

30 **FUN** DEVOTIONS
FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2013

ADVENTURE

DEVOTIONS

For Kids Ages 8-10



**JESUS,
THE GREATEST
TEACHER**

ADVENTURE is designed to encourage kids in the 3rd and 4th grades (8-10 year olds) to spend time with God each day.

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We believe that the Bible has God for its author; salvation for its end; and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter and that all Scripture is totally true and trustworthy. To review LifeWay's doctrinal guideline, please visit www.lifeway.com/doctrinalguideline.

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Use *Adventure* to spend time with God every day. Each day has a verse, story, and prayer. *Check it out starting on page 7!*

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LOL!

GAMES & PUZZLES They begin on page 10.

You won't have to turn many pages to find games, puzzles, and activities. We can't list them all because there are so many! You'll find the answers to them on page 35!

DIG DEEPER Want more?

Each week, try to "Dig Deeper" with a passage and activity related to that week's readings. Try the first one on page 11.

WHO DID THIS?

Your writer for the September *Adventure* is **Mark Swadley**. He lives in Paducah, Kentucky, with his wife Beth, and daughters Christina and Olivia. He is a Minister of Music.



FUN FACTS

Leonardo DaVinci drew plans for the cannon, helicopter, parachute, bicycle, and scissors many years before they were actually invented.

**FIND OTHER
GREAT FUN FACTS
INSIDE.**

the

GOSPEL

GOD'S PLAN FOR ME

gos·pel – *noun*. good news. the message about Christ, the kingdom of God, and salvation.



GOD RULES.

The Bible tells us God created everything, including you and me, and He is in charge of everything. *Genesis 1:1; Revelation 4:11; Colossians 1:16-17*



WE SINNED.

We all choose to disobey God. The Bible calls this sin. Sin separates us from God and deserves God's punishment of death. *Romans 3:23; 6:23*



GOD PROVIDED.

God sent Jesus, the perfect solution to our sin problem, to rescue us from the punishment we deserve. It's something we, as sinners, could never earn on our own. Jesus alone saves us. *John 3:16; Ephesians 2:8-9*



JESUS GIVES.

He lived a perfect life, died on the cross for our sins, and rose again. Because Jesus gave up His life for us, we can be welcomed into God's family for eternity. This is the best gift ever! *Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Peter 3:18; Ephesians 2:8-9*



WE RESPOND.

Believe in your heart that Jesus alone saves you through what He's already done on the cross. Repent, turning from self and sin to Jesus. Tell God and others that your faith is in Jesus. *John 14:6; Romans 10:9-10, 13*

PARENTS

Adventure magazine can be a regular part of your child's daily time with God and your family devotion time. Try these ideas this month with your child.

1. **Talk to your child about developing a time with God every day.** Help your child decide when is the best time to read each devotion and pray. Some times might be:
 - at night just before bedtime
 - in the morning at breakfast
 - in the car, on the way to school
 - after school, before beginning homework
2. **This month's *Adventure* is about "how Jesus taught us to live."** Turn to page 6 with your child, and read 10 Things To Do To Boost Your Daily Time With God. Gather pencils and paper and write a letter or poem to God. Include some things Jesus is teaching you about how to treat other people.
3. **On page 20 you'll find "Way to Go."** Together with your child, follow the directions to complete the activity. Then read down the column of letters you wrote to find the message. Talk about when to pray and where to pray. Help your child know that God hears prayers wherever they are prayed.
4. **Check out the jokes on page 34.** Take turns reading each joke—read the first one to your child then let your child read the next one to you. See if the other person can figure out the answer before looking. Enjoy a good laugh.
5. **Your child may be asking questions about how to become a Christian.** Be ready with an answer. Use the verses and information on page 4 to talk with your child about becoming a Christian. If your child is ready to respond by becoming a Christian, lead him to pray and tell God something like this:

Dear God,
I know I have disobeyed You and gone my own way. My sin separates me from You.
I am sorry that I have disobeyed You and earned Your punishment, but today
I turn back to You. I believe that Jesus died on the cross in my place so that my sins
can be forgiven. I believe Jesus rose from the dead and is alive. I trust Jesus to save me.
Thank You for sending Jesus to live a perfect life and to take away my punishment.
God, please forgive me and help me to obey You and to live for You the rest of my life.
Thank You. Amen.
6. **Together, read about Ethan and Caleb Shirey on page 8.** They are MKs (Missionary Kids) who live in the rainforest of South America.
 - What are the two kinds of fish they eat?
 - What kinds of roads do they travel on?
 - Name two ways they share God's love with the people around them.
 - What are two ways you can pray for the Shirey family?

