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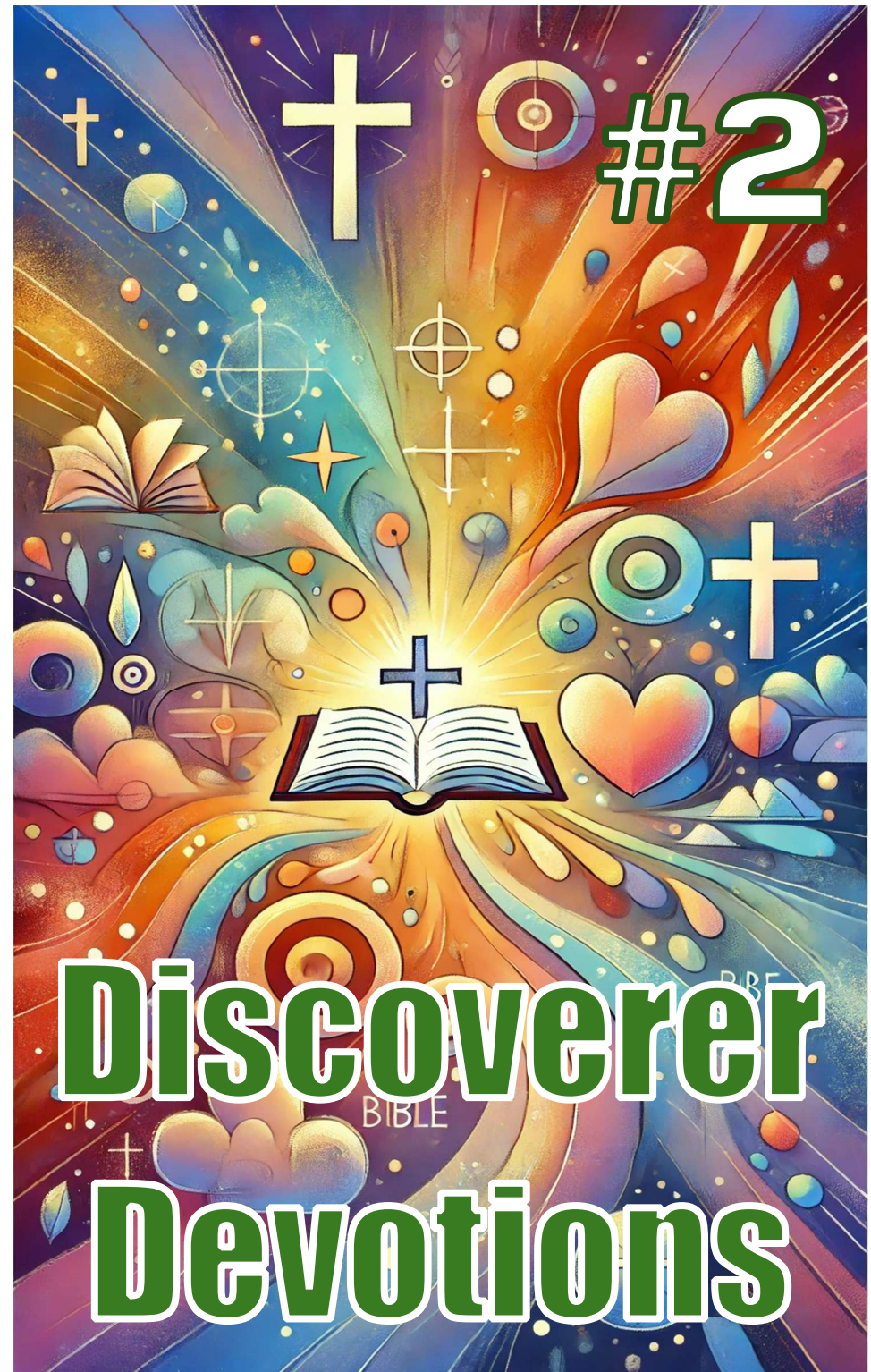


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Larry Mullins at [larrymullins@yahoo.com](mailto:larrymullins@yahoo.com)

918-557-8327



# For Parents

## Why Daily Devotions Matter

- **Spiritual Growth** – It helps children develop a strong foundation in God’s Word.
- **Family Connection** – It creates a dedicated time for meaningful conversation and bonding.
- **Moral Guidance** – It provides wisdom and direction for making godly choices.
- **Prayer Habit** – It teaches children to rely on God in all circumstances.

By making family devotions a daily priority, parents can instill lifelong faith habits in their children and create a home centered on God’s Word.

## Parents Using Family Devotional Effectively

Here’s a simple guide for parents on how to incorporate devotionals into everyday life:

### 1. Set a Consistent Time

- Choose a time that works best for your family’s schedule—morning, mealtime, or bedtime.
- Consistency helps make devotionals a habit, creating a special routine for your family.
- Start with follow-up what was learned before and how it was applied.

### 2. Read the Bible Verse Together

- Discuss what the verse means in simple terms and how it applies to everyday life.

### 3. Engage with the Devotional Story

- Read the short story or example provided.
- Relate the story to real-life situations your child may encounter.

### 4. Make the Faith Connection

- Help children understand how the Bible connects to their lives.
- Explain how Scripture reveals God’s love, guidance, and His plan for salvation.
- Encourage them to see the Bible as more than just words—it’s a message from God.

### 5. Discuss It

- Use Discussion question to deepen what we learn.

### 6. Pray Together

- Use the provided prayer or let each family member pray in their own words.

### 7. Application to our lives

- Encourage your child to put what they’ve learned into action

## Solomon’s Wisdom and the Temple

### Bible Verse

*“So Solomon finished building the Temple.”* – 1 Kings 6:14 (NLT)

### Story

Mia’s church was building a new playground, and everyone in the congregation helped. Some people donated money, others brought tools, and some helped put everything together. “It takes a lot of teamwork to build something important,” Mia’s dad said.

That night, during family devotions, Mia’s mom read about King Solomon.

**“Solomon didn’t just ask for wisdom—he also built the Temple of the Lord, a beautiful place for people to worship God.”**

Mia tilted her head. “Did Solomon build it all by himself?”

Dad shook his head. “No, God gave Solomon wisdom to organize everything.

People worked together to make the Temple exactly the way God wanted it.”

Mom added, **“Solomon was so wise that people from other countries wanted to hear him speak. The queen of Sheba traveled a long distance just to meet him and test his wisdom.”**

Mia grinned. “Was she impressed?”

“Yes!” Dad said. “She saw that Solomon’s wisdom came from God and praised Him for it.”

Mia thought for a moment. “So, Solomon used his wisdom to build something important and help others?”

“Exactly,” Mom said. “And when we use the gifts God gives us for His glory, He blesses our efforts.”

### Faith Connection

Solomon used his wisdom to build the Temple for God and to help others. His wisdom was so great that even the queen of Sheba traveled far to see him. Like Solomon, we can use what God gives us to serve Him and bless others.

### Discuss It

Why do you think Solomon wanted to build the Temple for God? How can we use the gifts God gives us to help others?

### Prayer

Dear God, thank You for giving me gifts and abilities. Help me to use them wisely to serve You and bless others, just like Solomon did. Amen.

