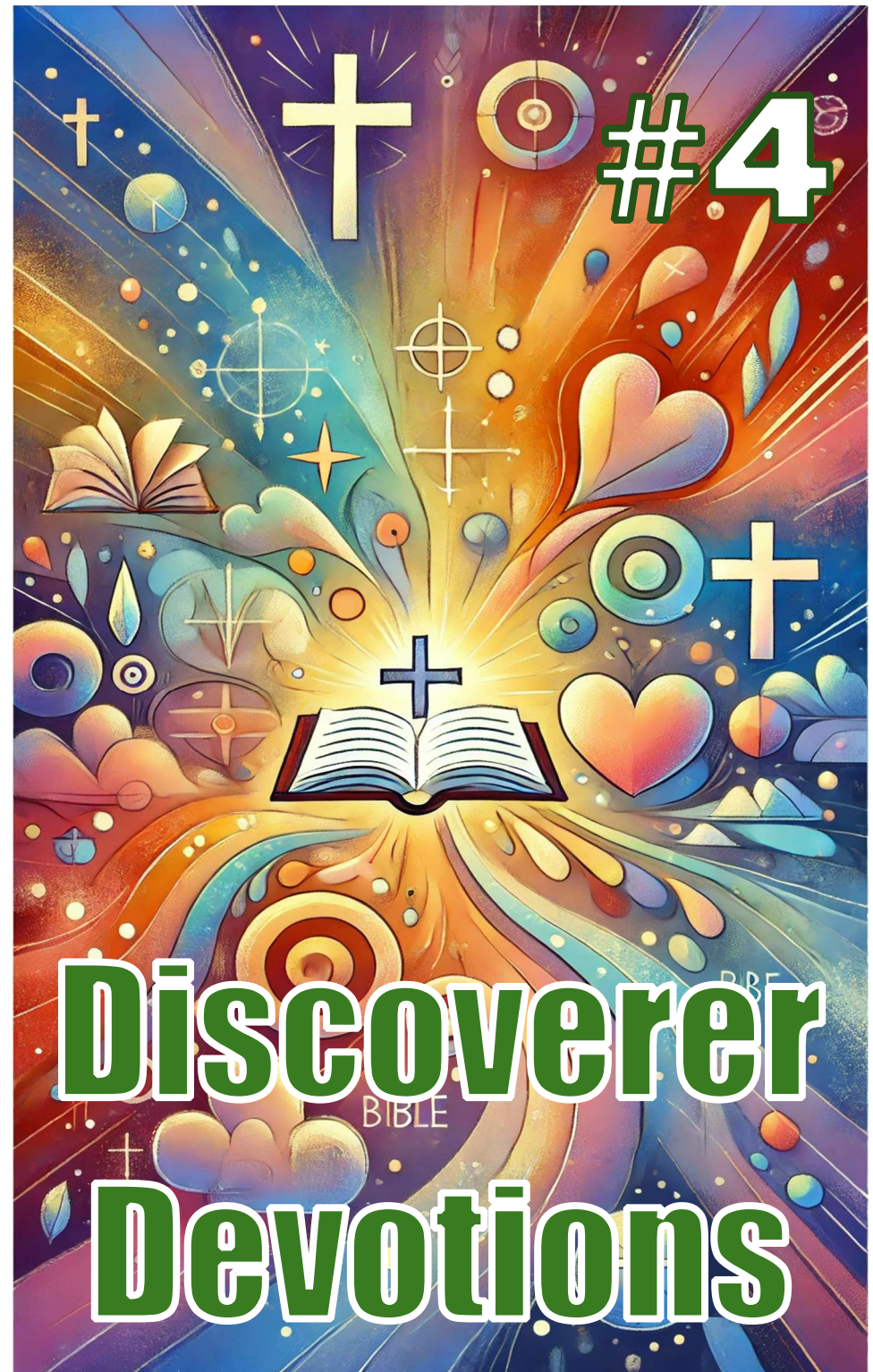


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How to Use...

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

Disciples, Doctrine and Death

Bible Verse

"Jesus said to the people who believed in him, 'You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teachings.'" – John 8:31 (NLT)

Story

Mia loved **baking with her grandma**. At first, she didn’t know how to measure ingredients or mix things properly, but over time, she learned by **watching and following instructions**.

That night, during family devotions, Mia’s dad read about what it means to be a **disciple of Jesus**.

- **A disciple is a learner and follower of Jesus**. Jesus’ disciples listened to His teachings and tried to live like Him.
- **Doctrine is teaching from the Bible** that helps us understand **who God is and how to live for Him**.
- **Death is the separation of the body and soul**—our bodies stay on earth, but our souls continue into eternity.

Mia tilted her head. “So, being a **disciple** means we **learn about Jesus** and **follow His teachings**, just like I learned to bake?”

“Yes!” Mom said. “The **Bible teaches us doctrine**—God’s truth—so we can **grow in faith** and live the way He wants us to.”

Dad continued, “And when we **understand God’s truth**, we don’t have to be afraid of death. The Bible says that **death is when our soul separates from our body**, but for those who follow Jesus, it means being **with Him forever!**”

Mia smiled. “So, we **learn from Jesus, follow His teachings, and trust Him for eternity?**”

“Exactly,” Mom said. “And as we **study God’s Word**, we become **stronger disciples** and grow in our **understanding of His truth.**”

Faith Connection

A **disciple** is someone who **learns from and follows Jesus**. **Doctrine** is **teaching from the Bible** that helps us understand **God’s truth**. **Death is not the end** for those who follow Christ—it is the **separation of the body and soul**, leading believers into eternity with Jesus.

Discuss It What does it mean to **be a disciple of Jesus** in everyday life? How can learning **Bible doctrine** help us grow in faith?