10 THINGS TO DO ...

TO BOOST YOUR DAILY TIME WITH GOD

1. Find a quiet place outside to spend time with God in nature.
2. Sing worship songs to God.
3. Read Scripture aloud.
4. Get permission from your parents to go online to a Bible site like *biblegateway.com*. Read a Scripture passage from different translations.
5. Write a letter or poem to God.
6. Memorize a Bible verse by setting it to music.
7. Go to a different place in your house to have a quiet time alone with God.
8. Write your thoughts in a journal.
9. Record prayer requests and answers in a notebook.
10. Use a highlighter to mark key words in the Bible or your *Adventure* magazine.



Sunday, September 1

JESUS MEETS MY NEEDS

Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will exalt you.

James 4:10

I remember a time when I had a great need in my life. I struggled with a difficult family situation. You may struggle with difficult times in your family, with friends, or at school. The good news is Jesus cares about you and your needs! Jesus wants you to tell Him about your needs and concerns. Pray and tell your needs to Jesus. He'll help you through the rough times. He'll answer your prayer if you give Him the chance. Sometimes this takes more time than you think it should. You can wait upon Jesus. He cares about your needs.

DEAR GOD, Let me bring my needs to You in prayer.



Monday, September 2

LIGHT YOUR WORLD

Let your light shine before men, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. Matthew 5:16

Did you know light always travels in a straight path? Nothing travels faster than light. The primary colors of light are red, green, and blue. Mixing these three in different ways makes all the other colors, even white.

→ In John 9:5, Jesus said that He is the light of the world.

→ 1 John 1:5 says: "There is absolutely no darkness in Him."

The light of Jesus shatters darkness everywhere. You can be like Jesus by shining God's light. When you love, forgive, witness, and act like Jesus, you shine God's light.

DEAR GOD, Help me to shine the light of Jesus everywhere I go.

Did you know light can be bent? Rainbows are formed by light bending through drops of water in the atmosphere.



MISSIONARIES IN SURINAME



SCORPION



PIRANHA

Living as missionaries in a tropical jungle can be filled with all sorts of excitement, challenges, and danger. God wants all people to hear about Him. That includes the people in the rainforests of

Suriname, and it also means the

people next door to you. Wherever we live, God wants to use us to share His message of salvation.

We are Ethan and Caleb Shirey, and our family lives in the rainforest of Suriname in South America. We live in a small hut with a tin roof that helps to keep the rain out of our house. But when the river floods, our family still gets very wet! Our mom and dad minister to the Aukan people in Suriname, and we have a little sister named Abigail.

Our family eats fruits that grow in the jungle, vegetables that we raise in our garden, and fish (like piranha and wolfish) that we catch in the river.

We live deep in the jungle. There are no roads, and we travel by boat. We don't have nice kitchens in our huts. We cook our food over small fires that we build outside our homes.

Every day we have to watch for scorpions and poisonous spiders that live in the jungle. We also have to protect our food from monkeys and other animals.

We share God's love with the people of Suriname in several different ways. We share God's love by giving cookies or bread to hungry people. We make characters out of balloons and then share Bible stories with the children. We prayerwalk with our parents, praying that the Aukan people will come to know Jesus, and we play with the Aukan children while our parents share their faith or lead Bible studies with the adults.



Pray that the Aukan people will hear about Jesus and believe in the one true God.



Pray for God's protection for the Shirey family as they minister to the Aukan people and live in the rainforest with their family.

See a video
and more adventures
of the Shirey family at
kidsonmission.org

GIVING MY "SHARE"

Give to the one who asks you, and don't turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you. *Matthew 5:42*

Do you share a room or your games and toys? Do you share your money?

Sharing goes against human nature. Jesus taught His followers to share with everyone.

God doesn't give you things to keep them for yourself. He gives to you so you can help others. When you share, you teach people about Jesus.

When you receive an allowance, you can give. Give a tithe and offering back to God by giving to your church. The church uses your gift to help others know and worship Jesus.

DEAR GOD, Forgive me when I'm selfish. Help me to share and give freely.



NO WORRIES!!

Don't worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink. *Matthew 6:25*

While picking blackberries, I got lots of chigger bites. Mom put medicine on the bites. I told her, "I'm worried about my baby sister, Susan."

"Why are you worried?" Mom asked.

"I'm worried she'll get bitten by a chigger before she learns how to scratch!" I exclaimed.

People worry about many different things. Jesus said that God will take care of your needs. This includes everything from what you eat and drink to your whole life. Don't worry. Trust Jesus!

DEAR GOD, Help me not to worry but to trust You instead.



The Amazon River is the world's largest river. It contains more water than the next 10 largest rivers in the world combined.

STARE AND COMPARE

Find the 12 differences between the two pictures. Answers to all the activities are on page 35.



