

LIVING A HOLY LIFE

March 2, 2024

Bible Readings

Take a few minutes to read the Bible verses listed and ask the

Holy Spirit to lead you in how this verse applies to you this week. Ephesians 6:11-17 **Memory Verse**

²⁶ Don't get so angry that you sin. Don't go to bed angry ²⁷ and don't give the devil a chance.

Ephesians 4:26-27

CASEY'S DAY

written by Ron VandenBurg illustrated by Chad Thompson



Elena slammed the door when she got home. "I'm never talking to Madison again!"

"What happened?" asked her dad as he handed her some carrot sticks and sat down at the table with her.

"We were playing catch at recess," said Elena as she twisted the carrot around with her hands. "But when it was her turn to toss the ball to me, she missed and it went right through Mrs. Weatherstone's window and smashed her solar system diorama. Then when Mrs. Weatherstone asked us what happened, she said I got mad at her and threw the ball at her as hard as I could, but missed and hit the diorama instead." Elena chomped on a carrot and crossed her arms. "I'm never talking to her again."

Have you ever wanted to do something that you knew wasn't right? Maybe you, like Madison, wanted to tell a little lie about not knowing how something broke so you wouldn't get in trouble. Or maybe you've been in Elena's shoes and haven't wanted to forgive someone who hurt you.

As Christians, we must honor and guard our relationship with God by loving the people around us. We all wrestle with sin, but we need to take personal responsibility. We can't blame Satan for our poor behavior (

<u>Ephesians 6:11-17</u>). Did you notice that the verse says *when* the day of evil comes not *if*. We should expect opposition. This is a great reminder that part of holy living is to make sure we don't get so angry that we sin by withholding forgiveness (<u>Ephesians 4:26-27</u>). We need to forgive others even if the relationship is not fixed. Let's not give the devil a room in our lives.

Prayer

Holy Spirit, please fill my heart with your wisdom and love, and help me to put on the full armor of God so that when I'm tempted I am protected. Amen.

written by Christina Van Starkenburg

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