

KeyVerses09 Doing Life Together

Love follows knowledge. A new Believer needs to be fed, fed, fed until they can feed themselves. Here's the 8th of 11 KeyVerse series, each of them with 35 verses (7 weeks worth) to show care and content to a young Christian. This series features verses about Doing Life Together (fellowship).

Examples:

Week 1 Day 1: A KeyVerse about Prayer to encourage you:

Before daybreak the next morning, Jesus got up and went out to an isolated place to pray. (Mark 1.35)

Why should you pray, (name)? The best answer isn't, because it's God's rule. No, because Jesus did! He modeled a new way to live, always listening to God, talking to God. It's a good habit to start your day like Jesus did. How? Get up, find some get-alone time, and talk to God. Tell God you want to be like Jesus, praying and listening, day by day.

Week 2 Day 2:

A KeyVerse for you about Prayer to encourage you:

[Jesus] When you pray, don't be like the hypocrites who love to pray publicly on street corners and in the synagogues where everyone can see them. I tell you the truth, that's all the reward they'll ever get. But when you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father in private. Then your Father, who sees everything, will reward you. (Matthew 6.5-6)

We can pray for show, or pray from the heart. If we try to impress others with our prayers, we will, but God will ignore us. The best prayer is from your heart, (name), what you say when you're all by yourself, alone with God. Practice this today – just you and God, talking together, like lovers do.

Verses to use Choose any verses you feel give insights about Prayer from the gospels. Here's a sample list for your consideration (there are many more):

Week 1: Mark 1.35; Luke 5.16; Luke 11.1; Luke 10.21; Luke 18.1

Week 2: Luke 22.41-44; Matt. 6.5-6; Matt 6.7-8; Matt. 6.9; Matt 6.10

Week 3: Matt. 6.11; Matt. 6.12; Matt. 6.13; Matt. 7.7-8; Matt. 9.37-38;

Week 4: Matt. 17.14-15; Matt. 18.29-30; Matt. 19.13; Matt. 20.20-21; Matt. 21.12-13

Week 5: Mark 9.28-29; Luke 6.12; Luke 20.46-47; Luke 11.13; Luke 18.42-43

Week 6: Luke 18.37; Luke 22.31-32; Matt 27.46; Luke 23.47; John 10.27

Week 7: John 11.41-42; John 12.27-28; John 14.13; John 14.14; John 16.24

To do: Copy the verse from a website like biblegateway.com, add a comment, and email it to a new Believer, Monday – Friday. If you can, pick the same time each day – make it something they anticipate.

Or if you wish, use/modify the 35 KeyVerses below.

Small things done in great love will change the world, one person at a time...

* this is the 9th series of KeyVerses; see also 1st series: *Believer – 35 Basic KeyVerses*; 2nd series: *Believer – 35 God KeyVerses*; 3rd series: *35 Jesus KeyVerses*; 4th series: *35 Spirit KeyVerses*; 5th series: *35 Good News KeyVerses*; 6th series: *35 God's Word KeyVerses*; 7th Series: *35 Jesus KeyVerses*; 8th series: *35 Prayer KeyVerses*

Series #9 - KeyVerses about doing life together – English only

Names of those getting the series (move name down one day at a time)

1. John Doe, started Jan 1/11
- 2.
- 3.

Letter to start:

We'll start a new KeyVerse series today, (name).

When we become Christians, God adopts us into his family.

That means we start doing life together with other Christians.

God gives us brothers and sisters, and spiritual moms and dads.

Most of all, we get to do life together with Jesus - he's our older Brother.

I hope these verses encourage you to open your life to other believers.

And to share your life with younger Christians, so they can get the warmth of a family too.

Week 1:

Day 1: 1 Corinthians 1.9

A KeyVerse about doing life together to encourage you:

God will do this [keep us strong until the end], for he's faithful to do what he says, and he has invited you into partnership with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (1 Corinthians 1.9)

Being a Christian means you become the treasured friend of Jesus, (name). The One who owns the universe invites you to partner - do life together - with him. Wow!!! He'll be your companion, going with you through your day, talking to you, caring for you, watching out for you. Thank God that you get this priceless privilege to have Jesus as your partner.