Thursday, September 5

TO TELL THE TRUTH

Let your word "yes" be "yes," and your "no" be "no." *Matthew 5:37*

"I promise by heaven. I vow by God's temple. I promise in God's name." Promises or vows like these were common in Jesus' day.

Jesus taught His followers not to make promises like these. He said your "yes" and "no" should be good enough. He even taught that promising by God's name is using His name in vain.

Adding "I promise" actually shows that you may not always tell the truth. If you're always truthful, you won't have to back up your words with a promise. Keep your word. Always tell the truth.

DEAR GOD, Help me to keep my word and always tell the truth.

GO TO TELL

"Go back to your home, and tell all that God has done for you." And off he went, proclaiming throughout the town all that Jesus had done for him. Luke 8:39

"How can you tell your neighbors about Jesus?" Reverend Wallace asked.

"Invite them to church and share Bible verses. Do good deeds for them, and tell them about Jesus," the children answered.

"Great answers!" Reverend Wallace said.

How could you use these things to tell others about Jesus?

- T-shirt and jewelry with a Christian message
- Soccer ball
- Your testimony: telling what God has done for you
- Baseball glove



DEAR GOD, Thank You for people who tell me about Jesus. Help me to tell others about Him.



DIG DEEPER

Read the verses below. Follow these steps to boldly tell others about Jesus.

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Daniel 6:11 | Pray for God's help. |
| 2. Matthew 10:19-20 | Rely on the Holy Spirit. |
| 3. Psalm 119:11 | Hide God's Word in your heart. |
| 4. Acts 28:31 | Boldly tell about Jesus. |
| 5. Luke 10:1 | Take another Christian with you. |
| 6. Luke 8:39 | Tell what God has done for you. |

Write the names of two people you will tell about Jesus.

_____ and _____



HIDDEN WORDS

Hidden in this photo are 10 ways to be more like Jesus. Find them and write them on the lines provided.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____



A.S.A.P.

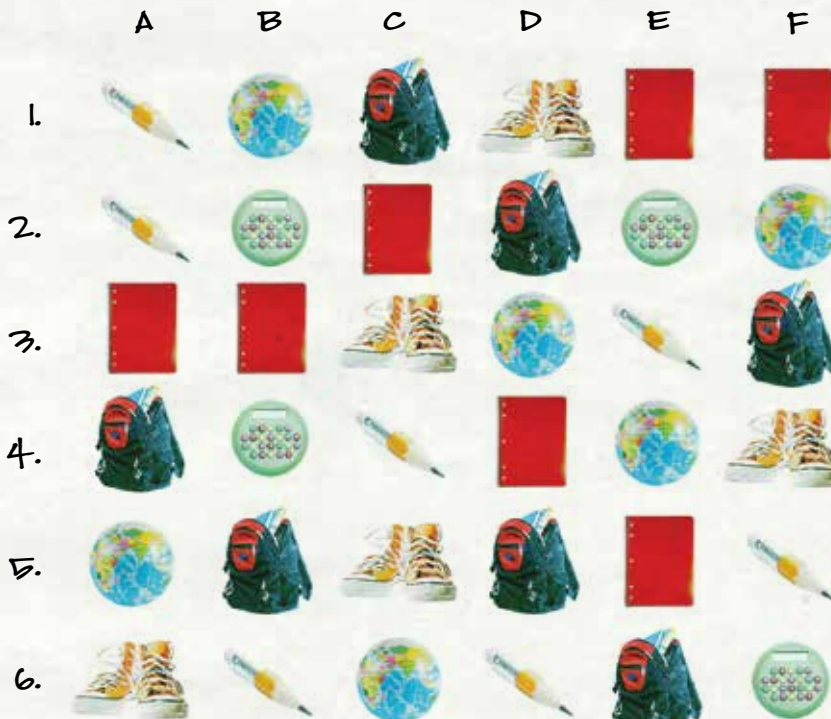
Don't worry about anything, but in everything, through prayer and petition with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. *Philippians 4:6*

Prayer and Bible reading will help you overcome worry. When you feel like worrying, remember A.S.A.P. These initials usually stand for "as soon as possible." But when you start to worry, think "always say a prayer."

- When you are worried, read Matthew 6:25-34 and A.S.A.P.
- When you are facing trouble, read Psalm 46 and A.S.A.P.
- When you are scared, read Psalm 56:3 and A.S.A.P.
- When you don't know what to do, read Proverbs 3:5-6 and A.S.A.P.
- When you are tempted to do wrong, read Matthew 4:1-11 and A.S.A.P.

DEAR GOD, Help me not to worry. Teach me to always pray and trust Your Word.

EYE SPY



Circle the row and column that contains pictures of six DIFFERENT objects.

Sunday, September 8

A LOVING HEART



Indeed, if you keep the royal law prescribed in the Scripture, Love your neighbor as yourself, you are doing well. *James 2:8*

"Collin, please play with Derick while I make supper," said Mom.