Prayer Dear Jesus, thank You for **teaching me how to follow You**. Help me to **learn from Your Word**, grow as Your disciple, and trust in Your promises for eternity. Amen.

Live It This week, take time to **learn more about Jesus** by reading a **Bible story** or memorizing a verse. Think about how you can **live as His disciple** by following His example!

Apostles, Prophets, and Angels

Bible Verse

"...No prophecy in Scripture ever came from the prophet's own understanding, or from human initiative. No, those prophets were moved by the Holy Spirit, and they spoke from God." – 2 Peter 1:20-21 (NLT)

Story

Noah's teacher asked him to **deliver a special message** to the principal. "I'm trusting you to bring this exactly as I wrote it," she said.

That night, during family devotions, Noah's dad read about how **God uses messengers** to bring His Word to people.

- **An apostle is a special messenger sent by God to spread the gospel.** The disciples were **Jesus' apostles**, sharing His truth with the world.
- **A prophet is someone chosen by God to speak for Him in a special way through the power of the Holy Spirit.** In the Bible, prophets helped people **understand God's plan**.
- **Angels are spiritual beings created by God.** They serve Him by **delivering messages, protecting His people, and praising Him**.

Noah tilted his head. "So, apostles, prophets, and angels all **deliver God's messages** in different ways?"

"Yes!" Mom said. "Apostles were sent to **spread the Good News**, prophets **spoke through the Holy Spirit**, and angels **carry out God's will** in special ways."

Dad added, "Just like your teacher trusted you to **deliver an important message**, God trusts **His messengers** to bring His truth to the world."

Noah grinned. "That means we can be **messengers for God too** by sharing His love with others!"

Faith Connection

God uses different **messengers** to share His truth. **Apostles** spread the gospel, **prophets** spoke for God through the **Holy Spirit**, and **angels** serve God as spiritual beings. Today, **God calls us to share His love and truth with others, too!**

Discuss It

Why do you think God uses **different kinds of messengers**? How can you be a **messenger for God** today?

Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank You for using **apostles, prophets, and angels** to share Your message. Help me to **be a messenger for You** by sharing Your love and truth with others. Amen.

Live It

This week, **find one way to share God's message**—by **encouraging a friend, sharing a Bible verse, or praying for someone**. Remember, **God calls you to be His messenger too!**

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13 - (217-234)

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.

Crucifixion of Jesus (Isaiah 53:5)

- 217: The people asked Pilate to release Barabbas instead of Jesus.
- 218: "Golgotha" means "The Place of the Skull."
- 219: Pilate placed the title "[Jesus of Nazareth], the King of the Jews" on Jesus' cross.
- 220: Jesus died by crucifixion, being nailed to a cross.

Jesus' Death (Matthew 27:54)

- 221: When Jesus was crucified, the sun became dark for three hours, and there was an earthquake.
- 222: The Roman officer in charge of Jesus' execution declared, "This man truly was the Son of God!"
- 223: Jesus was buried by Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus.

The Resurrection of Jesus (Matthew 28:6)

- 224: Mary Magdalene was the 1st person to see Jesus after His resurrection.
- 225: An angel rolled away the stone, making a way for the women to enter the tomb of Jesus.
- 226: Thomas was the disciple who at first doubted Jesus' resurrection.

Ascension and Early Church (Acts 1:8-9)

- 227: After forty days of walking and talking with His apostles following His death, Jesus was taken up into a cloud until they could no longer see Him.
- 228: Matthias was chosen to replace Judas as an apostle.
- 229: About 120 people waited together in an upstairs room for the coming of the Holy Spirit.

The Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:38)

- 230: On the Day of Pentecost, God gave the Church the Holy Spirit.
- 231: The prophet Joel foretold the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.
- 232: About three thousand people were saved as a result of Peter's sermon on the Day of Pentecost.

Responsibility of the Church (Acts 3:6)

- 233: QQ Peter told the lame man at the temple gate, "I don't have any silver or gold for you. But I'll give you what I have. In the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, get up and walk!"
- 234: The sin of Ananias and Sapphira was that they lied to the Holy Spirit.

Prayer, Praise, and Worship

Bible Verse

"Come, let us tell of the Lord's greatness; let us exalt His name together." – Psalm 34:3 (NLT)

Story

Mia loved spending time with her best friend. They talked about everything, laughed together, and always encouraged each other. "It's great to have someone to **talk to and share life with!**" she said.

That night, during family devotions, Mia's dad said, "Do you know that **God wants to talk with us, too?** That's what **prayer is—talking with God** just like you talk to a friend."

Mia tilted her head. "So, I can **talk with God about anything?**"

"Yes!" Mom said. "And when we talk with God, we should also **praise Him—which means we thank Him for all He is and all He has done.**"

Dad added, "And **worship is even deeper—it's when we adore and exalt God just for who He is.**"

Mia smiled. "So, **prayer is talking with God, praise is thanking Him, and worship is loving Him with all my heart?**"

"Exactly!" Dad said. "God loves when we **talk to Him, praise Him, and worship Him every day!**"

Faith Connection

Prayer is **talking with God**, just like we talk with a friend. **Praise is thanking God** for all He has done, and **worship is adoring Him** for who He is. **God loves to hear from us, and we grow closer to Him when we pray, praise, and worship!**

Discuss It

Why do you think **God wants us to talk to Him?** How can we **praise and worship God every day?**

Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank You for **always listening when I pray**. Help me to **praise You for all You've done** and **worship You with all my heart**. Amen.

