

The ONE  
YEAR®

# THE ONE YEAR® DEVOS FOR GIRLS 2



TYNDALE

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*The One Year Devos for Girls 2*

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## THE TREASURE BOX

Read Malachi 3:16-18

A special note from Grandma . . . a ballet ticket stub . . . a fitness award patch . . . a birthstone ring . . . a Garfield book. Grace was looking over the contents of her treasure box. Before going to bed, she often held and inspected the items and then returned them to her box. The memories they brought gave her good, warm feelings.

One evening, Grace repeated her treasure box ritual as usual. When she finally fell asleep, she dreamed of a *huge* treasure box. The beautiful box was bigger than the sky and sparkled more than diamonds. But she couldn't see what was in it.

The next morning, Grace told her mother about the dream. "Who would own such a big box?" Grace asked. "A king? Or the president?" She snapped her fingers. "God!" she exclaimed. "I think God is the only one who might possibly own a box as big as the one in my dream. But if God had a treasure box, what would he put in it? Rainbows, maybe? Or oceans? Mountains? Gold?" No answer seemed right to her.

Mom smiled. "Let's think about it today," she suggested. "Let's see if we can come up with an answer."

"Okay," Grace agreed. But her day was busy, and she soon forgot her questions. She didn't think about her dream again until that evening when she pulled out her treasure box. She went to find Mom. "Did you figure out what God would put in his treasure box?" Grace asked.

"Go look up Deuteronomy 7:6," Mom suggested (see today's memory verse). "Maybe that will help you decide."

Grace took her Bible and looked up the verse. She saw the answer to her question. *People*, she thought. *God would put the people who love him in his treasure box!* Grace smiled. She knew she was God's treasure. *JLN*



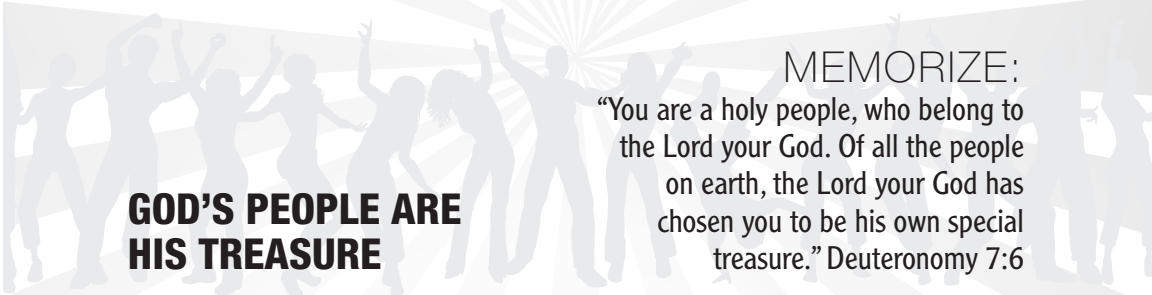
### HOW ABOUT YOU?

Whether or not you have a special box for treasures, you probably do have things that are "treasures" to you. God has treasures, too. His children—those who have trusted Jesus as Savior—are his treasures. Are you included in that group? Knowing that you're a treasure to him should give you joy, comfort, and peace.

### MEMORIZE:

"You are a holy people, who belong to the Lord your God. Of all the people on earth, the Lord your God has chosen you to be his own special treasure." Deuteronomy 7:6

**GOD'S PEOPLE ARE  
HIS TREASURE**



# JANUARY

# 2

## TO TELL THE TRUTH (PART 1)

Read Ephesians 4:15-16

Lori looked glum as she came in the door. “Problems, honey?” Grandma asked.

“Oh, I just get tired of Marie bossing me around!” Lori complained. “Sometimes I wish I’d never tried to make friends with her!”

“Well,” Grandma said, “I remember you said you were going to be friendly to her because she was new in school and you knew God would want you to do that. She seemed very pleased to be here the day you asked her over after school.”

Lori scowled. “Yeah, and that’s when she decided to become ‘Director of the Playground.’ She’s been bossing everybody ever since,” Lori complained. “At first the girls tried to be nice and play her games, but they’re really getting fed up with her. Most of them won’t even play with her anymore.”

“But you still play with her?” Grandma asked.