"Ah, Mom, do I have to play with him? He's just a baby," answered Collin.

"Yes, Collin, it will help me a lot for you to entertain him for a little while. However, you have a choice about your attitude. If you're upset, you won't have fun playing. Derick won't like it much either," answered Mom. "If you choose to enjoy playing with Derick, you'll probably have more fun yourself. Most importantly, you'll also be pleasing God."

"Hey, Derick. Let's play ball!" Collin said as he grinned at Mom.

DEAR GOD, Serving with a loving heart isn't always easy. Please help me to help others because of Your love.

Monday, September 9



When Johann Sebastian Bach was a boy, he sang soprano in church choirs.

SOLI DEO GLORIA

Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of people, to be seen by them. Otherwise, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven. *Matthew 6:1*

Who gets the credit when you do something for God?

Johann Sebastian Bach is one of the greatest musical composers who ever lived. He didn't take the credit for his music. He wrote the initials SDG at the end of his songs. Soli Deo Gloria means "for God's glory alone."

God is not pleased with anyone who tries to steal or share His glory. Don't pray, worship, or do good deeds just to get attention from others. Use your talents and gifts for God, not for yourself.

DEAR GOD, Make my heart pure. Help me to always give You the credit and glory.

PRAY!!

When you pray, go into your private room, shut your door, and pray to your Father ... in secret. And your Father ... will reward you.

Matthew 6:6

God wants you to pray and spend time with Him each day. Prayer is "talking and listening to God." You can pray anytime, anywhere, in many ways. The Bible teaches at least five different ways to pray.

- **Praise:** Tell God you love Him. *I love You, God.*
- **Thanks:** Thank God for what He has done. *Thank You, God.*
- **Confession:** Ask God to forgive your sins. *God, I'm sorry.*
- **Praying for self:** Ask God to help you. *God, please help me.*
- **Praying for others:** Ask God to meet others' needs.

Please help others.

DEAR GOD, Teach me to pray each day in ways that please You.

DROP IN

THA

DOR

ELP

AI

CON

EEK

PR E
5

FESS
2

A E
3

S
7

NK
4

H
6

G
2 3 4 5 6 7

Drop each three-letter combination onto one of the three grouped circles to make a word. Now, move the letter on each numbered circle to the same numbered circle at the bottom of the page. The hidden words describe prayer.

PRAY AND PRAISE

You should pray like this: Our Father in heaven, Your name be honored as holy. *Matthew 6:9*

When you pray, start by praising God. Speak to Him directly. Tell God how good He is. Jesus began the model prayer by honoring God's name.

Praise God using His names.

- God Almighty (See Genesis 17:1-2.)
- Lamb of God (See John 1:29.)
- The Word (See John 1:1.)
- Savior (See 2 Peter 3:18.)
- KING OF KINGS, LORD OF LORDS (See Revelation 19:16.)

You may also praise God for what He is like. He is holy and pure. God is kind and merciful. He is fair and just. God is faithful and true.

DEAR GOD, I praise You! You are holy and awesome.

Spain literally means the "land of rabbits."



GOD'S WILL

Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. *Matthew 6:10*

"Why do I have to pray for God's will to be done?" Christina asked Mrs. Ruth. "Why can't I pray for what I want?"

Putting her arm around Christina, Mrs. Ruth said, "You shouldn't pray selfishly. Pray to find God's will. Pray for what God wants you to do."

"How do I know God's plan?" Christina asked.

"Read the Bible, pray, and go to church." Mrs. Ruth answered.

"God will tell you what He wants you to do. He will tell you through His Word, prayer, and other Christians."

DEAR GOD, Show me Your plan for my life. I want to do Your will.

GOD PROVIDES

Give us today our daily bread. *Matthew 6:11*

What is your greatest challenge today? Playing a ball game? Having enough to eat? Staying safe? Completing all your homework? Taking a test? Finding a friend who understands?

Jesus taught us to pray about all of our daily needs. He can provide all that you need to live for today. That includes food and much more.

God is the great Provider, and He can provide for all of your needs. God may not give you all you want, but He can provide everything you need.

Pray every day. Ask God to provide all your needs. God is faithful, and He will provide.

DEAR GOD, Provide for me today. Thank You for taking care of all my needs.



DIG DEEPER

Read Matthew 6:25-34. Jesus was teaching people what to do instead of worrying about things. Fill in the blanks from the passage.

He told the people to look at the birds of the sky. They don't sow (plant seeds), or reap (gather food) or gather into barns (store food).

Your heavenly Father _____ them. He then told them about the flowers of the field. They don't spin thread (make their clothes). God _____ the grass of the field.

Seek first the _____ of _____ and His _____. All of these things will be _____ for _____.