### Live It

Think of one way you can use your talents or skills to help others this week. Maybe it’s sharing, helping at church, or encouraging a friend—just like Solomon used his wisdom to build something great for God!

## Choosing Wisdom

### Bible Verse

"Give me an understanding heart so that I can govern your people well and know the difference between right and wrong."... – 1 Kings 3:9 (NLT)

### Story

Ethan’s teacher gave the class a choice: “You can have either a big bag of candy now or a special mystery prize at the end of the week.”

Some students grabbed the candy right away, but Ethan thought, *What if the mystery prize is better?* He decided to wait and make a wise choice.

That night, during family devotions, Ethan’s dad read about Solomon. **“When King David was old, God told him to choose his son Solomon to be the next king of Israel.”**

Ethan tilted his head. “Solomon was young, right? Was he ready to be king?”

Mom smiled. **“He was young, and instead of asking for power or riches, Solomon asked God for wisdom to lead the people.”**

Ethan’s eyes widened. “He could have asked for anything, but he chose wisdom?”  
 “Yes,” Dad said. “And because Solomon made a wise choice, God blessed him with wisdom, riches, and honor.”

Ethan grinned. “So, kind of like waiting for the mystery prize instead of just grabbing the candy?”

Mom laughed. “Exactly! Wisdom helps us make the best choices, and when we ask God for wisdom, He helps us too.”

### Faith Connection

David chose Solomon to be the next king, and Solomon asked God for wisdom instead of riches or power. Because he made a wise choice, God blessed him. We can also ask God for wisdom when we need to make good decisions!

### Discuss It

Why do you think Solomon asked for wisdom instead of riches or power? How can we ask God for wisdom in our own lives?

### Prayer

Dear God, help me to be like Solomon and choose wisdom over quick rewards. Teach me to make good choices and to trust You to lead me in the right way. Amen.

### Live It

The next time you have a decision to make—big or small—stop and pray for wisdom. Ask God to help you make the best choice, just like Solomon did!

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## 05 - (073-090)

These devotions are built around Bible Fact-Pak 10-point questions. To use them effectively, keep a copy of the Fact-Pak Study Guide nearby for reference. If you don't have one on hand, the summary below provides an overview of the questions to help you understand the origin of these devotions.

### Moses and Pharaoh (Exodus 3:7-8)

- 073: God promised Moses at the burning bush to rescue the Israelites from Egypt.
- 074: God sent ten plagues to persuade Pharaoh to let the Israelites go.
- 075: God gave Moses his brother Aaron to help him.

### Deliverance and the Passover (Exodus 14:14)

- 076: The last plague was the death of the firstborn.
- 077: God established the Passover to remember the Israelites' deliverance from Egypt.
- 078: The Israelites left Egypt through the miracle of the parting of the Red Sea.

### God Makes Bitter Good (Exodus 15:2)

- 079: The Egyptians who tried to follow them through the Red Sea drowned.
- 080: Miriam, Moses' sister, was a leader and prophetess.
- 081: God made the bitter water of Marah good by showing Moses a piece of wood to throw into the water.

### Holding Up Moses' Hands (Exodus 17:12)

- 082: God provided bread for the Israelites in the wilderness by sending manna.
- 083: At Rephidim, God brought water from a rock for Moses and the Israelites.
- 084: Aaron and Hur helped Moses gain victory over the Amalekites by holding up his hands.

### One God, No Idols (Exodus 20:3-4)

- 085: God gave Moses the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai.
- 086: QQ The first commandment is, "You must not have any other god but me."
- 087: QQ The second commandment prohibits making or worshipping idols.

### Respecting God and Others (Exodus 20:7-8)

- 088: QQ The third commandment prohibits misusing the name of the Lord.
- 089: QQ The commandment to observe the Sabbath day reminds us to keep one day holy for God.
- 090: Honoring your father and mother is the first commandment with a promise.

## David's Legacy

### Bible Verse

"The LORD is merciful and compassionate, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love." – Psalm 145:8 (NLT)

### Story

Sophia's little brother, Max, accidentally broke her favorite toy. She was upset and wanted to stay mad, but then she remembered how Max had shared his candy with her the day before. Instead of yelling, she said, "It's okay, Max. I forgive you."

That night, during family devotions, Sophia's dad read about King David. "**David ruled Israel for forty years**, and during that time, he had to make many tough choices. **One of the choices he made was to show kindness to a man named Mephibosheth.**"

Sophia tilted her head. "That's a funny name! Who was he?"

Mom smiled. "**Mephibosheth was the son of Jonathan, David's best friend.** After Jonathan died, David could have ignored him, but instead, he invited Mephibosheth to live in the palace and eat at the king's table."

Sophia nodded. "So, David was kind because he loved Jonathan?"

"Yes," Dad said. "But not everyone in David's family was kind. **David's own son, Absalom, tried to take the kingdom from him.** Even though David had been a good king, Absalom wanted power for himself."

Sophia frowned. "That must have hurt David a lot."

Mom nodded. "It did. But even when David was betrayed, he kept trusting God. That's why he was a great king—not just because he ruled for forty years, but because he showed kindness and faithfulness, even when things were hard."

### Faith Connection

David's kindness to Mephibosheth showed his love and loyalty. Even though Absalom betrayed him, David still trusted God. We can learn from David's example to be kind and faithful, even when life is difficult.

### Discuss It

Why do you think David chose to be kind to Mephibosheth? How can we trust God when people hurt us, like David did?

### Prayer

Dear God, help me to show kindness like David did. Even when things don't go my way, help me to trust You and be faithful to others. Amen.

### Live It

Think of someone you can show kindness to this week, even if they don't expect it. It could be a sibling, a friend, or someone who needs encouragement.

## David Faith and Leadership

### Bible Verse

...*"This the LORD's battle, and he will give you to us!"* – 1 Samuel 17:47 (NLT)

### Story

Ethan and his friends were playing basketball at the park when a group of older kids challenged them to a game. "We're way smaller than them," Ethan whispered. "There's no way we can win."

His best friend, Jake, smiled. "Let's just do our best and trust our teamwork."

That night, during family devotions, Ethan's dad read about David. "David was just a young shepherd boy when he faced the giant Goliath. The Israelite army was terrified, but David trusted God and stepped forward with only a sling and stones."

Ethan's eyes widened. "**David fought a giant with just a sling?**"

"**Yes!**" Mom said. "**And David won** because he trusted God, not because he had the biggest weapon."

Dad continued, "Later, **David became close friends with Jonathan, King Saul's son.** Even though Saul wanted to harm David, Jonathan stayed loyal to him."

Ethan smiled. "That's like Jake—he always encourages me, even when things seem hard."

Mom nodded. "**And when David had the chance to hurt Saul, he refused because he respected that God had chosen Saul as king. Later, when David became king, Joab led his army into battle as commander of his army.**"

Ethan thought for a moment. "So, David didn't just win fights—he also showed kindness and trust in God?"

"Exactly," Dad said. "That's what made him a great leader. He didn't rely on his strength—he relied on God."