Live It

This week, **spend extra time talking to God** in prayer. Take a moment each day to **thank Him for something (praise)** and to **worship Him for who He is!**

Sin, Repentance, Sanctification

Bible Verse

"But now you are free from the power of sin and have become slaves of God. Now you do those things that lead to holiness and result in eternal life." – Romans 6:22

Story

Mia and her little brother, Noah, were playing outside when Noah saw a **shortcut through a muddy field**. "Let's go this way!" he said.

Mia shook her head. "That path leads to a mess. We should stay on the sidewalk." Noah ignored her and ran into the field. But soon, his shoes got stuck in the mud, and he had to turn back.

That night, during family devotions, their dad read about **sin, repentance, and sanctification**.

- **Sin is refusing to do God's will—according to the Bible and the Holy Spirit** (1 John 3:4).
- **Repentance means having a change of mind, heart, and direction—**turning away from sin and back to God (Acts 3:19).
- **Sanctification is being separated from sin and set apart to serve God—**choosing to walk in His ways (1 Thessalonians 4:3).

Mia smiled. "So, **sin is like taking the wrong path**, and **repentance is realizing you need to turn around?**"

"Yes!" Mom said. "And **sanctification** is choosing to **stay on the right path and follow God every day.**"

Noah sighed. "I learned my lesson! I'll **choose the right path next time.**"

Dad added, "That's what **God wants for us—to turn from sin and follow Him!**"

Faith Connection

Sin is **choosing to disobey God**. Repentance is when we **realize we're going the wrong way, change our hearts, and turn back to God**. Sanctification is when we **stay on the right path, choosing to live for God every day**. When we follow Jesus, we are **set apart to serve Him!**

Discuss It

Why do you think **repentance is important** when we make mistakes? How can **sanctification help us grow closer to God** every day?

Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank You for **helping me turn away from sin**. Help me to **repent when I go the wrong way and stay close to You** as I follow Your path. Amen.

Live It

This week, **think about an area of your life where you need to follow God's way instead of your own**. Pray and ask God to help you **turn back to Him and walk in His ways!**

Crucifixion of Jesus

Bible Verse

"He was pierced for our rebellion, crushed for our sins. He was beaten so we could be whole. He was whipped so we could be healed." – Isaiah 53:5 (NLT)

Story

Noah and his classmates were playing a game when **someone else took credit for his work**. "That's not fair!" Noah thought. But instead of arguing, he stayed quiet, even though he **knew he didn't deserve it**.

That night, during family devotions, Noah's dad read about **Jesus' trial and crucifixion**:

- **The people asked Pilate to release Barabbas**, a criminal, instead of Jesus (Matthew 27:20-21).
- **Jesus was taken to Golgotha**, which means "The Place of the Skull," to be crucified (Matthew 27:33).
- **Pilate placed a sign on Jesus' cross that read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews"** (John 19:19).
- **Jesus was nailed to the cross and died for our sins** (Luke 23:33-34).

Noah frowned. "So, Jesus took the punishment **even though He didn't do anything wrong?**"

"Yes," Mom said. "The people **chose to free Barabbas**, but Jesus **chose to die for us.**"

Dad added, "Even the place of His crucifixion, **Golgotha**, reminds us of how serious sin is—but Jesus **took our punishment because He loves us.**"

Noah sighed. "That must have hurt so much."

"Yes," Mom said. "But Jesus **was willing to die** because **He knew it would save us**. His sacrifice means we can be **forgiven and have eternal life.**"

Faith Connection

Even though **Jesus was innocent**, the people **chose to release Barabbas** instead of Him. He was **taken to Golgotha**, where He **was nailed to a cross and died** for our sins. Pilate placed a sign on His cross that read, "**The King of the Jews**"—and He truly is **our King, who died to save us**.

Discuss It

Why do you think Jesus **chose to die**, even though He was innocent? How does knowing **Jesus took our punishment** change the way we follow Him?

Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank You for **dying for my sins** so I can be forgiven. Help me to **trust You, love You, and live for You every day**. Amen.

Live It

This week, take time to **thank Jesus for His sacrifice**. Read **Luke 23** and remember that **Jesus' love for us is so great that He gave His life** to save us!

Jesus' Death

Bible Verse

"The Roman officer and the other soldiers at the crucifixion were terrified by the earthquake and all that had happened. They said, 'This man truly was the Son of God!'" – Matthew 27:54 (NLT)

Story

Mia and her family were outside when a **huge thunderstorm** rolled in. The sky turned dark, and loud thunder shook the house. "That was powerful!" Mia said, feeling small compared to the storm.

That night, during family devotions, Mia's dad read about what happened when **Jesus died on the cross**:

- **The sun became dark for three hours, and an earthquake shook the land** (Matthew 27:45, 51).
- **The Roman officer in charge of Jesus' execution saw these signs and declared, "This man truly was the Son of God!"** (Matthew 27:54).
- **Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus buried Jesus in a tomb** (John 19:38).

Mia tilted her head. "So, even nature reacted when Jesus died?"

"Yes!" Mom said. "The **darkness and earthquake** showed how **serious and powerful** His death was. It wasn't just a normal event—it was the moment **Jesus gave His life to save the world.**"

Dad added, "Even the **Roman officer**, who wasn't a follower of Jesus, realized the truth. **He saw what happened and believed Jesus really was the Son of God.**"

Mia thought for a moment. "And after Jesus died, **His friends buried Him?**"

"Yes," Mom said. "**Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus**, two religious leaders who followed Jesus in secret, **took a stand and buried Him in a tomb.**"

Mia smiled. "So even in sadness, some people **chose to believe and follow Jesus?**"

"Exactly," Dad said. "Even though Jesus died, **God's plan was still at work!**"

Faith Connection

When Jesus **died on the cross**, the **sun became dark for three hours**, and an **earthquake shook the land**. A **Roman officer realized the truth** and declared, "**This man truly was the Son of God!**" Jesus' body was **buried by Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus**. Even in sadness, **God's plan was still unfolding!**

Discuss It Why do you think the **earthquake and darkness** happened when Jesus died? How did the **Roman officer's words** show that people were starting to believe in Jesus?