S

M

T



**CHECK THE
CONVERSATION
BUBBLE EACH
DAY AFTER YOU
READ THAT DAY'S
DEVOTION!**

1

Labor Day

2



3



8

International Drive
Your Studebaker Day

9

Swap Ideas
Day

10



International
Dot Day

15

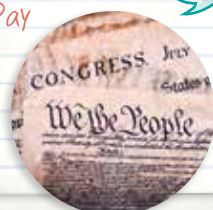


Trail of Tears
Commemoration
Day

16

Constitution
Day

17



Dear Diary
Day

22



Punctuation
Day

23

24

29

30

W

T

F

S

4

5

6

7

11

12

International
Chocolate Day

13



14



National Cream
Filled Donut Day

National
Respect Day

18

19

20

International
Eat An
Apple Day

21



25

Johnny
Appleseed Day

26



Ask A Stupid
Question Day

27



National Good
Neighbor Day

28

CHECK THE CONVERSATION BUBBLE EACH DAY AFTER YOU READ THAT DAY'S DEVOTION!

I FORGIVE

Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

Matthew 6:12



"I'm sorry I hurt you. Will you forgive me?" You've probably either heard this or said it at least once.

When someone hurts you, it can be painful to forgive them.

Still, you should forgive others because God has forgiven you. Jesus warns if you refuse to forgive others, God will not forgive your sins. (See Matthew 6:15.)

The good news is you don't have to forgive others in your own strength. God will help you forgive. You will feel better when you do. Pray every day for God to forgive you. Pray and ask God to help you forgive others.

DEAR GOD, Thank You for forgiving my sins. Help me to forgive others.

WAY TO GO

Start with the circled letter **V** and move the circled number of spaces in the direction of the hand next to it. Each time you discover a letter, write it down in the space above the clues, and continue on from that letter to find the message.

② ③ ① ①
 ① ② ③ ③

④ ③ ① ① ④ ②
 ① ① ② ② ③

④ ① ② ② ②
 ② ③ ② ①

B	P	O	O	C
W	D	E	G	Y
T	R	V	O	H
J	K	S	R	P
T	M	R	A	Y

PICTURE THIS



What word or phrase does each word picture represent?

CAN YOU TOP THESE?

Send your Word Pictures to kiddevos@lifeway.com

Sunday, September 15

WORRY?

Don't worry about your life. Matthew 6:25

The great preacher Adrian Rogers shared these facts about worry:

- About 40 percent of what people worry about never happens.
- Nearly 30 percent of what people worry about has already happened.
- Around 12 percent of worries are about what others say, which may be untrue.
- About 10 percent of worries are about health. Worrying only makes it worse. That leaves about 8 percent of real worries. Worrying won't help these either!

Jesus taught His followers not to worry. God takes care of Christians in this life and eventually will end all worries in heaven. There's no need to worry. Pray instead!

DEAR GOD, Forgive me when I worry. Help me to pray and trust You.

Do not bring us into temptation. *Matthew 6:13*

A photograph showing two students from behind, sitting at a desk and looking at a large sheet of paper, possibly a map or a project. The student on the left has dark hair and is wearing a light-colored shirt. The student on the right has light-colored hair and is also wearing a light-colored shirt. They are both looking intently at the paper in front of them.

Prayer can help you stand firm against temptation. Praying before you are tempted can help you decide to say no. The Bible says everyone is tempted, but God will provide a way out. (See 1 Corinthians 10:13.)

DEAR GOD, Help me to obey You and say no to temptations.

- 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

HEART CHECK

Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. *Matthew 6:21*

- Jenna does extra chores to earn money to give to the missions offering.
- Thomas misses baseball practice to attend church on Sunday.
- Nicole gets up 15 minutes early to read her Bible.

Their actions show what is really important.

What do you do in your free time? Do you spend hours on the phone, computer, or playing video games? Do you make your time with God a priority?

How you spend your time and money shows what is important to you. You show how much God means to you in the way you love and obey Him.

DEAR GOD, You are my first priority. Help me to love and obey You.

GOD CARES FOR YOU

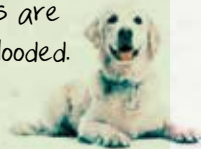
Look at the birds of the sky: They don't sow or reap or gather into barns, yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Aren't you worth more than they? *Matthew 6:26*

God created birds with many different shapes, sizes, and colors. There are over 9,000 different species of birds in the world. God made them all and takes care of them.

Jesus taught that God feeds the birds, so He will take care of you. You are worth much more than birds to God. God created you in His image. You are one of a kind. No one in the world is like You! God loves you so much. He sent Jesus to be your Savior. Trust God to care for you!

DEAR GOD, Thank You for creating me and caring for me. I trust You, Lord.