Day 2: 1 John 1.3

A KeyVerse about doing life together to encourage you:

We proclaim to you what we ourselves have actually seen and heard so that you may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his

Son, Jesus Christ. (1 John 1.3)

Why do you tell others about Jesus? Because you want them to experience the same friendship you have with God and his Son Jesus. The closer you get to Jesus and feel his love and kindness, the more you want others to have this friendship. Ask God to help you tell others about Jesus, (name).

Day 3: Acts 2.42

A KeyVerse about doing life together to encourage you:

All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), and to prayer. (Acts 2.42)

When the first church started, after Jesus' resurrection, they became a family. They spent time studying the teachings of Jesus and praying. This is what God wants for you, (name). You can belong to a church family where others are your brothers and sisters. Can you think of a way to treat your church like a family today?

Day 4: 2 Corinthians 6.14

A KeyVerse about doing life together to encourage you:

Don't team up with those who are unbelievers. How can righteousness be a partner with wickedness? How can light live with darkness? (2 Corinthians 6.14)

Friendships and partnerships have a strong influence on our lives. Good friends lift us up, helping us do great things for God. But friends pull us down. If your friend insists on walking in the darkness, it becomes harder to be close to them. Ask God to help you influence your friends to walk in God's light, (name), and not let them influence you to stay in the darkness.

Day 5: Phil. 2.1-2

A KeyVerse about doing life together to encourage you:

Is there any encouragement from belonging to Christ? Any comfort from his love? Any fellowship together in the Spirit? Are your hearts tender and compassionate? Then make me truly happy by agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, loving one another, and working together with one mind and purpose. (Philippians 2.1-2)

God wants us to be more and more like Jesus. That's what he was like, loving

others, encouraging them, building deep friendships. He was the best friend ever. Ask God to help you to live passionately like this, (name), loving people around you, loving them wholeheartedly. Be the best friend ever, like Jesus is to you.

Week 2:

Day 6: Phil. 3.10

A KeyVerse about doing life together to encourage you:

I want to know Christ and experience the mighty power that raised him from the dead. I want to suffer with him, sharing in his death... (Philippians 3.10)

Many people are fans of celebrities, because they envy them and want to copy their lifestyle. Maybe we did too at one time. Now we're different, (name). We want to know Jesus. We want to live a life full of God's power. We want to suffer and sacrifice like he did, so others can know God too. Here's a good indicator that you're growing as a Christian: you want to know Jesus more, and live like him. Are you growing?

Day 7: 1 Jn 1.6-7

A KeyVerse about doing life together to encourage you:

So we're lying if we say we have fellowship with God but go on living in spiritual darkness; we're not practicing the truth. But if we're living in the light, as God is in the light, then we have fellowship with each other, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, cleanses us from all sin. (1 John 1.6 – 7)

When your heart is open to God, then you become open to other Christians, (name). You no longer try to hide from God. You want to be clean and pure before him, like Jesus is. Day by day, you'll experience God's forgiveness. And your bonding with other Christians gets deeper. Don't hide from God today – let his light shine in every corner of your heart.

Day 8: Jn 4.36-37

A KeyVerse about doing life together to encourage you:

[Jesus] The harvesters are paid good wages, and the fruit they harvest is people brought to eternal life. What joy awaits both the planter and the harvester alike! You know the saying, 'One plants and another harvests.' And it's true. (John 4.36-

37)

Want to experience great joy, (name)? The best way is to team up with others to help your friends become Christians. When someone says I want to believe in God and follow Jesus, you'll be so delighted! This is what Jesus wants us to do, be a "spiritual farmer", planting and harvesting for the kingdom. How can you be a spiritual farmer today? Who can you team up with?