### Faith Connection

David's courage didn't come from his size or weapons—it came from trusting God. He was faithful to his friends, kind to his enemies, and brave in battle. God used him because of his heart, not his strength.

### Discuss It

Why do you think David was brave enough to fight Goliath? How did David show respect and kindness even when he had the chance to hurt Saul?

**Prayer** Dear God, help me to trust You like David did. Teach me to be brave, kind, and faithful to my friends. I know that true strength comes from You, not from what I have. Amen.

**Live It** Think of a challenge you're facing. Instead of feeling afraid, pray and ask God to help you be brave like David. Also, be a good friend like Jonathan by encouraging someone this week!

## Moses and Pharaoh

### Bible Verse

...*"The LORD told him, 'I have certainly seen the oppression of my people in Egypt. I have heard their cries of distress... So I have come down to rescue them.'"* – Exodus 3:7-8 (NLT)

### Story

Olivia was nervous about giving a speech in front of her class. "What if I forget what to say?" she asked her mom.

Her mom smiled. "Remember, you don't have to do everything alone. I'll help you practice, and your teacher will be there to support you."

That night, during family devotions, Olivia's dad read about **Moses at the burning bush. "God promised Moses that He would rescue the Israelites from slavery in Egypt.** But Moses was afraid and said, 'I'm not a good speaker!'"

Olivia's eyes widened. "So Moses was nervous too?"

"Yes!" Dad said. "But God didn't leave him alone. **God sent Moses' brother, Aaron, to help him. And when Pharaoh refused to let the Israelites go, God sent ten plagues to show His power and persuade Pharaoh to listen.**"

Olivia thought for a moment. "So even when Moses felt afraid, God gave him help and kept His promise?"

"Exactly!" Mom said. "God always keeps His promises and gives us what we need to do what He asks."

### Faith Connection

Moses didn't feel ready for the big job God gave him, but God promised to be with him. He even sent Aaron to help! When we feel afraid or unsure, we can trust that God will give us what we need—just like He did for Moses.

### Discuss It

Why do you think Moses was afraid to speak to Pharaoh? How does God help us when we feel nervous or unsure?

### Prayer

Dear God, thank You for keeping Your promises. When I feel afraid, help me to trust that You will always be with me, just like You were with Moses. Amen.

### Live It

Think of something that makes you nervous. Ask God to help you be brave. Then, find someone who can encourage or help you—just like Aaron helped Moses!

## Deliverance and Passover

### Bible Verse

*"The LORD himself will fight for you. Just stay calm."* – Exodus 14:14 (NLT)

### Story

Liam and his soccer team were losing a big game. With only a few minutes left, they felt hopeless. "We'll never win," one of his teammates said.

But their coach encouraged them, "Keep playing! The game isn't over yet."

That night, during family devotions, Liam's dad read about the Israelites escaping Egypt. "Pharaoh kept refusing to let God's people go, so God sent ten plagues. **The last plague was the most serious—the death of the firstborn.** But God told the Israelites to put the blood of a lamb on their doorposts. **When the plague came, it passed over their houses. This became known as the Passover. Feast**"

Liam frowned. "So, that's why it's called Passover—God protected them?"

"Yes!" Mom said. "After that, Pharaoh finally let them go. But when the Israelites reached the Red Sea, Pharaoh changed his mind and sent his army after them."

Liam's eyes widened. "They were trapped!"

Dad nodded. **"But God wasn't done yet. He performed a miracle—He parted the Red Sea, and the Israelites walked through on dry ground.** When Pharaoh's army tried to follow, the water came back, and they were stopped."

Liam grinned. "So, even when things looked impossible, God made a way!"

"Exactly," Mom said. "Just like your coach said during the game—the story wasn't over yet. God always has a plan!"

### Faith Connection

The Israelites faced an impossible situation, but God made a way. He protected them through the Passover and parted the Red Sea to bring them to safety. When we feel trapped or afraid, we can remember that God is always in control and will make a way for us!

### Discuss It

Why do you think God wanted the Israelites to remember the Passover? How can we trust God when we face difficult situations?

### Prayer

Dear God, thank You for always making a way, even when things seem impossible. Help me to trust You, just like the Israelites did when they crossed the Red Sea. Amen.

### Live It

Think about a problem in your life that seems too big to handle. Pray and ask God to help you trust Him, knowing that He can always make a way!

## Choosing God's Way

### Bible Verse

*... "People judge by outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."* – 1 Samuel 16:7 (NLT)

### Story

Noah's soccer team was choosing a new captain. Everyone thought it should be the tallest and strongest player, Max. But the coach surprised them by picking Jonah, a quiet boy who always helped others and encouraged his teammates.

"But Max is stronger!" one teammate said.

The coach smiled. "True, but Jonah leads with his heart. A great leader isn't just about strength—it's about character."

That night, during family devotions, Noah's dad read about Israel's first kings. **"The Israelites wanted a king to be like other nations,** even though God was already leading them. So, **God gave them their first King Saul, who was tall and strong."**

Noah tilted his head. "So Saul was like Max?"

"Exactly," Dad said. **"But Saul stopped obeying God's commands, so God rejected him as king."**

Mom added, "Instead of picking another strong warrior, **God chose David to replace Saul as King,** a young shepherd. Everyone thought David was too small, but God saw his heart."

Noah grinned. "So, kind of like Jonah being picked as team captain?"

"Yes!" Dad said. "God doesn't look at how big or strong someone is—He looks at their heart."

### Faith Connection

The Israelites wanted a king like other nations, so God gave them Saul. But when Saul disobeyed, God chose David, a young shepherd, because of his heart. God doesn't choose people based on looks or strength—He looks for those who love and obey Him!

### Discuss It

Why do you think the Israelites wanted a king instead of trusting God? What does it mean that God looks at the heart instead of outward appearance?

### Prayer

Dear God, help me to follow You with all my heart. I know that You care more about my obedience and love than how I look or what others think. Teach me to trust Your plans. Amen.

### Live It

Think of a way you can show a heart that pleases God this week—maybe by being kind, obeying your parents, or helping someone in need. Remember, God sees your heart!

## Ark of the Covenant

### Bible Verse

...*"Inside the Ark were a gold jar containing manna, Aaron's staff that sprouted leaves, and the stone tablets of the covenant."* – Hebrews 9:4 (NLT)

### Story

Olivia's class was working on a time capsule project. They had to put special items inside that would tell people in the future about their lives. Olivia carefully chose a letter, a small stuffed animal, and a picture of her family. "Each item has a meaning," she said.

That night, during family devotions, Olivia's dad read about the ark of the covenant. **"The ark was a sacred box that carried three important things: the stone tablets of the Ten Commandments, a gold jar of manna, and Aaron's staff.** Each item reminded the Israelites of God's promises and power."

Olivia tilted her head. "So, the ark was like a time capsule, showing how God had helped them?"

"Yes," Mom said. "The Ten Commandments reminded them of God's laws, the manna reminded them of His provision, and Aaron's staff reminded them of His leadership."

Dad added, "Just like God had a plan for Israel, He has a plan for every person. **David wrote in the Psalms that life begins in the womb—that means God knew each of us before we were even born!**"

Olivia's eyes widened. "So God had a plan for me before I was even here?"