Prayer Dear Jesus, thank You for **Your sacrifice on the cross**. Help me to always remember that **You are the Son of God**, and that even in sadness, **Your plan is at work**. Amen.

Live It This week, take time to **thank Jesus for His sacrifice**. Read **Matthew 27:45-54** and think about how **God's power was shown, even in Jesus' death**.

Faith, Redemption, Justification

Bible Verse

"Therefore, since we have been made right in God's sight by faith, we have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us." – Romans 5:1 NLT

Story

Noah accidentally **broke his friend's toy** while they were playing. He felt awful and said, "I'll save my money and buy a new one." But his friend's mom smiled and said, "It's okay, I already replaced it. You don't have to pay for it."

That night, during family devotions, Noah's dad read **Romans 5:1**, which talks about **being justified by faith**.

- **Faith is complete trust in God, believing that He keeps His promises.**
- **Redemption means Jesus paid the price for our salvation—we could never do it on our own.**
- **Justification means that when we accept Jesus, God sees us as if we had never sinned.**

Noah tilted his head. "So, **I didn't have to pay for the broken toy** because someone else already did?"

"Yes!" Mom said. "That's like **redemption—Jesus paid for our sins** when He died on the cross."

Dad continued, "And when we **put our faith in Jesus**, we are **justified**—which means **God looks at us as if we had never sinned.**"

Noah smiled. "So, **I just have to trust Jesus**, and He makes me **right with God?**"

"Exactly," Mom said. "It's **not about earning salvation**—it's a **free gift through Jesus.**"

Faith Connection

Faith means **completely trusting God**. **Redemption** is the price **Jesus paid for our salvation**, and **justification** means that when we **accept Jesus, God sees us as if we had never sinned**. **We don't have to earn salvation—Jesus already paid for it!**

Discuss It

Why is **faith in God's promises** so important? How does it make you feel knowing that **Jesus paid for your sins, and God sees you as forgiven?**

Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank You for **paying the price for my sins**. Help me to **trust You completely** and remember that **because of You, I am forgiven**. Amen.

Live It

This week, **think about what it means to have faith in Jesus**. Read **Romans 5:1** and remember that **because of Jesus, we are made right with God!**

Unchanging Grace

Bible Verse

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever." – Hebrews 13:8 (NLT)

Story

Mia loved visiting her grandparents' house. No matter how much time passed, **their home always felt warm, welcoming, and full of love.** "I like that some things never change," she said.

That night, during family devotions, Mia's dad read about how **God showed John a vision of the last days while he was on the isle of Patmos.** "Even when the world changes, **God remains the same,**" he said.

Mia tilted her head. "So, even though John saw **big changes coming,** God was still in control?"

"Yes!" Mom said. "**The Bible says God is immutable, which means He never changes.** His love, power, and promises are always the same."

Dad added, "And one of the greatest things about God is His **grace. Grace is God's gift of love and forgiveness—it's not something we can earn or deserve.**"

Mia grinned. "So, even though **everything around us changes, God's love never does?**"

"Exactly," Dad said. "And because of **His grace,** we can **trust Him no matter what happens.**"

Faith Connection

While on **Patmos, God gave John a vision** about the **last days,** but even in uncertain times, **God never changes.** He is **immutable,** meaning **He is always the same.** His **grace** is a **gift of love and forgiveness**—not something we earn. **No matter what happens, we can trust in God's unchanging love!**

Discuss It

Why do you think it's important that **God never changes?** How does knowing that **grace is a gift** make you feel about God's love?

Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank You for **never changing** and always loving me. Help me to **trust in Your grace** and remember that **You are in control no matter what happens.** Amen.

Live It

This week, take time to **thank God for His unchanging love.** When you notice something changing around you, remember **God's promises always stay the same!**

Jesus' Resurrection

Bible Verse

"He isn't here! He is risen from the dead, just as he said would happen." – Matthew 28:6 (NLT)

Story Mia and her brother, Noah, were playing hide-and-seek. When Mia couldn't find Noah, she checked the closet where she thought he was hiding. "He's not here!" she called out. Noah laughed from behind the couch.

That night, during family devotions, Mia's dad read about the morning **Jesus rose from the dead.**

- **An angel rolled away the stone, and when the women arrived at the tomb, they saw that Jesus was not there!** (Matthew 28:2-6).
- **Mary Magdalene was the first person to see Jesus alive after His resurrection** (John 20:14-16).
- **Thomas doubted at first, saying he wouldn't believe unless he saw Jesus' wounds** (John 20:24-29).

Mia tilted her head. "So, just like I said 'He's not here' when I couldn't find Noah, the angel said '**Jesus isn't here—He is risen!**'"

"Yes!" Mom said. "The angel **rolled away the stone** to show that Jesus **wasn't in the tomb—He was alive!**"

Dad continued, "And **Mary Magdalene was the first person to see Jesus** after He rose from the dead. Jesus loved and honored her by letting her **be the first to tell others the good news.**"

Noah frowned. "But Thomas didn't believe it at first?"

"No," Mom said. "He wanted **proof.** But when Jesus appeared and showed him His hands and side, Thomas believed."

Noah grinned. "So, Jesus is patient with us even when we **have doubts?**"

"Yes!" Dad said. "Jesus told Thomas, '**Blessed are those who believe without seeing.**' That includes us today—we believe because of the truth in God's Word."

