

DAILY DEVOTIONAL

Break It Down / Week 3

*"Teach me to do your will, for you are my God;
may your good Spirit lead me on level ground."*

Psalms 143:10 NIV

DAY 1

This verse reads like a prayer. Here, the writer is asking God to show him what to do. He's praying that God would lead him and show him His will—His plan—for life. Chances are you've prayed a similar prayer. Maybe you have asked God for guidance, wisdom, or direction in your own life. If you have, then you know that God uses so many things in our lives to answer this prayer. The Holy Spirit, the Bible, other people—all sorts of things can teach us and lead us. So today, use this verse as a prayer. Pray that God would teach you and lead you. Then, look for who or what He might be using to speak to you and answer that prayer.

*"The Lord makes firm the steps of the one who
delights in him; though he may stumble, he will
not fall, for the Lord upholds him with his hand."*

Psalms 37:23-24 NIV

DAY 2

The Bible is like an instruction manual for our lives. It shows us where to go, what to do, how to live. Because after all, everyone needs help from time to time! And as this Proverb reminds us, when we go to the Lord for help—when we seek out His wisdom in the Bible—He promises to lead us, guide us, and keep us standing strong. What an encouraging promise to have. To know that when we turn to God for guidance, He will not lead us the wrong way. Write this verse somewhere you can see it. Look to it when you're not sure what to do in a situation in your life. Let it remind you that God will lead and not leave you.

*"Having carefully investigated everything from
the beginning, I also have decided to write an
accurate account for you, most honorable
Theophilus, so you can be certain of the truth
of everything you were taught."*

Luke 1:3-4 NLT

DAY 3

The Bible was written by ordinary people. They were real people living real lives with real struggles and challenges. And with God's leading, they wrote down the experiences and truths that He gave them so that they could be given to us today. The words and wisdom of the Bible—the truths you find there—are just as important to our lives now as they were back when they were written. This week, dive into learning about some of those experiences and people in the Bible. Dive into the book of Luke, where this verse is found, to start. Spend time reading about and learning about Jesus and the men and women who experienced Him on Earth.

<i>"When you received his message from us, you didn't think of our words as mere human ideas. You accepted what we said as the very word of God—which, of course, it is. And this word continues to work in you who believe."</i> <i>1 Thessalonians 2:13 NLT</i>	DAY 4 Maybe you've wondered how you can know that the Bible is real? How can you trust it? How can you believe in it? Well, because as this verse says, the very words you read in the Bible are the very words of God Himself. While it was written by humans, God used them to communicate His heart and mind to us. So, as we read and learn about the Bible, we can know we're hearing from the God who loves us and wants to know us. Today, take a moment to thank God for the Bible. Pray that He would help you see it for what it truly is—the very words of God Himself given to us.
<i>"Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do."</i> <i>Joshua 1:8 NLT</i>	DAY 5 When's the last time you learned something new? Chances are you didn't learn it right away. It probably took some time, energy, and effort to truly become good at this new skill. It probably happened over time. Well, reading the Bible is similar. It's not a one-and-done activity. In order for us to truly benefit from what the Bible says, we need to make it a regular part of our lives. We need to go back to it again and again. This week, make a commitment to do just that! Spend time reading just a little bit of the Bible each day. As you keep going back to it consistently, pay attention to the ways you see, experience, or understand God's Word a little more each time.
<i>"The teaching of your word gives light, so even the simple can understand."</i> <i>Psalms 119:130 NLT</i>	DAY 6 Light is one of those things you don't really think about until it's gone. Think about when you're trying to find the bathroom or get a glass of water in the middle of the night. Without light, you stumble around, knocking things over and stubbing your toes. But flip the lights on, and everything becomes clearer. You can see your way. The Bible is like a light when you can't see your way. It helps show you where to go and what's ahead. It makes things easier to see! This week, talk to your parents or a friend about an area of your life where you need more light. Ask them for ideas about a Bible verse that can help you see your circumstance more clearly.
<i>"Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path."</i> <i>Psalms 119:105 NIV</i>	DAY 7 One of the best ways to memorize Scripture is to keep it in front of you. If you post it somewhere that you'll see it often, your mind will recognize and recall it more easily. This week, think of a place you'll see this verse a lot. Download an image of this verse to keep on your phone, write it on your bathroom mirror, or post it in your locker. Make a point to read it each time you see it, helping you to memorize it along the way.