“I did.” Lori sighed. “But when she complained today about the other girls playing silly games instead of her games, I said I kind of felt like joining them. She got mad and told me I wasn’t much of a friend. I guess I wasn’t very nice about it. I wanted to help her, but all I could think of was telling her how horrible she was, so I didn’t say anything more.”

“Hmmm,” Grandma murmured. “Well, the Bible does say to tell the truth.”

“You mean I should go ahead and tell her she’s mean and selfish?” Lori gasped.

Grandma smiled. “Not exactly,” she said, “but go look up Ephesians 4:15.”

Lori found the verse in her Bible. “But speaking the truth in love . . .” she read slowly. “Oh, I see! We have to love the person we’re telling the truth to.” She paused, and Grandma nodded as Lori continued, “I can try to explain to Marie why she’s losing all her friends. I can help her realize that everyone wants a turn at deciding what to do. But I have to show love when I do it . . . not be grouchy like I was today.”

“I think you have the idea. It still won’t be easy, but I’ll be praying for you,” Grandma promised.

Lori silently asked the Lord to help her know the right thing to say. *EC*



### HOW ABOUT YOU?

Do you know someone who needs to be told the truth? Can you tell it in a loving way? Read 1 Corinthians 13 again to see what love is all about. Also, pray about the problem. Then if you’re sure the Lord wants you to point out a fault to some person, do it lovingly. Be careful that you don’t do it in a critical spirit, but rather to be helpful.

### MEMORIZE:

“We will hold to the truth in love, becoming more and more in every way like Christ.” Ephesians 4:15

**TELL THE TRUTH  
IN LOVE**

## TO TELL THE TRUTH (PART 2)

Read Proverbs 1:1-5

Marie was sitting alone on the steps, watching the other girls, when Lori arrived at school. As Lori sat down next to her, Marie gave her a sideways glance. “Thought you were going to play that stupid game with the other girls. Well, go ahead,” Marie growled. “I don’t care if no one likes me. I don’t like them, either! I can sit here alone.”

Lori took a deep breath. “Why should you sit alone?” she asked. “The girls would be glad to have you join them.”

“In that dumb game?” Marie snarled, feeling a little guilty for sounding so nasty. “I know one that’s much more fun. But do the others want to listen? Oh, no!”

“You do know a lot of fun games,” Lori agreed, “and you’re fun to play with, too. I’m glad you came to our school. But don’t you see? The girls sometimes like to choose their own games. They don’t dislike you. They just dislike having you always telling them what to do. So come on—play this game with us now. We’ll play yours again later.”

Marie hesitated. “I don’t know how to play that one,” she said finally.

“That’s totally fine! The girls can show *you* how to do something for a change. Come on,” coaxed Lori as she stood up. “I’m going to go play.”

Marie watched as Lori walked away. She tried to be mad at Lori for deserting her, but in her heart she knew Lori was right. Maybe she should join the others and learn to play their game—if they would still let her. She slowly approached the group. “Could you show me how to play that game?” she timidly asked Susan.

Susan smiled. “Sure, come on,” she answered. She linked her arm through Marie’s, and together they joined the game. Marie was surprised and sorry when the bell rang a short time later. “This game was really fun!” she announced with a grin. *EC*



### HOW ABOUT YOU?

Has someone tried to tell you that you are bossy, selfish, lazy, or maybe stuck-up? Don’t become angry when you receive criticism. Thank God for a friend who wants to help you. Think seriously about what is said. If it’s true, ask God to help you change that area of your life.

**ACCEPT CRITICISM**

MEMORIZE:

“Let the wise listen and add to their learning.” Proverbs 1:5, NIV

# JANUARY

# 4

## THE FEEDER

Read Matthew 25:35-40

The cold winter wind bit at Gabrielle's nose and ears as she and her aunt Ellen were shopping downtown. "Can we stop at the pet store and get some birdseed?" Gabrielle asked. Aunt Ellen agreed, and they headed for the store.

As they crossed an alley, Gabrielle saw a man sleeping there, huddled against a wall. He was wrapped in a shabby coat, wore no gloves, and had worn-out shoes on his feet. Gabrielle frowned and glanced back over her shoulder. "Why is he dressed like that? And why is he sleeping on the street on such a cold day?" she asked.

"I suppose he's a homeless person," Aunt Ellen replied.

"At school we talked about homeless people," Gabrielle said as they entered a warm store, "but I didn't think we had any in a small town like ours."

