

# Brightens Someone's Day SBR 2020

Romans 15:5-7 NIV

*May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

*Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.*

We are all going through something new, something unknown. Our minds are running on fast-forward as we try to figure out what to do next and how to deal with this slam of unexpected events. How are you holding out?

If we asked my college student this question, he would groan and shake his head. He works in a grocery store. It's not pretty. In fact, he has been coming home after each shift feeling exhausted and deflated. It's as if the youth behind the meat counter or cashing people out are to blame for the shortage of product and the restriction of items. Even though some are trying really hard to be nice, many are being selfish and mean.

Yesterday, we went for a walk together; hope in humanity was restored. As we chatted about all the uncertainty and seriously scary stuff, we started to notice something interesting at our feet. The sidewalks on our two mile walk were decorated by kids and adults alike. And... they were encouraging! We got to one area several blocks from our home and saw, *Thank you grocery store workers!* He looked at me and smiled. A simple act of kindness—perfect in that moment.

Today I'd like to encourage you to brighten someone's day. Send some grace; be amazing!

Amazing Grace, My Chains are Gone : <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=KKo3T0j9qqo>

Advice from Kid President: <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=m5yCOSHeYn4>

**Activity:** materials needed: outdoor chalk  
(or, paper, drawing utensils, tacks)

- Go outside and decorate the sidewalks of your neighborhood with encouraging sayings and pictures.
- Adaptation: Make pictures or write notes of encouragement to your neighbor's. Deliver them or tack them up to the trees near the sidewalks.

**Activity:** materials needed: scavenger hunt list and writing utensil  
(or use cell phones to take photos)

- Check-off list of items to look for on a walk or getting some fresh air:

2 sticks the length of a pencil, 3 rocks, green grass, brown grass, a red car, a pick up truck, a bus, a purple flower, a yellow flower, a license plate from another state, a round window, an airplane, clouds, a big dog, a little dog, a stroller, a runner, a bicyclist, a stop sign, sidewalk art