Faith Connection An angel rolled away the stone to show that **Jesus was alive.**

- **Mary Magdalene was the first to see Jesus after His resurrection.**
- **Thomas doubted at first** but believed when Jesus showed him proof.

Even today, we **believe in Jesus' resurrection,** trusting God's Word and knowing that **He is alive forever!**

Discuss It Why do you think Jesus chose **Mary Magdalene** to be the first person to see Him alive? How does Thomas' story help us when we **struggle with doubt?**

Prayer Dear Jesus, thank You for **rising from the dead** and showing us Your power over sin and death. Help me to **believe and trust in You** even when I don't see everything clearly. Amen.

Live It This week, **tell someone the story of Jesus' resurrection.** Remember that even when we **have doubts,** we can **trust God's** and believe that **Jesus is alive!**

Ascension and Early Church

Bible Verse

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere— in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. After saying this, he was taken up into a cloud while they were watching, ..." – Acts 1:8-9 (NLT)

Story

Liam's grandparents came to visit for two weeks. They played games, told stories, and had so much fun. But when it was time for them to leave, Liam felt sad. "I don't want you to go," he said.

His grandpa smiled. "Don't worry, we'll see each other again, and we'll always be thinking about you!"

That night, during family devotions, Liam's dad read about **Jesus' ascension**.

For forty days after His death, Jesus walked and talked with His disciples Acts 1:3.

- **Then Jesus was taken up into a cloud until they could no longer see Him** (Acts 1:9).
- **The disciples chose Matthias to replace Judas as an apostle** (Acts 1:26).
- **About 120 believers gathered in an upstairs room, waiting for the Holy Spirit.**
Liam tilted his head. "So, after Jesus rose from the dead, He **stayed for forty days** before going back to heaven?"

"Yes," Mom said. "He **taught His disciples** about **God's kingdom** and prepared them for what was coming next."

Dad continued, "Then Jesus **ascended into heaven**, but He promised to send the **Holy Spirit** to help them."

Liam smiled. "And they **waited together in an upstairs room** for the **Holy Spirit** to come?"

"Yes!" Mom said. "And while they were waiting, they **chose Matthias** to replace Judas as an apostle. **God was preparing them** for the start of the Church!"

Faith Connection For **forty days**, Jesus **walked and talked** with His disciples before **ascending into heaven**. His followers **waited in an upstairs room for the Holy Spirit**, and **Matthias was chosen** to replace Judas. **Even though Jesus left, He gave His followers hope—He would send the Holy Spirit to help them!**

Discuss It Why do you think Jesus **stayed forty days** before returning to heaven? How does knowing that Jesus **sent the Holy Spirit** help us today?

Prayer Dear Jesus, thank You for **teaching Your disciples** before You returned to heaven. Help me to **trust Your plan** and remember that **You are always with me** through the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Live It This week, **read Acts 1** and think about how the **disciples waited for the Holy Spirit**. Just like they trusted God's timing, **pray and ask God to help you trust Him in every part of your life!**

16 - (271-288)

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.

Unchanging Grace (Hebrews 13:8)

- 271: On the isle of Patmos, God showed John what would happen in the last days.
- 281: When we say that God is immutable, it means He does not change and is always the same.
- 276: Grace is God's gift of love and forgiveness, not something we earn or deserve.

Faith, Redemption, Justification (Romans 5:1)

- 273: Faith is belief and complete trust in God.
- 277: Redemption is the price Jesus paid for our salvation.
- 287: Justification means that when we accept Jesus as our Savior, God accepts us as though we had not sinned.

Sin, Repentance, Sanctification (Romans 6:22)

- 275: Sin is refusing to do God's will as revealed by His Word and His Spirit.
- 286: Repentance means having a change of mind, heart, and direction.
- 288: Sanctification is being separated from sin and set apart to serve God

Prayer, Praise, and Worship (Psalm 34:3)

- 283: Prayer is talking with God.
- 284: Praise is expressing our love to God for all He is and all He has done.
- 285: Worship is exalting and adoring God for who He is.

Apostles, Prophets, and Angels (2 Peter 1:21)

- 272: An apostle is a special messenger sent by God.
- 279: A prophet is a person chosen by God to speak for Him in a special way through the power of the Holy Spirit.
- 280: Angels are spiritual beings created by God.

Disciples, Doctrine, and Death (John 8:31)

- 282: A disciple is a learner and follower of Jesus.
- 274: Doctrine is teaching from the Bible.
- 278: Death is the separation of the body and the soul.

God Loved Us First

Bible Verse

"We love each other because He loved us first." – 1 John 4:19 (NLT)

Story

Noah was riding his **bike** when his dad stopped him. "You forgot your **helmet!**" his dad said. "It protects your head and keeps you safe."

That night, during family devotions, Noah's dad read about **the Helmet of Salvation from Ephesians 6**.

"The Bible says that just like a helmet **protects our head, salvation protects our minds and hearts**. When we know that **Jesus has saved us**, we don't have to be afraid or believe the devil's lies."

Noah tilted his head. "So, salvation is like my **bike helmet—it keeps me safe and reminds me I belong to God?**"

"Yes!" Mom said. "And **do you know why we love God and follow Him? Because He first loved us!**"

Dad continued, "We don't love God **to earn His love—we love Him because He already loved us first.**"

Noah smiled. "So, salvation **protects me**, and God's love **is the reason I love Him back?**"

"Exactly," Dad said. "When we **trust in Jesus**, we are **safe in His love**, and nothing can take that away!"

Faith Connection

The **Helmet of Salvation** protects our **hearts and minds**, reminding us that **Jesus has saved us**. We don't have to **be afraid or believe lies** because **we belong to God**. We love God **not because we have to, but because He loved us first!**

Discuss It

Why do you think **salvation is compared to a helmet?** How does knowing that **God loved us first** help us love Him more?

Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank You for giving me **the Helmet of Salvation** to protect my heart and mind. Help me to **remember Your love** and to follow You with all my heart. Amen.

Live It

This week, **thank God for His love** and **memorize 1 John 4:19**. Every time you see a **helmet**, remember that **salvation keeps you safe in God's love!**

The Day of Pentecost

Bible Verse

"Peter replied, 'Each of you must repent of your sins and turn to God...Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.'" – Acts 2:38 (NLT)

Story

Emma's class was having a **special field day**. Before they started the games, the teacher handed out **team-colored jerseys** to help everyone know **who was on their team**. "Now, you are ready to play!" the teacher said.

That night, during family devotions, Emma's dad read about **the Day of Pentecost in Acts 2**.

- **On the Day of Pentecost, God gave the Church the gift of the Holy Spirit**, filling them with power (Acts 2:1-4).
- **The prophet Joel had foretold this moment, saying that God would pour out His Spirit on all people** (Joel 2:28).
- **After Peter preached, about 3,000 people were saved!** (Acts 2:41).

Emma tilted her head. "So, the Holy Spirit was like the **jerseys we got at field day—**He showed that people **belonged to Jesus and were ready to do His work?**"

"Yes!" Mom said. "The **Holy Spirit filled the believers**, giving them **boldness, power, and the ability to speak in different languages** so everyone could hear about Jesus."

Dad continued, "And do you know what's amazing? **Peter preached with power, and 3,000 people were saved!**"

Emma grinned. "So, the Holy Spirit **helped Peter be bold** and helped people **understand the truth about Jesus?**"

"Exactly!" Mom said. "And the prophet **Joel had predicted this moment**, proving that it was **all part of God's plan.**"

Faith Connection

On the Day of Pentecost, God gave the Church the Holy Spirit, filling believers with **boldness and power**. **The prophet Joel foretold this moment**, saying that **God would pour out His Spirit on all people**. **Peter preached**, and **about 3,000 people were saved**, showing the **Holy Spirit's power to change lives**. **God still gives us His Spirit today**, helping us **live for Him and share the Good News!**

Discuss It

Why do you think the **Holy Spirit was given on Pentecost?** How does the **Holy Spirit help us** share about Jesus today?

Prayer Dear Jesus, thank You for sending the **Holy Spirit** to fill us with **power and boldness**. Help me to **follow You, share Your love, and trust the Holy Spirit's guidance** every day. Amen.

Live It This week, **pray and ask God to fill you with the Holy Spirit**. Look for a way to **share Jesus' love with someone**, just like Peter did on Pentecost!

Responsibility of the Church

Bible Verse

"...I don't have any silver or gold for you. But I'll give you what I have. In the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, get up and walk!" – Acts 3:6 (NLT)

Story

Noah saw a boy at school who had **lost his lunch money**. He checked his pockets but didn't have any money to give. Instead, he sat with the boy, shared his lunch, and encouraged him. Later, the boy smiled and said, "Thanks for helping me!" That night, during family devotions, Noah's dad read about **Peter and the lame man at the temple gate** (Acts 3).

- **Peter told the man, "I don't have silver or gold, but I'll give you what I have." Then, in Jesus' name, the man was healed!**

Noah tilted his head. "So, Peter didn't have money, but he gave something even better?"

"Yes!" Mom said. "**Peter had faith in Jesus' name, and that was more powerful than money.**"

Dad continued, "But the book of Acts also gives a warning. **Ananias and Sapphira lied to the Holy Spirit about their offering**, and it cost them their lives (Acts 5)."

Noah frowned. "What did they lie about?"

Mom explained, "They **pretended** to give all their money to God, but they kept some for themselves. Their sin wasn't about the money—it was **lying to God.**"

Noah nodded. "So, God wants us to **be truthful and give what we can, even if it's not money?**"

"Exactly," Dad said. "**God cares about our honesty and our faith.**"

Faith Connection

- **Peter healed a lame man** at the temple **through the power of Jesus' name**, showing that **faith is more valuable than money**.
- **Ananias and Sapphira lied to the Holy Spirit**, teaching us that **God values honesty more than appearances**.
- God wants us to **trust in His power** and **live with truth in our hearts**.

Discuss It

Why do you think Peter **offered healing instead of money** to the lame man? Why is it important to **be honest with God** and others?

Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank You for **Your power that is greater than anything money can buy**. Help me to **trust You, give what I can, and always be truthful**. Amen.

Live It

This week, **find a way to give to someone**—whether **sharing a kind word, helping a friend, or giving a small gift**. Also, remember to **always be honest, even when it's hard**.

Joy and Leadership

Bible Verse

"*Always be joyful.*" – 1 Thessalonians 5:16 (NLT)

Story

Mia's family was on a long road trip. After hours in the car, Mia started to complain. "I'm tired of sitting!" she groaned.

Her mom smiled. "Even though this trip is long, **we can choose to be joyful!** Let's play a game or think about the fun we'll have when we arrive."

That night, during family devotions, Mia's dad read **1 Thessalonians 5:16**, where **Paul told Christians to rejoice always**.

Mia tilted her head. "Even when things are hard?"