After Gabrielle bought a bag of birdseed, she and her aunt started back home. As they passed the alley, Gabrielle noticed that the man was gone. Aunt Ellen looked sad. "I hope he's okay," she said. Gabrielle nodded.

When the two got home, Gabrielle filled the backyard feeder with birdseed. Then she came inside and rubbed the cold from her tingling fingers. "I like to feed the birds," she said as she and her aunt watched birds swoop down to the feeder. "It's so cold, and it's hard for them to find food. They might die without me." She paused, then added, "But you know what? My Sunday school teacher read some verses that say God sees every sparrow that falls."

Her aunt nodded. "God cares about the birds, but he says people are of more value than many sparrows," she said. "We found a way to help the birds through the cold winter; we could also find a way to help the homeless. Let's think of something together, shall we?" *DBK*



### HOW ABOUT YOU?

Have you ever thought about what it would be like to be homeless? Really cold? Really hungry? Perhaps there's an organization in your town that needs money, food, or clothes in order to help homeless people. Would you be willing to do without something you want in order to help? Think about it.

### MEMORIZE:

"You are more valuable to him than a whole flock of sparrows."

Matthew 10:31

**HELP THE HOMELESS**

**OPEN WIDE**

Read Joshua 24:14-16

“Want me to feed Josie today?” Tanya asked her mother.

“Sure. Thanks,” Mom replied. “Here’s her spoon and the jar of peas.”

“Open wide,” Tanya said, putting a spoonful of the mashed peas into Josie’s mouth. Josie spit the green peas back out. “Hey! You’re supposed to eat them!” Tanya scolded, scraping the peas off the baby’s chin. When Tanya held up another spoonful, Josie clamped her lips shut and turned away.

Mom chuckled. “I guess she doesn’t want them. You can keep offering them to her, but you can’t make her eat them. Here, try some carrots instead,” Mom suggested, handing Tanya the jar of baby food.

“Come on, Josie,” Tanya coaxed, offering the carrots. “Try some of these.” This time Josie opened her mouth and accepted a spoonful. After that she willingly took some more and ate hungrily. “See. They’re good,” Tanya said. “And they’re good for you, too, aren’t they, Mom?”

Mom smiled. “Babies don’t realize that we know what’s good for them, and they don’t always want to accept what we offer.”

Tanya turned to her mom. “At youth group, Mr. Simmons said we’re something like that. He said God loves us and knows what’s best for us, and he wants us to accept Jesus as Savior and to serve him. But God lets us choose whether or not we want to.”

Mom nodded. “Just like Josie decided whether or not to accept the food you offered her, we decide whether or not to accept Jesus and receive the salvation God offers us. And after we do accept him, we have to decide whether to do things his way.”

Tanya smiled and finished feeding her little sister. *GJT*

**HOW ABOUT YOU?**

Have you asked Jesus to be your Savior? Have you decided to do things his way? God loves you and knows it’s best for you to not only have Jesus in your life, but also to spend your life serving him by showing his love to others. Why not “open wide” and do that today?



**DECIDE TO LOVE  
AND SERVE JESUS**

**MEMORIZE:**  
“Choose today whom you will serve.”  
Joshua 24:15

# JANUARY

# 6

## THE COMFORTER

Read John 14:15-21

As Sheryl lay across the bed sobbing, she felt something silky shoved under her nose. “Sissy, you can have my blanket.” A tiny hand patted Sheryl’s head, and she looked up into the troubled eyes of her little sister, Cynthia, who added, “My blanket will make you feel all better.”

Sheryl felt the bed move as her mother sat down beside her. “Missing Lindy?” Mom gently asked.

Sheryl looked up and nodded. “She was my best friend. I think about her all the time,” she said. “Will I ever feel better? It’s been three months since she died.”

Mom handed her a tissue. “It’s always hard to lose someone we love,” she said, “especially someone as young as Lindy.”

Sheryl took the tissue and blew her nose. Then she handed the blanket to Cynthia. “You can have your blanket back. Thanks.”

With a contented sigh, Cynthia hugged her blanket to her. Mom pulled the little girl onto her lap. “That’s your comforter, isn’t it, honey?” she asked.

Cynthia looked puzzled. “No,” she said. “It’s my blanket.”