Day 9: Jn 20.19

A KeyVerse about doing life together to encourage you:

That Sunday evening [after Jesus' death] the disciples were meeting behind locked doors because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders. Suddenly, Jesus was standing there among them! "Peace be with you," he said. (John 20.19)

Before we were Christians, we were all alone. God wasn't our Father, Jesus wasn't with us. Now that we believe in him, he's here, involved in our lives! It was a miracle for his disciples to see Jesus alive again. It's a miracle for us too, (name), that he would want to do life together with us. Tell God you want to know Jesus' presence more and more, depending on him, connecting with him today.

Day 10: Acts 1.14

A KeyVerse about doing life together to encourage you:

They all met together [after Jesus returned to heaven] and were constantly united in prayer, along with Mary the mother of Jesus, several other women, and the brothers of Jesus. (Acts 1.14)

One of the best experiences you'll have as a Christian is praying together. Your heart joins up with others, praising God, loving Jesus, and asking his help for others. Every chance you get, take time to pray with other Christians, (name). It's God's way to help you experience his family life, his deep love and acceptance.

Week 3:

Day 11: Acts 2.44-46

A KeyVerse about doing life together to encourage you:

And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had. They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in

need. They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity... (Acts 2.44-46)

This was how the church started after Jesus went to heaven. They became a family, enjoying the companionship, helping one another. They shared meals, shared their resources. Amazing! Ask God to make you this kind of person, (name), recreating God's family, wide open to love and help other Christians.

Day 12: 1 Peter 1.22

A KeyVerse about doing life together to encourage you:

You were cleansed from your sins when you obeyed the truth, so now you must show sincere love to each other as brothers and sisters. Love each other deeply with all your heart. (1 Peter 1.22)

The more we understand how Jesus sacrificed his life to take our sins away, the more we can give that love to others, (name). For sure, he loved us deeply with all his heart. Make that your project today. *What could I do today to love Christians around me deeply, sincerely?* Try!

Day 13: Acts 20.7

A KeyVerse about doing life together to encourage you:

On the first day of the week, we gathered with the local believers to share in the Lord's Supper. Paul was preaching to them, and since he was leaving the next day, he kept talking until midnight. (Acts 20.7)

A long, long sermon, (name), wow! But I doubt that the Christians got bored. They were together, learning more about God, hearing stories of his work in their world. That's the joy of doing life together, (name). You get to hang around with others, learning and loving. Maybe even till midnight!

Day 14: 1 Cor. 1.2

A KeyVerse about doing life together to encourage you:

I'm writing to God's church in Corinth, to you who have been called by God to be his own holy people. He made you holy by means of Christ Jesus, just as he did for

all people everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, their Lord and ours. (1 Cor. 1.2)

You're part of something big, (name), now that you're a Christian! All over the world, people are starting to follow Jesus. God's calling them, just like he called you to believe and follow Jesus. Sometimes we think small, just our little group of Christians. Think big...! And ask God to help you bring more into his family.

Day 15: 1 Peter 3.8

A KeyVerse about doing life together to encourage you:

Finally, all of you should be of one mind. Sympathize with each other. Love each other as brothers and sisters. Be tenderhearted, and keep a humble attitude. (1 Peter 3.8)

What a great experience, if we can be loved like this, (name)! And if we can love others the same way. It's a bit of heaven, while we're still on earth. Pick one of these ideas and do your best to act that way with someone today. It will be a touch of God's love, into their life.

Week 4:

Day 16: Heb. 3.13

A KeyVerse about doing life together to encourage you:

You must warn each other every day, while it is still "today," so that none of you will be deceived by sin and hardened against God. (Heb. 3.13)

It's not easy to warn others about sin and a hard heart, (name). If we're not careful, we could act like a referee, always blowing the whistle when we see something wrong in other's life. Let's not do that! Still, we want to care enough to say, Please don't go away from God! I love you too much to see you hurt yourself this way.

Day 17: Eph. 2.21-22

A KeyVerse about doing life together to encourage you:

We're carefully joined together in him [Jesus], becoming a holy temple for the Lord. Through him you Gentiles are also being made part of this dwelling where God lives by his Spirit. (Eph. 2.21-22)

Our life now is connected with other believers, because we belong to God. A building is made up of different materials – wood, steel, doors, windows – all joined together. Same with us, (name). God joins us up with other Christians, so all of us can worship and serve him. Thank God today for the Christians around you.