"Exactly!" Mom said. "Just like the ark carried reminders of God's faithfulness, your life is part of God's story. He created you with a purpose."

### Faith Connection

The ark of the covenant reminded Israel of God's promises, and David wrote that God's plan for life begins even before birth. Just like God had a purpose for the Israelites, He has a special purpose for each of us!

### Discuss It

Why do you think God told the Israelites to keep special reminders in the ark of the covenant? How does knowing that God created you with a plan make you feel?

### Prayer

Dear God, thank You for making me with a purpose. Help me to remember that my life is part of Your plan. Teach me to follow You every day. Amen.

### Live It

Think about something that reminds you of God's goodness—a Bible verse, a special gift, or a memory. Write it down or draw a picture of it as a reminder that God has a plan for your life!

## God Makes Bitter Good

### Bible Verse

*"The LORD is my strength and my song; he has given me victory."*... – Exodus 15:2 (NLT)

### Story

Sophia and her family were on a long road trip. After hours of driving, she sighed, "I'm so thirsty! When are we stopping?"

Her dad smiled. "We're almost there, but don't worry—I packed extra water."

That night, during family devotions, Sophia's mom read about the Israelites' journey after crossing the Red Sea. **"When Pharaoh's army tried to follow them, the water came back, and they drowned.** God protected His people completely."

Sophia's eyes widened. "So the Israelites were safe?"

**"Yes," Dad said. "And after they made it through,** Moses' sister, Miriam, led the people in a song of praise to God. She was a leader and a prophetess, reminding the people to celebrate what God had done."

Mom added, "But the journey wasn't easy. After traveling for three days, the **Israelites found water at place called Marah, but it was bitter. They couldn't drink it. God told Moses to throw a piece of wood into the water, and it became good to drink!**"

Sophia tilted her head. "So, even when things seemed bad, God still took care of them?"

"Exactly," Dad said. "God provided for them, just like He does for us today."

### Faith Connection

God protected the Israelites, led them through the Red Sea, and even provided water when they were thirsty. Miriam praised God for His power, and we should too! No matter what we face, God is always taking care of us.

### Discuss It

Why do you think Miriam led the people in a song of praise? How can we remember to thank God for what He does for us?

### Prayer

Dear God, thank You for always providing what I need. Help me to trust You, even when things seem hard. Like Miriam, I want to praise You for all You have done. Amen.

### Live It

Think of one way God has taken care of you recently. Take a moment to thank Him for it—maybe by writing a prayer, singing a song, or telling a family member.

## Holding Up Moses' Hands

### Bible Verse

"Moses' arms soon became so tired he could no longer hold them up. So Aaron and Hur found a stone for him to sit on. Then they stood on each side of Moses, holding up his hands. So his hands held steady until sunset." – Exodus 17:12 (NLT)

### Story

Ethan and his soccer team were exhausted. It was a tough game, and they were running out of energy. But when his teammates cheered him on, Ethan felt a boost of strength. "I needed that!" he said.

That night, during family devotions, Ethan's dad read about how God provided for the Israelites in the wilderness. "**The Israelites had no food, so God sent manna, a special kind of bread, every morning for them to eat.**"

Ethan's little sister, Lily, wrinkled her nose. "Bread from the sky?"

Mom smiled. "Yes! It was God's way of taking care of them. And **when they had no water at Meribah, God told Moses to strike a rock, and water flowed out!**"

Ethan's eyes widened. "God gave them food and water in the middle of nowhere?"

Dad nodded. "And that's not all. **When the Amalekites attacked, Moses prayed for victory. As long as he held up his hands, the Israelites were winning. But his arms got tired, so Aaron and Hur helped him by holding them up.**"

Lily grinned. "Like when my team cheers me on at gymnastics!"

"Exactly!" Mom said. "God provided food, water, and even strength through friends. He always gives us what we need."

### Faith Connection

God took care of the Israelites by giving them food, water, and even strength through others. He still does the same for us today! When we trust Him, He provides what we need and gives us people to help us along the way.

### Discuss It

How do you think the Israelites felt when they saw manna for the first time? How can you help encourage someone like Aaron and Hur did for Moses?

### Prayer

Dear God, thank You for always providing for me. Help me to trust You when I need something and to encourage others when they need help. Amen.

### Live It

Think of one way God has provided for you recently—maybe food, friends, or encouragement. Then, find someone who needs help and be like Aaron and Hur by encouraging them today!

## 08 - (127-144)

These devotions are built around Bible Fact-Pak 10-point questions. To use them effectively, keep a copy of the Fact-Pak Study Guide nearby for reference. If you don't have one on hand, the summary below provides an overview of the questions to help you understand the origin of these devotions.

### Ark of the Covenant (Hebrews 9:4)

- 128: The ark of the covenant was a sacred box containing the stone tablets of the Ten Commandments, the gold jar of manna, and Aaron's staff.
- 140: David said life begins in the womb.

### Choosing God's Way (1 Samuel 16:7)

- 129: The Israelites wanted a king instead of a judge because they wanted to be like other nations.
- 130: Saul was the first king of Israel.
- 131: God rejected Saul as king because he rejected God's command.
- 132: God chose David to replace Saul as king of Israel.

### David's Faith and Leadership (1 Samuel 14:47)

- 133: David killed the giant Goliath.
- 137: Jonathan, Saul's son, was David's best friend.
- 135: David refused to kill King Saul because God had chosen Saul to be king.
- 134: Joab was the commander of David's army.

### David's Legacy (Psalm 139:13)

- 138: David showed kindness to Mephibosheth because he was Jonathan's son.
- 139: Absalom, David's son, tried to take the kingdom from him.
- 136: David ruled as king for forty years.

### Solomon's Wisdom (1 Kings 3:9)

- 141: God told David to choose Solomon to be king after his death.
- 142: When Solomon became king, he asked God for wisdom.

### Solomon's Wisdom and the Temple (1 Kings 6:14)

- 143: Solomon built the Temple of the Lord.
- 144: The queen of Sheba came from a long distance to visit Solomon.



## Samuel Listens to God

### Bible Verse

...Samuel replied, "Speak, LORD, your servant is listening." – 1 Samuel 3:10 (NLT)

### Story

Emma's teacher asked the class, "What would you do if a friend was doing something wrong, like cheating on a test? Would you tell them to stop?"

Emma felt nervous. She didn't like getting into other people's business. What if her friend got mad at her?

That night, during family devotions, Emma's dad read about Samuel. "**Samuel was a young boy serving in the Tabernacle when he heard someone calling his name at night.** He thought it was Eli, the priest, but Eli told him it was God speaking."

Emma tilted her head. "God actually spoke to him?"

"Yes," Dad said. "And God gave Samuel a hard message. Eli's sons were disobeying God, and Eli wasn't stopping them. Samuel had to tell Eli that God was going to punish his family."

Emma frowned. "That must have been really scary."

Mom nodded. "Yes, but Samuel obeyed, even though it was hard. That's why God trusted him to be a great prophet."

Emma thought about her teacher's question. "So, sometimes listening to God means standing up for what's right, even when it's uncomfortable?"