- Mammals are warm-blooded.



- Reptiles lay eggs.



- Bats fly with wings.



- Birds are the only animals with feathers!



CRACK THE CODE



Crack this code. Write the letter in the circle from the Decoder Key that matches the symbol below the circle. The answer is what the Bible teaches you.



Thursday, September 19



WWJD

Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness.

Matthew 6:33

"I like your T-shirt," Ryan said to Andrew. "But what does WWJD mean?"

"It stands for What Would Jesus Do?" Andrew explained. "Any time you face a choice, ask, what would Jesus do?"

"How do you know what Jesus would do?" asked Ryan.

"You learn what Jesus did and taught by reading the Bible," Andrew exclaimed. "The Bible teaches you how to follow and obey God. That's why I read it every day. Other Christians and the Holy Spirit also help you know and do right. Putting Jesus first in your life is the most important thing you can do."

DEAR GOD, Teach me to obey You and always put Jesus first in my life.

FOLLOW GOD

Don't worry about tomorrow, because tomorrow will worry about itself. Matthew 6:34

When I was in the first grade, my family moved to a new city. I had to walk six blocks to my new school. I worried that I would get lost or not find my way back home.

Dad met me at school and walked me home. He showed me the right way to go. The next day, he met me again. He made me walk a block ahead. Because Dad showed me the way, I got home safely.

You don't need to worry about tomorrow. God already knows what will happen. He will take care of tomorrow and show you the way.

DEAR GOD, Thank You for taking care of me today, tomorrow, and always.



DIG DEEPER

Circle the words that have a similar meaning to worry. Cross out the words that have a different meaning. Find the following verses and match them to their description.

concern relax cares stress
trust anxious fuss relax peace

Proverbs 12:25

Worry weighs you down.

Matthew 6:27

Don't worry about food and clothes.

Philippians 4:6

Don't worry. Pray!

1 Peter 5:7

Worry can't make you taller.

Matthew 6:25

Give your worries to God. He cares.

PICTURE PUZZLER

To discover the message, write the word for each picture on the line below the picture. Follow the directions to add or subtract letters to the word. The remaining words will reveal the message.

JES +



-B





+ CH



- AT



- USE + W



- OTH



- ON +



- FI

■

ONE FAIR JUDGE

Do not judge, so that you won't be judged. Matthew 7:1

When I was in school, I sang and played in many music contests and competitions. Some contest judges gave high ratings. Some gave medium and some low ratings. Different judges rated the same performance differently.

The Bible teaches that God is the only fair Judge. He knows all and is always right. God judges between good and bad, right and wrong. Good deeds will be rewarded. Bad actions will be punished. The Bible also says not to judge others. Love people no matter how they act, so they will see God's love. Let God be the only Judge.

DEAR GOD, Help me not to judge others. You are the only completely fair Judge.

STEP BY STEP

Think about Him in all your ways, and He will guide you on the right paths. Proverbs 3:6

Have you ever been on a scavenger hunt? One clue leads to another clue, which leads to another clue.

The Christian life is kind of like that. God doesn't tell you the entire plan of your life all at once. You have to follow God day by day, one step at a time. The Bible has many examples of people following God step by step. God called Abram to leave his home and go to a new land. Abram obeyed God without knowing where he was going. God blessed Abram and made him into a great nation.

DEAR GOD, You know the future and what is best. I will trust You step by step.



Woodward Avenue in Detroit, Michigan, was the first concrete paved road in the world. It was also the first with a three-color traffic light.

Monday, September 23

KEEP ASKING

Keep asking, and it will be given to you. Keep searching, and you will find. *Matthew 7:7*



Our daughter, Christina, wanted a dog since she was a child. We bought fish, turtles, and a guinea pig, but she kept asking for a dog. Christina wouldn't give up. She really wanted a dog.

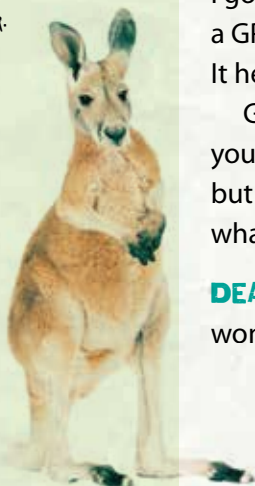
Finally, for her 9th birthday, we went to the animal shelter and adopted a dog. She loves her dog.

Jesus teaches you to keep asking in prayer. He doesn't want you to beg or nag. He wants you to keep praying for things that will help you to be more like Him. God answers your prayers when you seek Him with all your heart.

DEAR GOD, Help me to pray every day and seek You with all my heart.

Tuesday, September 24

Did you know that around 50 million kangaroos live in Australia? That is more than twice the number of people in Australia.



