 1 Samuel 15:23a.

As an adult, it's easy to see rebelliousness in children of all ages. By their very nature, they push adults to see where their boundaries are.

But are we any different as adults? Don't we also push the authorities in our lives? What other ways have you been rebellious in your life? With your teachers? Your boss? Your spouse? A public official? Have you been rebellious with God?

JOURNAL some thoughts as to why you've acted this way. *Did you feel justified to do so? What do you think God's thoughts are?*

DAYS 3-5

The opposite of these three faces of **EVIL** are three faces of **GOOD**.

HOLINESS

Set apart for GOOD

READ 1 Peter 1:13-16.

NOTICE the partnership between ourselves and God. We don't yet have all the grace we need to live out our holiness. He asks us to take action. **Then** "grace will be brought to us." **LIST** the holy actions in this passage. **PRAY** for God to show you your next step. **FIND** a way to specifically apply at least one of these actions to your life this week. Perhaps this means filtering the shows you watch, listening more than offering your opinion, or picking up your Bible more often than usual.

What happens when you find that God gives you the grace you need to take a step toward holiness? How does it feel to be in partnership with Him?

LOVE

Service to others

READ Colossians 3:12-14.

Do you realize that you're chosen, holy, and beloved by God? He knows even the dark things about you and still loves you deeply. *Has that reached from your head to your heart? Do you feel His forgiveness?*

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If not, PRAY for God to speak deeply to your heart. Allow His love to sink in. Let it rock your world. It's from His overflowing love for us that enables us to love in an overflowing way. From this place of connection with our Father, we can't help but serve others with patience and kindness.

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If so, how are you serving others? How are you fighting injustice, not just around the world, but in your everyday life? How are you building others up? PRAY: Father, thank You for the work Jesus did to save me from myself. Help me keep in step with the Holy Spirit each day so I may live out Your love by serving others around me with gentleness.

SUBMISSION

Giving honor out of fear of God

READ 1 Peter 2:13-17.

NOTE the commands in this passage of scripture. What are the benefits of submitting to the authorities in our lives? What is God's intention for honoring others? Is there anyone in your life whom you need to honor and respect in a better way? **PRAY** for God's forgiveness for your past rebellion. **ASK** Him for a new heart. **PRAY** for those in authority over your life.

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