"Exactly," Dad said. "When we hear God's truth, we have to be brave enough to follow it."

### Faith Connection

Samuel listened when God spoke and obeyed, even when it was hard. God still speaks today through the Bible, prayer, and wise people. Sometimes, obeying Him means standing up for what is right, even when it's difficult.

### Discuss It

Why do you think Samuel was afraid to tell Eli God's message? Can you think of a time when obeying God was hard?

### Prayer

Dear God, help me to listen when You speak to me through Your Word. Give me the courage to obey, even when it's difficult. Thank You for always guiding me. Amen.

### Live It

If you see someone doing something wrong this week, ask God to give you wisdom and courage to do the right thing. Remember, listening to God means obeying His truth!

## One God, No Idols

### Bible Verse

"**You must not have any other god but me.**" – Exodus 20:3 (NLT)

"**You must not make for yourself an idol of any kind.**" – Exodus 20:4 (NLT)

### Story

Sophia and her family were playing a board game when her little brother, Max, started making up his own rules. "That's not fair!" Sophia said.

Her mom smiled. "Rules help the game go smoothly. Without them, things get confusing."

That night, during family devotions, Sophia's dad read about **Moses on Mount Sinai**. "**God gave Moses the Ten Commandments** to teach the Israelites how to live. **The first commandment says, 'You must not have any other god but me.'**"

Max tilted his head. "Why does God have to say that?"

Mom explained, "Because people sometimes put other things before God—like money, power, or even fun. But God wants to be first in our lives."

Dad continued, "The **second commandment says we shouldn't make or worship idols. Back then, people made statues and called them gods,** but today, an idol can be anything we love more than God."

Sophia thought for a moment. "So, if I spend all my time thinking about my favorite video game instead of praying or reading the Bible, that could be like an idol?"

"Yes," Mom said. "God's rules aren't to make life hard—they're to help us follow Him and live the best way possible."

### Faith Connection

God gave us the Ten Commandments to help us live in a way that honors Him. The first commandment tells us to put God first, and the second reminds us not to let anything take His place. When we follow God's ways, we live the life He created us for!

### Discuss It

Why do you think God gave us rules to follow? What are some things people might put before God today?

### Prayer

Dear God, thank You for giving me rules to help me follow You. Help me to always put You first and not let anything take Your place in my heart. Amen.

### Live It

Think about something you spend a lot of time on—like TV, games, or sports. Ask yourself, "Am I giving God first place in my life?" Take time this week to pray and read your Bible to keep God at the center of your heart.

## Respecting God and Others

### Bible Verse

**"You must not misuse the name of the Lord your God." – Exodus 20:7 (NLT)**

**"Remember to observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy" – Exodus 20:8 (NLT)**

### Story

Ethan and his sister, Mia, were playing outside when Mia tripped over a rock. "Oh no!" she cried. "That was a dumb rock!"

Ethan laughed. "You can't blame the rock!"

Later that night, during family devotions, their dad read about the Ten Commandments. **"One of God's commandments says we should not misuse His name. That means we should speak about God with respect,** not like an ordinary word or when we're upset."

Mia frowned. "So, I shouldn't say God's name when I'm mad?"

Dad nodded. "That's right. The third commandment teaches us to honor God's name because He is holy."

Mom added, **"God also gave us a special commandment about rest. The Sabbath is a day set apart for worship and remembering God's blessings.** It helps us focus on Him."

Ethan tilted his head. "So, we should make time for God, not just rush through the week?"

"Yes!" Dad said. "And **another important commandment is to honor your father and mother.** This is the first commandment that comes with a promise—God says if we respect and obey our parents, we will have a good and full life."

Mia smiled. "So, honoring God and our parents are both really important?"

"Exactly," Mom said. "God's commands help us show love and respect for Him and for others."

### Faith Connection

The Ten Commandments teach us how to love and respect God and our families. We should speak about God with honor, take time to rest and worship Him, and show respect to our parents. When we follow these commands, we live the way God designed us to!

### Discuss It

Why do you think it's important to use God's name with respect? How does resting and honoring our parents help us grow closer to God?

**Prayer** Dear God, help me to honor You in the way I speak and in how I treat my parents. Thank You for giving me time to rest and focus on You. Amen.

**Live It** Pay attention to how you use God's name—make sure it's always in a respectful way. Also, think of one way you can honor your parents this week, like helping without being asked or saying "thank you."

## Ruth and Redemption

### Bible Verse

...**"Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God."** – Ruth 1:16 (NLT)

### Story

Mia's best friend, Olivia, was moving to another city. "I wish you didn't have to go," Mia said sadly.

"I know," Olivia said, "but we'll always be friends, no matter what!"

That night, during family devotions, Mia's dad read about Ruth and Naomi. **"Ruth was a Gentile, not an Israelite, but after her husband died, she chose to stay with her mother-in-law, Naomi, instead of going back to her own family."**

Mia frowned. "She left everything behind?"

"Yes," Mom said. "She told Naomi, 'Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God.' She trusted God, even though she didn't know what would happen next."

Dad added, "Because of her faithfulness, God blessed her. **Ruth later married Boaz, and one of her descendants was David—the great king of Israel!**"

Mia's eyes widened. "So, Ruth's choice to follow God led to something really big?"

"Exactly," Mom said. "Ruth's faithfulness wasn't just a blessing for her—it became part of God's big plan."

### Faith Connection

Ruth chose to follow God even when it was hard, and He blessed her. She became part of the family line of King David—and later, Jesus! When we trust God and follow Him, He leads us to blessings we can't even imagine.

### Discuss It

Why do you think Ruth chose to stay with Naomi instead of going home? How does God bless us when we follow Him?

### Prayer

Dear God, help me to follow You like Ruth did, even when I don't know what's ahead. Thank You for Your blessings and for always taking care of me. Amen.

### Live It

Think of a way you can be faithful to God this week—by being kind, helping others, or trusting Him with something uncertain. Just like Ruth, your choices can lead to great blessings!

## Judges of Israel

### Bible Verse

*“The Lord said to Gideon, ‘You have too many warriors. If I let all of you fight the Midianites, the Israelites will boast to me that they saved themselves by their own strength.’” – Judges 7:2 (NLT)*

### Story

Sophia’s team was the smallest at the school field day, but they surprised everyone by winning the tug-of-war competition. “How did you do it?” asked a friend. Sophia grinned. “We worked together and didn’t give up.”

That evening, during family devotions, Sophia’s dad shared about the judges of Israel. **“Gideon was a leader God used to defeat the Midianites with only 300 men. It seemed impossible, but God’s power made it happen.”**

Sophia asked, **“What about Samson? Isn’t he the one who was really strong?”**

“Yes,” her dad replied. “Samson’s strength came from God, but he forgot to trust God fully. **He shared the secret of his strength with Delilah, who tricked him.** Even so, God used Samson to defeat the Philistines in the end.”

Sophia thought about her team’s win. “So, it’s not just about being strong; it’s about trusting God too?”

“Exactly,” her dad said. “God gives us strength to accomplish His plans when we rely on Him.”