"Yes!" Mom said. "Paul faced **a lot of struggles**, but he still encouraged believers to **choose joy in every situation.**"

Dad continued, "**Paul also helped a young pastor named Timothy by writing him two letters** full of advice on **leading the Church.**"

Mia smiled. "So, Paul wasn't just joyful—he **taught others how to follow Jesus too?**"

"Exactly," Dad said. "And did you know **Paul even led a slave named Onesimus to Jesus while he was in prison?**"

Mia's eyes widened. "So, even in prison, Paul **shared the Good News?**"

"Yes!" Mom said. "No matter where he was, Paul **chose joy, encouraged others, and led people to Jesus.**"

Faith Connection

Paul taught that Christians should **always rejoice**, even in difficult times. He wrote **two letters to Timothy**, helping him **grow as a pastor**. Even while in prison, Paul **led Onesimus, a slave, to the Lord**. No matter where we are, **we can choose joy, encourage others, and share Jesus!**

Discuss It

Why do you think **Paul was able to rejoice** even in tough times? How can we be like **Paul, Timothy, and Onesimus** by sharing Jesus wherever we are?

Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank You for **teaching me to rejoice always**. Help me to **encourage others** like Paul did and to **share Your love** no matter where I am. Amen.

Live It

This week, **practice choosing joy**—even when things don't go your way. Also, **encourage someone** like Paul encouraged Timothy and **find a way to share Jesus** with a friend or family member.

Shield and Sword

Bible Verse

"In addition to all of these, hold up the shield of faith to stop the fiery arrows of the devil." – Ephesians 6:16 (NLT)

Story

Noah and his friends were playing a **water balloon fight** in the backyard. Noah grabbed a **big umbrella** to shield himself. "This keeps me from getting soaked!" he laughed as the balloons bounced off.

That night, during family devotions, Noah's dad read about the **Shield of Faith**.

"The Bible says **that faith is like a shield that protects us from the devil's fiery arrows**—things like doubt, fear, and lies."

Noah tilted his head. "So, just like my umbrella **blocked the water balloons**, faith **blocks the enemy's attacks**?"

"Yes!" Mom said. "When we **trust God**, we are protected from the **things that try to pull us away from Him**."

Dad continued, "And do you know what our **weapon** is? **The Sword of the Spirit—the Word of God!**"

Noah's eyes widened. "So, the **Bible is like a sword** that helps us **fight against lies and temptation**?"

"Exactly!" Mom said. "When Jesus was tempted in the wilderness, **He used God's Word to defeat the devil**. We can do the same!"

Noah grinned. "So, our **faith shields us**, and **God's Word is our weapon**?"

"Yes!" Dad said. "With **faith and Scripture**, we can **stand strong in any battle!**"

Faith Connection

The **Shield of Faith** protects us from the **devil's fiery arrows**, like doubt, fear, and temptation. The **Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God**, is our **weapon against lies and sin**. When we **trust in God and know His Word**, we are fully prepared to **stand strong in our faith!**

Discuss It

Why do you think **faith is compared to a shield**? How can using **God's Word as a sword** help us when we face temptation?

Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank You for giving me the **Shield of Faith** to protect me and the **Sword of the Spirit** to help me fight against sin. Help me to **trust You and know Your Word** so I can stand strong in my faith. Amen.

Live It This week, **memorize a Bible verse** that can help you **fight against temptation**, just like Jesus did. Also, think of one way you can **trust God more** and use your **Shield of Faith** when you feel doubt or fear.

14 - (235-252)

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.

Suffering for Jesus (Acts 5:41)

- 235: The apostles rejoiced after being beaten for preaching the gospel because they were counted worthy to suffer disgrace for the name of Jesus.
- 236: Stephen was the first person to be martyred for being a Christian.
- 237: According to church history, John was the only one of the twelve apostles not martyred for his faith in the risen Christ.

Saul's Conversion (Acts 9:3)

- 238: Saul of Tarsus went to Damascus to arrest Christians.
- 239: Near Damascus, Jesus appeared to Saul in a light from heaven, and Saul accepted Him as Lord.

Early Church Miracles (James 5:16)

- 240: Tabitha (Dorcas) was raised from the dead in answer to Peter's prayer.
- 244: Peter escaped from prison the night before Herod planned to kill him when an angel opened the prison for him.
- 246: At Lystra, Paul was stoned and left for dead, but God healed him.

Gentiles Included (Acts 10:44)

- 241: Cornelius, a Roman officer, sent for Peter to come and preach to him.
- 242: While Peter was preaching at Cornelius's house, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who were listening to the message.
- 243: Jesus' followers were first called "Christians" in the city of Antioch.

Paul's Journeys (2 Corinthians 5:20)

- 245: Barnabas helped Paul on his first missionary journey.
- 247: Paul knew he was supposed to preach in Macedonia because God showed him a vision of a man calling for help.
- 248: Silas and Timothy were Paul's chief helpers on his second missionary journey.

People in the Early Church (Acts 16:31)

- 249: Luke wrote the Book of Acts.
- 250: Luke, a doctor.
- 252: Aquila and Priscilla, tentmakers, assisted Paul at Corinth.
- 251: QQ Paul told the Philippian jailer, "Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved, along with everyone in your household."

Suffering for Jesus

Bible Verse

"The apostles left the high council rejoicing that God had counted them worthy to suffer disgrace for the name of Jesus." – Acts 5:41 (NLT)

Story

Mia's soccer team lost their championship game. Even though they played their best, the other team won. Mia expected her coach to be upset, but instead, he smiled and said, "You worked hard and gave your best—that's what really matters." That night, during family devotions, Mia's dad read about **the apostles being beaten for preaching about Jesus. Instead of being angry or afraid, they rejoiced because they were counted worthy to suffer for Jesus.**

Mia tilted her head. "Why would they be happy about suffering?"