UNEXPECTED GIFTS

If you then ... know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good things to those who ask Him! *Matthew 7:11*

I got a great gift I didn't ask for on my birthday. My family gave me a GPS navigation system for my car. Now I use the GPS to find my way. It helps me find places like houses, restaurants, and stores.

God wants you to pray and ask for His gifts. Sometimes God gives you gifts that you don't even know you need. Not only material gifts but also spiritual gifts and talents. God is perfect. He always gives you what is best for you. God wants you to use His gifts for His glory.

DEAR GOD, Thank You for Your gifts and blessings. You are a wonderful Father.

BE KIND

Whatever you want others to do for you, do also the same for them. *Matthew 7:12*

Alex went to a new school. Olivia sat with her at lunch. Olivia introduced Alex to her friends and included her at recess. Olivia remembered what it felt like to be the “new girl” two years earlier. She treated Alex like she wanted to be treated.

The world wants you to think of yourself first. Jesus taught to treat others the way you want to be treated. Choose to get along with people.

Do not bully, brag, tease, or be selfish. Instead, be kind, humble, loving, and share what you have. Be like Jesus!

DEAR GOD, Help me to treat others like You treat me: with love and kindness.



IT ALL ADDS UP!

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26

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Each group of symbols stands for a single letter of the alphabet. To discover the message, add the numbers represented by each set of symbols and write on the line the letter indicated by that number.

0=1

||=5

|||=10

SEARCH IT

Look back at the verses from this month's devotionals listed below. Find 10 things Jesus taught about in Scripture. Circle each word in the puzzle.

1. Matthew 5:16
2. Matthew 5:42
3. Matthew 6:25, 34
4. Matthew 5:44
5. Matthew 6:6
6. Matthew 6:10, 33
7. Matthew 6:12
8. Matthew 6:13
9. Matthew 7:1
10. Matthew 7:18

1. L _____
2. G _____
3. D _____ W _____
4. L _____
5. P _____
6. K _____
7. F _____
8. T _____
9. J _____
10. F _____

U N N D Q W N W X X W
 K D O N T W O R R Y F
 Y I H Q L P I F T Q H
 P Y N I V D T O K T J
 D R G G E E A R U Q K
 D H A V D P T G R B Z
 T K I Y Q O P I J U R
 E G D U J I M V U E B
 X O V M V C E E T R M
 D E O H Z G T R G S F
 F W L L O V E R C A U

Thursday, September 26



GOT FRUIT?

A good tree can't produce bad fruit; neither can a bad tree produce good fruit. *Matthew 7:18*

Growing up, our family liked to go to an apple orchard and pick apples. The good trees had dozens of ripe apples ready to be picked. If a tree didn't produce many apples, it was cut down. It wasn't any good because it didn't produce fruit.

Jesus said that people are known by their fruit. This means your actions show what you believe. Obeying God shows that you belong to God.

Does your life match up with what you say? Do your words, thoughts, and actions show that you believe in God?

DEAR GOD, Make my life count for You. Help me to produce good fruit.

BUILD TO LAST

Everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them will be like a sensible man who built his house on the rock. *Matthew 7:24*

The world's tallest sand castle measured over 31 feet tall. It was built at Camp Sunshine in Maine on September 1, 2007. However, this amazing structure didn't last, because it was made of crumbling sand.

Jesus said that only houses and lives built on firm foundations last. To build your life on a firm foundation, study the Bible. Put Jesus' teachings into practice. The smartest thing you can do is obey Jesus. You will be happy on earth, and you will have a home in heaven. Be wise. Build your life on God's truth.

DEAR GOD, Help me to build my life on the firm foundation of Your Word.



DIG DEEPER

Read what Jesus said in Matthew 7:24-29. He taught that those who follow and obey His teaching build their lives on a firm foundation. Match the subjects Jesus taught about to the passages in Matthew 5-7. Then read, obey, and live for Jesus.

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Matthew 5:13-16 | A. Do not judge. |
| 2. Matthew 5:33-37 | B. How to pray. |
| 3. Matthew 5:43-45 | C. Tell the truth. |
| 4. Matthew 6:1-4 | D. Do not worry. |
| 5. Matthew 6:5-13 | E. Love your enemies. |
| 6. Matthew 6:25-34 | F. You are the light of the world. |
| 7. Matthew 7:1-5 | G. Give in secret. |

Saturday, September 28

TOLD TO TELL

So Philip proceeded to tell him the good news about Jesus, beginning from that Scripture. Acts 8:35

I'm a preacher's kid. I grew up in church. I learned about Jesus at an early age. One Saturday night, I was singing hymns at home. While singing about the cross of Jesus, the Holy Spirit helped me know of my sin. Dad was gone, so I talked to my mom.

Mom showed me in the Bible how to become a Christian. I prayed and accepted Jesus as my Savior. God forgave my sins and gave me new life.