### Faith Connection

The stories of Gideon and Samson show that God’s strength is greater than any challenge we face. Gideon trusted God and saw a miraculous victory, while Samson learned the importance of depending on God’s power rather than his own. These judges remind us of Jesus, who is the ultimate Deliverer. Through Jesus, we have victory over sin and strength to live for God.

### Discuss It

How did following God’s instructions help the Israelites win the Battle of Jericho, and how can following God’s guidance help you in your life?

### Prayer

Dear God, thank You for showing Your power through Gideon and Samson. Help me to trust You and rely on Your strength instead of my own. Thank You for sending Jesus, who gives us victory and shows us what it means to depend on You. Amen.

### Live It:

Think of something in your life that feels too hard to handle on your own. Pray and ask God for His strength to help you, just as He helped Gideon and Samson. Share with someone how God’s power is greater than any challenge. Share what you learned next time.

## 06 - (091-108)

These devotions are built around Bible Fact-Pak 10-point questions. To use them effectively, keep a copy of the Fact-Pak Study Guide nearby for reference. If you don’t have one on hand, the summary below provides an overview of the questions to help you understand the origin of these devotions.

### God’s Rules Keep Us Safe (Exodus 20:13-15)

- 091: “You must not murder” protects the sacredness of human life.
- 092: “You must not commit adultery” protects the sacredness of marriage.
- 093: “You must not steal” protects our right to own possessions.

### God Rules Hearts and Words (Exodus 20:16-17)

- 094: The commandment “You must not testify falsely” prohibits lying.
- 095: The commandment “You must not covet” forbids wrong desires.
- 096: The Ten Commandments are first recorded in Exodus chapter 20.

### Worshiping God the Right Way (Exodus 25:8)

- 097: The Israelites built the Tabernacle to worship God in the wilderness.
- 098: At Mount Sinai, Aaron and the Israelites sinned by making and worshiping a golden calf.
- 099: The priests were chosen from the tribe of Levi.

### Following God’s Lead (Exodus 14:9)

- 100: The sacrifices and offerings purified the Israelites from their sins.
- 101: God led the Israelites in the wilderness with a cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night.
- 102: Twelve spies were sent by Moses to the land of Canaan and its people.

### Trusting God’s Plan (Proverbs 3:5)

- 103: The spies brought back fruit from Canaan to prove it was a good land.
- 104: Joshua and Caleb were the two spies who believed the Israelites could capture the land.
- 105: The Israelites wandered in the wilderness for forty years.

### Redemption and Deliverance (John 3:16)

- 106: God proved Moses and Aaron were His chosen leaders by making Aaron’s staff sprout, bud, and blossom.
- 107: Moses disobeyed God at Meribah by striking the rock instead of speaking to it.
- 108: God provided healing for the Israelites bitten by snakes by making a bronze snake for them to look at and be healed.

## God's Rules Keep Us Safe

### Bible Verse

*You must not murder.*

*You must not commit adultery.*

*You must not steal.* – Exodus 20:13-15 (NLT)

### Story

Noah's school had a new playground rule: no pushing on the swings. One of his friends grumbled, "Why do we need rules for everything?"

Later that night, during family devotions, Noah's dad read about the Ten Commandments. "God gave rules to help us live the right way. One commandment says, **'You must not murder,' because every human life is precious to God.**"

Noah nodded. "That makes sense. God doesn't want people hurting each other."

Mom added, "Another commandment is about marriage—God says, **'You must not commit adultery.' That means marriage is special and should be honored.**"

Dad continued, "And God also said, **'You must not steal.' He wants us to respect what belongs to others.**"

Noah thought for a moment. "So, these rules protect people from getting hurt?"

"Exactly," Mom said. "Just like your playground rules keep everyone safe, God's rules help us live the right way."

### Faith Connection

God's commandments protect us and help us live in a way that honors Him. He tells us not to harm others, to respect marriage, and to be honest with what belongs to us and others. When we follow His ways, we help make the world a better place.

### Discuss It

Why do you think God gave rules about life, marriage, and stealing? How do these rules help people live in peace with each other?

### Prayer

Dear God, thank You for giving me rules to help me live the right way. Help me to respect life, honor others, and be honest in all I do. Amen.

### Live It

Think of a way you can follow God's commandments this week—maybe by being kind to others, showing respect for your family, or being honest about something that belongs to someone else.

## Fall of Jericho and Victory

### Bible Verse

*"But the Lord said to Joshua, 'I have given you Jericho, its king, and all its strong warriors.'" – Joshua 6:2 (NLT)*

### Story

Ethan's soccer team was losing a big game. "We'll never win," one of his teammates said. But their coach encouraged them, "Don't give up! Stick to the plan and trust each other."

That night, during family devotions, Ethan's dad read about the battle of Jericho. **"God told the Israelites to march around the city once a day for six days. On the seventh day, they marched seven times—thirteen times in total! Then, they shouted, and the walls collapsed."**

Ethan's eyes widened. "That sounds like a strange battle plan!"

Mom nodded. "Yes, but the Israelites trusted God's way instead of their own, and He gave them victory."

Dad continued, "Later, **when they fought at Ai, they were defeated because one man, Achan, disobeyed God by taking things he wasn't supposed to. His sin affected the whole nation.**"

Ethan frowned. "So one person's sin hurt everyone?"

"Yes," Mom said. "But when they obeyed God, He led them to victory again. In **another battle at Gibeon, God even made the sun and moon stand still so they could win!**"

Ethan grinned. "Wow! God was really in control."

Dad smiled. "Exactly. When we trust and obey God, He fights for us and gives us victory."

### Faith Connection

The Israelites won battles not because they were strong, but because they obeyed and trusted God. When they disobeyed, like Achan at Ai, they faced defeat. God showed His power at Jericho and Gibeon, proving He is always in control!

### Discuss It

Why do you think God had the Israelites march around Jericho instead of attacking? How did Achan's sin affect the whole nation?

### Prayer

Dear God, help me to trust and obey You, even when things don't make sense. Thank You for fighting for me and leading me to victory in life. Amen.

### Live It

This week, practice obeying God by following instructions at home or school, even when you don't understand why. Remember, trusting and obeying God leads to His blessings!

## Entering the Promised Land

### Bible Verse

*"Be strong and courageous, for you are the one who will lead these people to possess all the land I swore to their ancestors I would give them."* – Joshua 1:6 (NLT)

### Story

Sophia was nervous about leading her class in a big group project. "What if I mess up?" she asked her teacher.

Her teacher smiled. "You were chosen because I believe you can do it. Just do your best, and I'll be here to help."

That night, during family devotions, Sophia's dad read about Joshua. **"After Moses died, God chose Joshua to lead the Israelites into the Promised Land.** He had a big job ahead of him, but God told him to be strong and courageous."

Sophia's little brother, Max, asked, "Wasn't Joshua one of the spies?"

Mom nodded. **"Yes! Joshua and Caleb were the only two men from Egypt who trusted God and were allowed to enter Canaan.** Before taking the land, **Joshua sent two spies into Jericho, where a woman named Rahab hid them to keep them safe."**

Dad added, **"Rahab believed in God, so she tied a scarlet rope in her window as a sign that her family should be protected."**

Sophia smiled. "So, God had a plan to protect Rahab and lead Joshua?"