Day 18: Eph 3.6

A KeyVerse about doing life together to encourage you:

And this is God's plan: Both Gentiles and Jews who believe the Good News share equally in the riches inherited by God's children. Both are part of the same body, and both enjoy the promise of blessings because they belong to Christ Jesus. (Eph 3.6)

God started with the Jews, giving them special blessings. Now he's opened up these blessings to all of us, (name). If we'll believe in Jesus, he'll treat us like his special children. It doesn't matter what ethnic group we're from. Now we can belong to him. Think of another people group today and pray for them, Ask God to let many of them become believers in Jesus.

Day 19: Heb. 10.24

A KeyVerse about doing life together to encourage you:

Let's think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. (Heb. 10.24)

Some people are full of anger, always thinking of ways to hurt others. Not us! We want to be full of God's Spirit, and think of ways to motivate others to live like Jesus. It's a good project for today, (name): who can you motivate so they'll show love to others?

Day 20: Heb. 10.25

A KeyVerse about doing life together to encourage you:

And let's not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near. (Heb. 10.25)

It's easy to give up on worship. It's easy not to go to Bible study. It's easy to pray by ourselves, but not with others. It's easy to neglect being with other Christians,

(name). God says, don't! We'll get encouraged and encourage others, as we worship and study and pray together. Find time to be with Christians, k.

Week 5:

Day 21: John 13.34

A KeyVerse about doing life together:

[Jesus] And since I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash each other's feet. (John 13.14)

Such an unusual experience for the disciples, (name). Their Master, Jesus, washed their feet like a humble slave would. Jesus was teaching them that a leader is one who serves. Try to imitate Jesus today by finding humble ways to serve others around you.

Day 22: Jn. 13.34-35

A KeyVerse about doing life together:

[Jesus] So now I'm giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you're my disciples. (John 13.34-35)

This kind of love changes the world, (name). The way Jesus loved his disciples and us is the love we should imitate, loving those around us. He served them and stuck with them, even when they weren't very lovable. Start with someone today – try to love them as much as Jesus loves you.

Day 23: Rom. 12.10

A KeyVerse about doing life together:

Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other. (Rom. 12.10)

Mostly we look for people to honor us, say kind things about us, and praise us. It's better to find ways to honor others and compliment them, (name). This is what true love is, forgetting ourselves and having warm affection for others. Who can you compliment and honor today?

Day 24: Rom. 12.16

A KeyVerse about doing life together:

Live in harmony with each other. Don't be too proud to enjoy the company of ordinary people. And don't think you know it all! (Rom. 12.16)

Pride is deadly, because it separates us from others. We start thinking we're too good for them – we judge and criticize. Jesus was the opposite. He was humble, associating with the poor and broken lives around him. Ask God to give you this kind of humility, so you can enjoy the company of others, (name), no matter what kind of people they are.

Day 25: Rom. 13.8

A KeyVerse about doing life together:

Owe nothing to anyone—except for your obligation to love one another. If you love your neighbor, you will fulfill the requirements of God's law. (Rom. 13.8)

Wouldn't this be interesting, not to be in debt except the "debt" of love!

Sometimes it's called "passing it forward". We have been loved by God soooo much. Now we get to give that love to others. Tell God you want to think this way, (name). It's like you're in debt to God, and want to pay it off by loving others. Not exactly, but I think you understand...

Week 6:

Day 26: Rom. 14.13

A KeyVerse about doing life together to encourage you:

So let's stop condemning each other. Decide instead to live in such a way that you'll not cause another believer to stumble and fall. (Rom. 14.13)

It's easy to be critical. Easy to judge and condemn. God says, stop that! Instead, we should concentrate on our own life, (name), so we're a good model for others to follow. Be hard on yourself, but be easy on others. That's a good way to live.