Today, I'm a minister. I'm thankful Christians told me about Jesus. I know Jesus and can tell others about Him.

DEAR GOD, Thank You for people who tell me about Jesus. Help me to tell others.

Sunday, September 29



Ninety percent of the world's ice covers Antarctica. Still, it is the driest place on the planet.

GO!! TELL!!

Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Matthew 28:19

My church organization has over 4,867 missionaries around the world. In 2012, there were 199,162 churches overseas. More than 266,450 people were baptized. Still, billions of people have not heard that God loves them. Jesus came to be their Savior and Lord.

In Matthew 28:19, Jesus shares the Great Commission. He commands all believers to go and make disciples of all nations. This means teaching people and leading them to become followers of Jesus.

Help share Jesus with the world. Give, pray, learn, go, tell!

DEAR GOD, Help me to do my part in telling the whole world about Jesus.

WHAT TO SAY

A woman named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth ... was listening. The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was spoken by Paul. Acts 16:14

"I don't know how to tell my friend about Jesus," Caleb remarked.

"Just tell what God has done in your life," Tyler answered.

"Tell about what you learn when you read the Bible, pray, and go to church."

"What if I say the wrong words?" Caleb asked.

"God will help you say the right words," encouraged Tyler.

"And, even more, God will help others hear what He wants them to hear."

In Acts 16, God helped Lydia believe. God can help people know what you tell about Jesus is true.

DEAR GOD, Give me the words to say when I witness. Help others to hear Your truth.



CRACK THE CODE



Crack this code. Write the letter in the circle from the Decoder Key that matches the symbol below the circle. The answer is what the Bible teaches you.

LOL

CAN YOU TOP THESE?

Send your Joke to
kiddevos@lifeway.com

**WHAT BIRD IS AT
EVERY MEAL?**

A SWALLOW

**WHAT
IS SMARTER
THAN A TALKING
PARROT?**

A SPELLING BEE

**WHAT
ICE CREAM
FLAVOR DOES
A CAR NOT
LIKE?**

**ROCKY
ROAD!!!**

**WHY SHOULD YOU
NEVER TELL
SECRETS
ON A FARM?**

**BECAUSE THE
CORN HAS EARS,
THE POTATOES
HAVE EYES, AND
THE BEANSTALK.**

**WHAT KIND OF FARM
ANIMAL CAN WRITE
ANYTIME IT WANTS?**

**A PIG
BECAUSE IT
LIVES IN
A PEN.**

**WHAT DID ONE
VOLCANO SAY TO
TWO OTHER
VOLCANOES WHO
WERE TALKING?**

**I DON'T
MEAN TO ERUPT
YOUR CONVERSATION,
BUT CAN I JOIN IN?**

ANSWERS

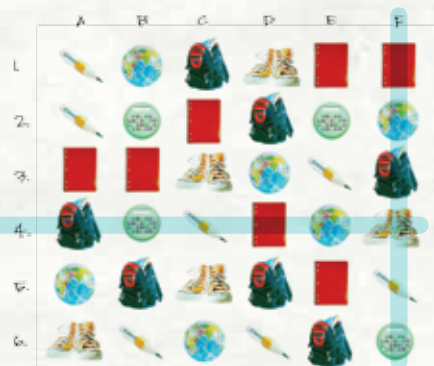
PAGE 10



PAGE 12



PAGE 13



PAGE 15

praise thank seek
adore confess help
God talk

PAGE 20

Pray to stop worry.

PAGE 21

"go for it" ring around the rosie
horsefly "excuse me"
movie stars

PAGE 22

yo-yo shadow speak
tree pool
Pray today

PAGE 24

The Bible teaches me how to live.

PAGE 26

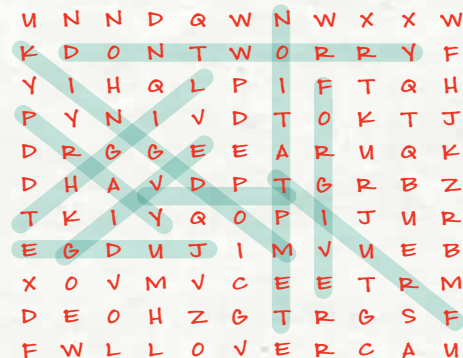
Jesus can teach me how to live.

PAGE 29

The greatest and wisest teacher is Jesus.

PAGE 30

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| 1. Light | 6. Kingdom |
| 2. Give | 7. Forgive |
| 3. Don't worry | 8. Temptation |
| 4. Love | 9. Judge |
| 5. Pray | 10. Fruit |



PAGE 33

Jesus wants me to help others.

WHAT'S INSIDE?

Fill in the page number of where each picture is found in this issue of *Adventure*.