"Yes," Mom said. "And **when the Israelites finally entered Canaan, God stopped the Jordan River so they could cross on dry ground**—just like He did at the Red Sea."

Sophia took a deep breath. "If God helped Joshua lead the Israelites, maybe He will help me with my project too!"

### Faith Connection

God chose Joshua to lead His people, and even though it was a big job, God was with him. Rahab showed faith by protecting the spies, and God kept His promise by bringing the Israelites into the Promised Land. When we trust God, He always makes a way for us!

### Discuss It

Why do you think Joshua needed to be strong and courageous? How did Rahab show her faith in God?

### Prayer

Dear God, thank You for always making a way for Your people. Help me to trust You like Joshua and Rahab did, knowing that You are always in control. Amen.

### Live It

Think of a situation where you need to be strong and courageous. Pray and ask God to help you trust Him and take the next step, just like Joshua did.

## God's Rules Hearts and Words

### Bible Verse

*"You must not testify falsely against your neighbor  
You must not covet."*... – Exodus 20:16-17 (NLT)

### Story

Emma and her best friend, Mia, were coloring pictures in class. When the teacher stepped away, Mia accidentally knocked over a cup of water, ruining Emma's drawing. "Oh no!" Mia gasped.

When the teacher returned and asked what happened, Emma was upset and thought about blaming someone else. But she took a deep breath and told the truth.

That night, during family devotions, Emma's dad read from **Exodus 20. "The Ten Commandments are first recorded in this chapter,** and two of them teach us how to guard our hearts and words. One commandment says, **'You must not testify falsely,' which means we should never lie."**

Emma nodded. "I almost lied today when my picture got ruined, but I told the truth."

Mom smiled. "That was the right choice! Another commandment says, **'You must not covet.'** That means we shouldn't want things in a wrong way—like wishing we had what someone else has instead of being thankful for what we have."

Emma thought for a moment. "So, God's rules aren't just about what we do, but also about what's in our hearts?"

Dad nodded. "Exactly! When we are truthful and content, we honor God."

### Faith Connection

God gave us the Ten Commandments to help us live the right way. He wants us to be honest and not let jealousy take over our hearts. When we follow His rules, we grow closer to Him and to others.

### Discuss It

Why do you think lying is wrong, even if it seems small? How can we learn to be thankful instead of wanting what others have?

### Prayer

Dear God, help me to always be honest and to be thankful for what I have. Teach me to follow Your commands with my heart and my actions. Amen.

### Live It

This week, practice being honest in all situations, even when it's hard. Also, write down three things you are thankful for to remind yourself to be content with what God has given you.

## Worshiping God the Right Way

### Bible Verse

*"Have the people of Israel build me a holy sanctuary so I can live among them."* – Exodus 25:8 (NLT)

### Story

Lily's class was making a special craft for their teacher. They carefully followed the instructions to make sure it turned out just right. But one student ignored the directions and did something completely different. "That's not what we were supposed to do," Lily said.

That night, during family devotions, Lily's dad read about the Israelites in the wilderness. **"God gave them instructions to build the Tabernacle, a special place to worship Him."**

Lily tilted her head. "So, God wanted them to have a special place to worship?"

"Yes," Mom said. "But before the Tabernacle was finished, something bad happened. While Moses was on Mount Sinai receiving God's commandments, the people got impatient. **They asked Aaron to make them a golden calf to worship.**"

Lily's eyes widened. **"They made their own god?"**

Dad nodded. **"Yes, and that was a big sin.** God had just told them to worship only Him. **The priests, who were chosen from the tribe of Levi,** were supposed to lead the people in worshiping God the right way."

Lily thought for a moment. "So, just like in my class, when people don't follow directions, things don't turn out right?"

"Exactly!" Mom said. "God gave the Israelites instructions for worship because He knew what was best for them."

### Faith Connection

God gave the Israelites the Tabernacle so they could worship Him in the right way. But when they got impatient, they made their own idol, which was a big mistake. God wants us to worship Him the way He teaches us—not in our own way, but in the way that honors Him.

### Discuss It

Why do you think the Israelites made the golden calf? How can we make sure we worship God the right way?

### Prayer

Dear God, help me to worship You in the right way and to be patient when I don't understand Your timing. Thank You for always leading me in the best way. Amen.

### Live It

Think about ways you can worship God this week—by praying, reading the Bible, or singing songs of praise. Make a habit of worshiping Him in the right way, not just when it's easy!

## Finishing Well

### Bible Verse

*"But the Lord said to Moses and Aaron, 'Because you did not trust me enough to demonstrate my holiness to the people of Israel, you will not lead them into the land I am giving them!'"* – Numbers 20:12 (NLT)

### Story

Liam loved building puzzles, but sometimes he got frustrated before finishing. One day, he almost gave up on a big puzzle, but his grandpa encouraged him. "You've come so far! Don't quit now."

That night, during family devotions, Liam's dad read about Moses' last days. "Moses was a great leader, but he made a mistake at Meribah. God told him to speak to the rock for water, but he hit it instead. **Because he failed to trust God and demonstrate his holiness to the people, he wasn't allowed to enter Canaan, the Promised Land.**"

Liam frowned. "So, after everything Moses did, he didn't get to go in?"

Mom nodded. "But God still blessed him. **God took Moses to Mount Nebo and let him see the land before he died at 120 years old.**"

Liam thought for a moment. "So, even though Moses messed up, God still cared for him?"

"Yes," Dad said. "Moses didn't get to enter Canaan, but he had followed God his whole life, and God never left him."

Grandpa smiled. "That's why it's important to keep trusting God and finish well, just like Moses did."

### Faith Connection

Moses made mistakes, but he stayed faithful to God. Even though he didn't enter Canaan, God honored him by letting him see it from Mount Nebo. We may not always get things right, but when we trust and obey God, He leads us to something even better—eternal life with Him!

### Discuss It

Why do you think it was important for Moses to see the Promised Land? How can we trust God, even when things don't go the way we hope?

**Prayer** Dear God, help me to trust and obey You all my life. Even when I make mistakes, I know You still love me. Thank You for Your faithfulness and for always leading me. Amen.

**Live It** Think about something in your life that feels unfinished or frustrating. Instead of giving up, ask God to help you stay strong and trust Him, just like Moses did.

## 07 - (109-126)

These devotions are built around Bible Fact-Pak 10-point questions. To use them effectively, keep a copy of the Fact-Pak Study Guide nearby for reference. If you don't have one on hand, the summary below provides an overview of the questions to help you understand the origin of these devotions.

### Finishing Well (Numbers 20:12)

- 110: Moses was not allowed to enter Canaan because he failed to trust God and demonstrate His holiness at Meribah.
- 111: Moses saw the Promised Land from Mount Nebo.
- 112: Moses was 120 years old when he died.