Day 27: Rom. 15.7

A KeyVerse about doing life together to encourage you:

Therefore, accept each other just as Christ has accepted you so that God will be given glory. (Rom. 15.7)

You'll be much more gracious to others, if you realize how much Jesus has accepted you, with all your sins and faults. Even when you were his enemy and a rebel against him, Jesus loved you, (name)! Ask God to help you extend this same spirit of warmth and love to others today.

Day 28: (Rom. 16.16; also in 1 Cor. 16.10; 2 Cor. 13.12, 1 Peter 5.14)

A KeyVerse about doing life together to encourage you:

Greet each other in Christian love [literally: with a holy kiss]. All the churches of Christ send you their greetings. (Rom. 16.16; also in 1 Cor. 16.10; 2 Cor. 13.12, 1 Peter 5.14)

In the culture of the early church, a kiss was the way to express affection for other Christian brothers and sisters. What would be a similar way to show affection in our culture today? Figure it out, (name), and try it lots this week, k.

Day 29: Gal. 5.13

A KeyVerse about doing life together to encourage you:

For you've been called to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters. But don't use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature [flesh]. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love. (Gal. 5.13)

As you become more and more like Jesus, you'll make choices to love and serve others. This was what he did when he walked on our planet. An immature person wants everyone to serve him. A mature adult isn't selfish like this. As you review your last few days, (name), ask yourself a question: was I serving others, or expecting to be served? Ask God to help you be a servant.

Day 30: Eph. 4.2

A KeyVerse about doing life together to encourage you:

Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love. (Eph. 4.2)

God treats you gently and kindly, even though he knows everything about you. Amazing! He knows your thoughts, your attitudes, your emotions, your actions. He knows you better than you know yourself, (name)! There's lots of darkness and

mess in each of us. Still, God loves us. That's how we learn to love others... we're so touched by how God loves us, and want to love others the same way.

Week 7

Day 31: Eph. 4.32

A KeyVerse about doing life together to encourage you:

Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you. (Eph. 4.32)

It's really hard to forgive someone, (name). It's why relationships break down, and families break up. Forgiving is almost impossible to do on our own. Thank God, he helps us by first letting us experience his forgiveness. That's why Jesus died, to forgive us – so amazing!!! Now we have Jesus' life, and can forgive those who've hurt us. Anyone come to mind, God wants you to forgive?

Day 32: 1 Peter 4.9

A KeyVerse about doing life together to encourage you:

Cheerfully share your home with those who need a meal or a place to stay.(1 Peter 4.9)

Sometimes we treat our homes like a castle. We put big walls around it, have a drawbridge, only let certain ones come in. God urges us to think differently, (name). He wants you to partner with him to show love for others. That means an open home, as well as an open heart. Tell God you want to think like this, even if you don't know where to start.

Day 33: Eph. 5.21

A KeyVerse about doing life together to encourage you:

And further, submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. (Eph 5.21)

This is one of the more challenging expectations God has for us, when we live life together with other Christians. Rather than get our own way, and be the boss, he wants us to be a servant. Submitting to others can be very humbling, (name). It was for Jesus, who submitted to the Father, and served all of us. How can you practice this today – can you think of a way, and do it?

Day 34: Col. 3.16

A KeyVerse about doing life together to encourage you:

Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts. (Col. 3.16)

Here's what a mature Christian community would be like. Everyone full of Jesus. Lots of encouragement and counsel to help each other. Happy hearts full of singing and praise. And an attitude of thanks to God and to the other believers. How about practicing this, (name), by trying to sing worship songs while you go through your day.. Start right now, k!

Day 35: 1 Thess. 5.11

A KeyVerse about doing life together to encourage you:

So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing. (1 thess. 5.11)

We've looked at lots of verses these last few weeks, (name), about doing life together. It's not just something we do occasionally, no. It becomes a lifestyle. We care for others, and give our life away to them. This is what Jesus did, that's what we focus on. Ask God to make this so much a part of your life, you don't even work at it. It's you, and everyone can see it. That is, can see Jesus in you and splashing out of you.