Sheryl smiled and lifted the edge of the comforter that was spread across her bed. “See this, Cynthia?” she asked. “This is called a comforter.”

Mom looked thoughtful as she spoke. “You know, Sheryl, the Holy Spirit is *my* Comforter—and yours, too.”

Sheryl sat up. “Is that why I feel better after I pray?” she asked. “I know when I prayed this morning, God seemed to tell me to remember the good times. I did for a little bit, and then I felt better. I was still sad, but it was a . . . a warm and soft sadness.”

“Warm and soft? Like my blanket?” Cynthia asked.

Mom smiled, then patted the bed. “For Christians, the Holy Spirit is our Comforter. He’s always with us and reminds us of God’s promises and care.” *BJW*



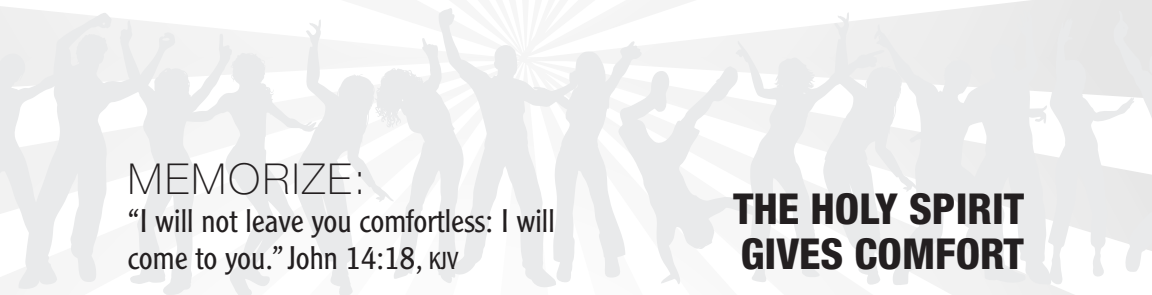
### HOW ABOUT YOU?

Do you feel sad because someone you love has died? Have you lost a pet? Or has a special friend moved away? If you know Jesus as Savior, you have the Holy Spirit. Ask him to help you feel his comfort.

### MEMORIZE:

“I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.” John 14:18, *KJV*

**THE HOLY SPIRIT  
GIVES COMFORT**



## A PRETTY PICTURE

Read Acts 9:36-39

“See my picture!” Little Emily proudly showed Donicka her page of scribbled lines. Red, blue, green, and yellow streaks crisscrossed the picture of balloons.

“Mom likes my coloring much better than yours,” Donicka replied in a snooty tone. “You don’t stay in the lines.”

Emily’s lips puckered, and big teardrops crept down her cheeks. “Mommy!” she wailed and ran to find her mother.

Donicka took an orange crayon from the box and began coloring a stained glass window in a picture of a church. “That looks too messy,” she mumbled to herself after coloring for a while. She ripped the page out of the coloring book, crumpled it up, and dropped it on the floor. *I think I’ll try this picture of a kitten*, she thought. She chose a yellow crayon to begin working on the calico cat. But after a few minutes, she looked at the picture critically. *This looks messy, too*, she decided. Again she ripped out the page and tossed it away.

Just then Mom walked into the room, holding Emily’s hand. The little girl was still sniffing. “Donicka,” Mom said, “do you think your words to Emily were very kind?”

“I guess not,” Donicka mumbled.

Mom picked up some of the pages Donicka had tossed on the floor. “You know, Donicka, the outlines of the pictures in your coloring book are boundaries, and as you told Emily, a picture is prettier when you stay inside the lines. The boundaries of the pictures remind me that there are boundaries in life, too—God’s boundaries, or rules. When we obey his rules—like ‘Be kind to one another’—our lives are like a pretty picture. But when we go outside the boundaries, we don’t look very pretty to others or to God.” *LJR*



### HOW ABOUT YOU?

How does your “life-picture” look? Today’s Scripture tells about Dorcas, whose life was like a pretty picture. She was kind, she helped others, and she made clothes for the poor. People were sad when she died. Don’t go outside God’s boundaries by being unkind. If you love Jesus, your life should be a pretty picture so others can see what he is like. Let the beauty of Jesus’ love be seen in you.

**FOLLOW GOD’S RULES**

MEMORIZE:

“Show mercy and kindness to one another.” Zechariah 7:9

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