### Entering the Promised Land (Joshua 1:6)

- 109: God appointed Joshua as the leader of Israel after Moses.
- 113: Joshua and Caleb were the only two men who left Egypt and entered Canaan.
- 114: Rahab protected the spies Joshua sent to Jericho.
- 115: Rahab marked her house with a scarlet rope to be protected.
- 116: The Israelites entered the Promised Land when God stopped the flow of the Jordan River.

### Fall of Jericho and Victory (Joshua 6:2)

- 117: The Israelites marched around the walls of Jericho thirteen times—once a day for six days, and seven times on the seventh day.
- 118: When the Israelites shouted, the walls of Jericho collapsed.
- 119: Achan's sin caused the Israelites' defeat at Ai.
- 120: During the battle at Gibeon, the sun and moon stood still as a miracle from God

### Judges of Israel (Psalm 28:7)

- 121: Gideon defeated the Midianites with only 300 men.
- 122: Samson was a judge known for his great strength.
- 123: Delilah tricked Samson into revealing the secret of his strength.

### Ruth and Redemption (Ruth 1:16)

- 124: Ruth, a Gentile girl, decided to serve God because she loved her mother-in-law, Naomi.
- 125: Ruth's descendant, David, became king of Israel.

### Samuel Listens to God (1 Samuel 3:10)

- 126: Samuel was the child who heard God's voice during the night.
- 127: God asked Samuel to pronounce judgment on the priest Eli.

## Following God's Lead

### Bible Verse

*"The LORD went ahead of them. He guided them during the day with a pillar of cloud, and he provided light at night with a pillar of fire."... – Exodus 13:21 (NLT)*

### Story

Logan's family was driving to a new campsite they had never visited before. "How will we know where to go?" Logan asked.

His dad held up the GPS. "This will guide us the whole way."

That night, during family devotions, Logan's mom read about how God led the Israelites in the wilderness. **"God used a cloud during the day and a pillar of fire at night to guide them."**

Logan tilted his head. "So, it was like a GPS from God?"

Dad nodded. "Exactly! **God also gave the Israelites sacrifices and offerings to purify them from their sins. These helped them stay close to God."**

Mom continued, "And when they got close to Canaan, the land God promised them, **Moses sent twelve spies to see what kind of land it was and what kind of people lived there."**

Logan's eyes widened. "Spies? That sounds exciting!"

"Yes," Dad said. "But ten spies came back afraid, saying the land was too dangerous. Only two, Joshua and Caleb, trusted that God would help them."

Logan thought for a moment. "So, God had a plan the whole time, but the people didn't always trust Him?"

"That's right," Mom said. "But when we follow God's lead, we don't have to be afraid—He is always guiding us."

### Faith Connection

God led the Israelites with a cloud and fire, showing them He was always with them. He also gave them sacrifices to purify them and spies to explore Canaan. Even today, God leads us when we trust and follow Him.

### Discuss It

Why do you think God used a cloud and fire to lead the Israelites? How can we trust God to guide us in our own lives?

### Prayer

Dear God, thank You for always leading me. Help me to follow Your guidance and trust You, just like Joshua and Caleb did. Amen.

### Live It

Think of a situation where you need God's guidance. Take time to pray and ask Him to help you trust His plan, just like He led the Israelites.

## Trusting God's Plan

### Bible Verse

"But Caleb tried to quiet the people as they stood before Moses. 'Let's go at once to take the land,' he said. 'We can certainly conquer it!'" – Numbers 13:30 (NLT)

### Story

Emma's class was planning a field trip to a big nature park. Most of her friends were excited, but some were nervous. "What if we get lost?" one student asked.

Emma's teacher smiled. "We have a guide who knows the way. We just must follow and trust them."

That night, during family devotions, Emma's dad read about the twelve spies. "Moses sent twelve spies to explore Canaan, the land God had promised them. **They brought back huge fruit to show how good the land was.**"

Emma's little brother, Max, grinned. "So, they saw that it was an awesome place?"

"Yes," Mom said. "But ten spies were afraid and said the land was too dangerous. **Only Joshua and Caleb believed God would help them take it.**"

Emma frowned. "What happened because they didn't trust God?"

Dad continued, "**Because the Israelites didn't believe God's promise, they had to wander in the wilderness for forty years before entering Canaan.**"

Emma sighed. "So, just like the kids on my field trip who were afraid, the Israelites forgot they had a leader—God!"

Mom smiled. "Exactly! When we trust God, we don't have to be afraid. He will always lead us where we need to go."

### Faith Connection

The spies saw how good the land was, but only Joshua and Caleb trusted God to help them take it. Because the Israelites didn't trust God, they had to wander in the wilderness for forty years. When we believe in God's promises, we don't have to be afraid—He will always guide us!

### Discuss It

Why do you think Joshua and Caleb trusted God when the others were afraid? How can we remember to trust God when we feel scared?

### Prayer

Dear God, help me to trust You like Joshua and Caleb did. I know You have a good plan for me, and I don't have to be afraid because You are always with me. Amen.

### Live It

Think about something that makes you nervous. Take a deep breath and pray, asking God to help you trust Him, just like Joshua and Caleb did.

## Obeying and Trusting God

### Bible Verse

...*"If you listen to the LORD your God and do what is right in his sight... I will not make you suffer any of the diseases I sent on the Egyptians; for I am the LORD who heals you."* – Exodus 15:26 (NLT)

### Story

Noah was building a model airplane with his dad. The instructions said to glue the wings first, but Noah thought taping them would be faster. When he tried to fly the plane, the wings wobbled and fell off.

Dad shook his head. "Sometimes, following directions is the best way to get things right."

That night, during family devotions, Dad read about Moses and Aaron. "**Some of the Israelites didn't believe Moses and Aaron were chosen by God, so God made Aaron's staff sprout, bud, and blossom to show that He had chosen them.**"

Noah's sister, Mia, tilted her head. "That's amazing! But did Moses always obey?"

Mom sighed. "Not always. **At Meribah, when the Israelites were thirsty, God told Moses to speak to a rock so water would come out. But Moses was angry and hit the rock instead.** Because he disobeyed, he wasn't allowed to enter the Promised Land."

Noah frowned. "Wow, so one mistake had big consequences?"

Dad nodded. "Yes. But God still loved His people. Later, **when poisonous snakes bit the Israelites, God told Moses to make a bronze snake and lift it up. If the people looked at it, they were healed.**"

Mia's eyes widened. "So God gave them a way to be saved, even when they messed up?"

"Exactly!" Mom said. "Just like the Israelites had to look at the bronze snake for healing, Jesus was lifted up on the cross so we could be saved when we trust in Him."

**Faith Connection** God showed His power by making Aaron's staff blossom, but He also showed the importance of obedience when Moses struck the rock instead of speaking to it. Even when the Israelites sinned, God still provided healing through the bronze snake. God is always faithful, and He wants us to trust and obey Him.

**Discuss It** Why do you think God wanted Moses to speak to the rock instead of hitting it? How does the bronze snake remind us of Jesus?

**Prayer** Dear God, help me to trust and obey You, even when I don't understand. Thank You for always making a way for me to be saved, just like You did for the Israelites. Amen.

**Live It** Think of a time when you didn't follow directions. What happened? This week, practice obeying right away, whether it's listening to your parents, teachers, or God's Word.