

GOD NEVER SAID THAT

WEEK 3
GOD JUST WANTS
ME TO BE HAPPY
MATT RANDALL

God just wants me to be happy.

What is happiness?

Happiness: Temporary, fleeting, always changing.

Joy: Pervasive, an overall sense of well-being.

God just wants my heart.

“And you must love the Lord your God with all your **heart**, all your soul, and all your strength.” *Deuteronomy 6:5, Matthew 22:37*

Guard your **heart** above all else, for it determines the course of your life. *Proverbs 4:23*

I have hidden your word in my **heart**, that I might not sin against God. *Psalms 119:11*

When God has our heart, He changes the world.

“*God is in the process of overcoming evil with good by transforming human **hearts**.*” — Danny Anderson

“*A **heart** rightly directed therefore brings health and wholeness to the entire personality.*” — Dallas Willard

God reveals himself to the world through the impact I make.

“*You were saved to serve God.*” — Rick Warren

“Therefore, **go** and make disciples...” *Matthew 28:19*

What impact are you making?

Where are you serving?

Who are you investing in?

One Year New Testament Devotionals

Small group discussion questions related to the weekend message will resume in September 2018 during our next 10-week group semester. Small group registration opens August 12. Use these One Year New Testament questions to discuss with your small group or answer individually.

Devotionals

God is not surprised by anything that you think, do, or say. He knows every circumstance of your life. He even knows the number of hairs on your head (Luke 12:7). How do you think God responds to you in your failures? Do you think he is disappointed in you? Since God is all knowing, He knows and understands the failures we experience. In your failures, God responds with grace and love, while helping you heal and move on. Loving parents pick their toddler up to regain their balance after falling during their first baby steps. In a similar way, this is how God demonstrates His love for us when we mess up. Accept God’s grace in your life and move forward. Run towards God, not away from Him this week.

Sunday, July 22 — Romans 7:7-8:8

What struggle is in your life that you just can’t seem to overcome? What steps have you tried to overcome that struggle? How have you let God’s grace cover you and any guilt that may come with it? What changes have you been resisting in your life that you are now willing to allow your loving heavenly Father to complete?

Monday, July 23 — Romans 8:9-21

What are some things that occupy your mind throughout the day? How do you keep focused on God rather than concentrated on the things of this world? In what circumstances of your life do you need to wait patiently for God to act?

Tuesday, July 24 — Romans 8:22-39

What made Paul confident that God takes care of His people? (8:31-32) Why should we feel confident that God is not against us or condemning us? What kind of persecutions have God’s people often faced? How are God’s people to respond to persecution and tragedies?

Wednesday, July 25 — Romans 9:1-21

As Christians, God adopts us and invites us into His family. Who in your life has either been adopted or has adopted children into their family? How did that family love the newcomer? How does God treat His children? What burdens do you carry for relatives who do not know Christ?

Thursday, July 26 — Romans 9:22-10:13

Have you ever misplaced your keys, later to realize they were in your back pocket or somewhere obvious? How long did you search for them? Think of people who are searching for God. The Jews were and still are looking for their Messiah, yet they missed Him. He was right in front of them, and they didn’t see it. Why is it essential to believe that God raised Jesus from the dead? Why are both believing with your heart and confessing with your mouth important to your relationship with the Lord?

Friday, July 27 — Romans 10:14-11:12

When could you spend extended time in prayer to bring before God those groups or people who have shown little interest in the gospel? Have you ever considered going on a mission trip to spread the good news of Jesus? What makes you want to go or not go on a mission trip? What’s the importance of reaching unbelievers locally, regionally, and overseas? Read Matthew 28:16-20 for additional insight.

Saturday, July 28 — Romans 11:13-36

What area of your life do you find yourself limiting God? How can you worship and praise God with enthusiasm and devotion this week? What can you do this week to acknowledge that you depend on God’s kindness? What can you do to share Christ with a friend who is separated from God?