

Veritas Devos

I. Friday Night- Open Our Minds

Romans 12:1-2

“So, brothers and sisters, because of God’s mercies, I encourage you to present your bodies as a living sacrifice that is holy and pleasing to God. This is your appropriate priestly service. **2** Don’t be conformed to the patterns of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds so that you can figure out what God’s will is—what is good and pleasing and mature”

Through this scripture, we are encouraged to put aside our worldly distractions in order to renew our minds and learn God’s plans for us. It is important to keep this in mind as we begin this weekend of worship. In order to truly feel God’s presence this weekend, we must put aside the distractions of our everyday lives and more fully open up our minds and hearts. In doing so, we will be better prepared to listen to and discern the will of God.

Discussion Questions:

Why did you choose to come to Veritas?

What distractions may hold you back from fully experiencing this weekend?

How will you rid yourself from these distractions?

What are you looking to receive from this weekend?

Prayer: Dear Lord, please help us to put aside our distractions and open our hearts and minds in order to more fully receive what it is you have in store for us this weekend. Amen.

II. Saturday Morning- United

Romans 12:4-7

“**4** We have many parts in one body, but the parts don’t all have the same function. **5** In the same way, though there are many of us, we are one body in Christ, and individually we belong to each other. **6** We have different gifts that are consistent with God’s grace that has been given to us. If your gift is prophecy, you should prophesy in proportion to your faith. **7** If your gift is service, devote yourself to serving. If your gift is teaching, devote yourself to teaching.”

Miriam-Webster defines united as “made one.” In this passage, we learn that being one does not mean being the same, but rather being different. We each have our own gifts and talents that make us who we are. We are being told, in this scripture, to pursue these passions and things that make us different from other people; and that, regardless of these differences, we are all made one through Christ.

Discussion Questions:

What makes you different from others?
Do you have a passion? If so, what is it?
How can you use this passion or difference to help others?
How can this passion or difference help you in your faith?
How can we accept those different from us?

Prayer: Dear Lord, I pray that you continue to guide us to pursue our passions and embrace our differences. Please help us to be more accepting and loving towards the differences we see in others and remember they too are part of your body. Thank you so much for the multitude of gifts you have given us. Amen.

III. Saturday Night- Love One Another

John 13:34-35

“34 ‘I give you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, so you also must love each other. **35** This is how everyone will know that you are my disciples, when you love each other.’”

In this scripture, Jesus is asking his disciples to love one another. In doing so, Jesus claims this will help others to know who they are (followers of God). This weekend we have learned what it means to be united. With this we have learned to be loving and accepting of everyone, for we are all connected through Christ. As we leave Veritas we are challenged to not only remember this lesson but to also spread the love we learned here to others at home. In loving others, we show them what it means to be a Christian and we more fully fulfill God’s will.

Discussion Questions:

Why is it hard to love others sometimes?
What does loving others look like?
What does loving others tell people about us?
How does love make us united?

Prayer: Dear Lord, as we go home, help us to remember that we are all united through your love. Give us the strength to put aside our differences in order to radiate this love-- your love-- to all people in our community. Amen.