


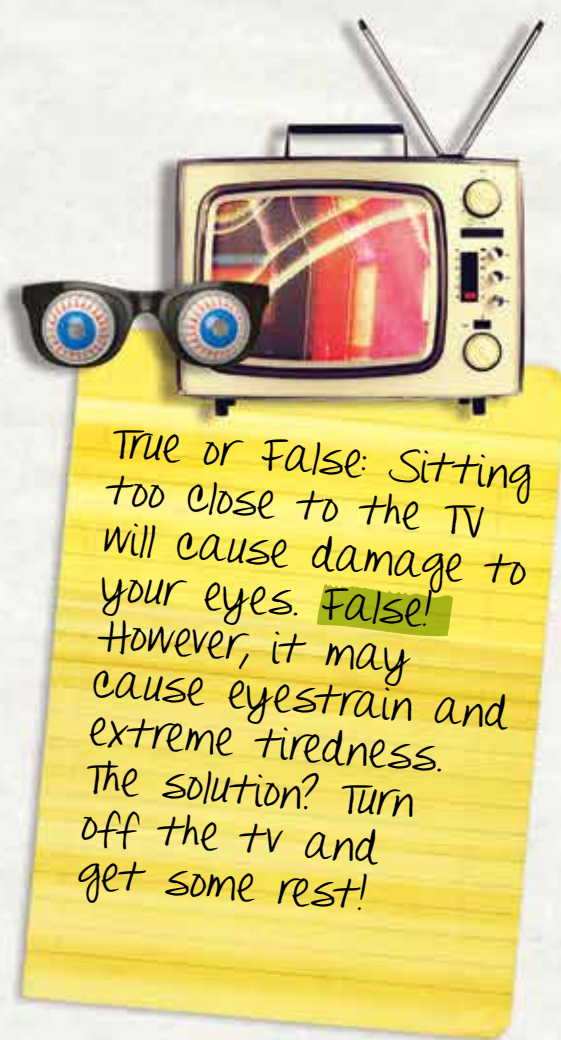
Wednesday, December 7

COME CLOSER

Joshua 3:9 

Come closer and listen to the words of the LORD your God.


Have you ever been watching TV and your mom told you to quit sitting so close? You were probably so captivated by the TV show that you didn't even realize you had gotten so close. That's what it can be like when you are reading or listening to God's Word. Joshua knew that God's Word has the power to captivate and deserves your full attention. God gave you His words so that you could know Him better. You should come closer so you can know Him even better!



True or False: Sitting too close to the TV will cause damage to your eyes. **False!** However, it may cause eyestrain and extreme tiredness. The solution? Turn off the tv and get some rest!

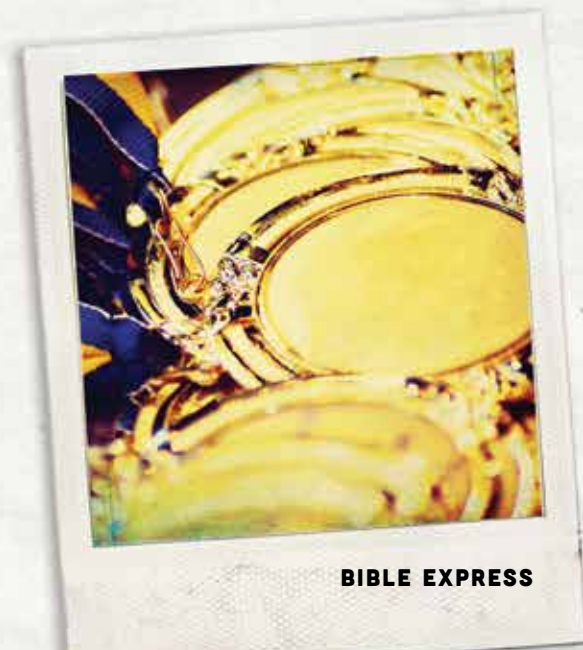
Thursday, December 8

STRENGTH FROM THE LORD

Ephesians 6:10 

Finally, be strengthened by the Lord and by His vast strength.


Think about the gymnasts who were in the Olympics. Do you think they woke up one morning and all of a sudden realized they were super strong? No, it takes a lot of work! When the verse above says, "Be strengthened by the Lord," do you think it's something that will happen instantly? God is always with you, but God wants you to access His full strength by reading His Word and spending time with Him daily. You will gain a strength that only He can give!



BIBLE EXPRESS

Friday, December 9

A DIFFERENT KIND OF RULER

Micah 5:2 

Bethlehem ... One will come from you to be ruler over Israel for Me.


The Israelites had been told for many years that a Savior was coming. The prophecies said someone would come from Bethlehem to rule over all of Israel. The people were expecting a king. They expected someone who would take away all their earthly struggles. They expected power. Jesus chose to deliver people in a different way than they expected. He wasn't concerned about eliminating their earthly struggles, but instead, took care of their bigger problem — sin. He wants to do the same thing for you.



At one point in time, gingerbread cookies were sold in pharmacies, because they were thought to help with indigestion. Saturday, December 10, is Gingerbread Decorating Day. Grab some supplies, and run, run, as fast as you can to decorate a gingerbread man!

Saturday, December 10

A GLAD HEART

Psalms 19:8 

The precepts of the LORD are right, making the heart glad.

When you think of following rules, does it sound fun? Probably not. Sometimes people think of the Bible as a list of rules. But the verse above says God's precepts (or rules) can make you glad. God has given the Bible to help you live in a way that glorifies Him. When you're walking closely with the Lord, your heart will be glad when you follow Him. Jesus paid the ultimate sacrifice so that your sins could be forgiven!



IMAGE CREDIT: THINKSTOCK AND SHUTTERSTOCK