"Because they knew they were doing the right thing," Mom said. "They were sharing the truth about Jesus, and even though it was hard, they **trusted God.**" Dad continued, "One of Jesus' followers, **Stephen, was the first person to die for his faith.** When he preached about Jesus, angry people threw stones at him, but before he died, he saw **a vision of Jesus standing in heaven.**"

Mia's eyes widened. "So, even when Stephen was in danger, **he knew Jesus was with him?**"

"Yes," Mom said. "And according to church history, **John was the only one of the twelve apostles who wasn't killed for his faith.** Even though he suffered too, **he kept sharing about Jesus until the end of his life.**"

Mia smiled. "So, the apostles weren't afraid to suffer because they knew **Jesus was worth it?**"

"Exactly," Dad said. "Even today, some people still suffer for following Jesus, but **God gives them strength, just like He did for the apostles.**"

Faith Connection The apostles rejoiced even after being beaten, knowing that suffering for Jesus was an honor. **Stephen was the first Christian martyr**, and even as he died, he **saw Jesus waiting for him.** According to church history, **John was the only apostle who wasn't martyred**, but he still suffered for his faith. **God gives His followers strength to stand for Him, no matter what.**

Discuss It Why do you think the apostles **rejoiced instead of complaining** after they suffered? How does knowing that **Jesus is with us in hard times** help us be brave?

Prayer Thank You for giving me **courage to follow You**, even when it's hard. Help me to **stand strong in my faith** like the apostles and trust **You are always with me.**

Live It This week, when something feels **difficult or unfair**, **thank Jesus for being with you**—just like He was with the apostles and Stephen. Pray for **Christians around the world** who may be facing challenges for their faith.

Armor of God

Bible Verse

"Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil." – Ephesians 6:11 (NLT)

Story

Liam was excited for his soccer game, but before running onto the field, his coach stopped him. "You need your **shin guards and cleats**," the coach said. "They protect you and help you play your best."

That night, during family devotions, Liam's dad read about the **Armor of God** from **Ephesians 6.**

"The Bible says that just like soccer players need gear, **Christians need spiritual armor to stand strong against the devil's attacks.**"

Liam tilted his head. "So, we don't wear actual armor—we wear **spiritual armor?**"

"Yes!" Mom said. "The **Belt of Truth helps us stand on what is right and truth.**"

Dad continued, "The **Body Armor of Righteousness protects our hearts. Righteousness means living in a way that pleases God.**"

Liam smiled. "And what about our feet?"

Mom said, "**Our feet are fitted with the peace that comes from the Good News.** That means we **stand firm in God's love and share Jesus with others.**"

Liam thought for a moment. "So, just like I need my **gear to play soccer**, I need **God's armor to stand strong in my faith?**"

"Exactly," Dad said. "And **each piece of armor protects us and helps us live for Jesus!**"

Faith

Connection

We need the **Armor of God** to **stand strong against the enemy.** The **Belt of Truth** helps us **know what is right**, the **Body Armor of Righteousness** protects our hearts, and our **feet are fitted with the peace of the Good News** so we can **stand firm and share Jesus.** Just like a soldier needs armor for battle, **we need spiritual armor every day!**

Discuss It Why do you think **truth and righteousness** are so important in our armor? How does having **peace from the Good News** help us stand firm?

Prayer Dear Jesus, thank You for giving me **Your armor** to help me **stand strong in my faith.** Help me to **live in truth, protect my heart with righteousness, and walk in peace** as I share Your love with others. Amen.

Live It This week, memorize Ephesians 6:11 and think about how each piece of armor helps you stay strong in your faith. Look for ways to speak truth, live righteously, and share God's peace with others!

Sin and Salvation

Bible Verse

"For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord." – Romans 6:23 (NLT)

Story

Noah was playing outside when he saw a sign **'No Running Near the Pool.'** At first, he thought, *That rule is no fun!* But then, he saw someone slip because they ignored the sign. "Oh," he realized, "the rule was there to **keep us safe!**"

That night, during family devotions, Noah's dad read about how **God gave the Law to show us how sinful we are.** The rules in the Bible, like the **Ten Commandments,** help us see that we **all fall short** of God's perfect standard.

Noah tilted his head. "So, just like the **pool rule** showed me what was dangerous, **God's Law shows us what is sinful?**"

"Yes!" Mom said. "And the Bible also tells us that **sin has a penalty**—it leads to **death and separation from God.**"

Dad continued, "But here's the good news—**God made a way for us to be saved!** Instead of letting sin separate us forever, **Jesus died on the cross for our sins** so that we could **have eternal life.**"

Noah's eyes widened. "So, Jesus **took the punishment** that we deserved?"

"Exactly," Mom said. "We couldn't **save ourselves,** so Jesus did it for us. And now, instead of **death,** God offers us **eternal life through Jesus.**"

Noah smiled. "So, the **Law shows us our sin,** but **Jesus shows us God's love?**"

"Yes!" Dad said. "That's why we follow Jesus—not to be **perfect,** but because **He saved us and loves us.**"

Faith Connection

God gave the **Law to show us how sinful we are** and to help us see that we **can't be perfect on our own.** The **penalty for sin is death,** but **Jesus died on the cross for our sins,** making a way for us to have **eternal life.** We don't follow Jesus to try to be perfect—we follow Him because **He already saved us!**

Discuss It

Why do you think God gave **rules (the Law) to help us see our sin?** How does knowing that **Jesus took our punishment** change the way we live?

Prayer Dear Jesus, thank You for dying on the cross **to save me from my sins.** Help me to **follow You with all my heart** and to share **Your love and forgiveness with others.** Amen.

Live It This week, **thank Jesus for His sacrifice** by reading **John 3:16** and thinking about how much **God loves you.** Also, share with a friend or family member why **Jesus' death on the cross is such good news!**

Saul's Conversion

Bible Verse

"As he was approaching Damascus on this mission, a light from heaven suddenly shone down around him." – Acts 9:3 (NLT)

Story

Noah was playing a video game where he had to choose between **two paths.** At first, he followed the wrong path and kept losing. Then he realized, *I need to go the right way if I want to win!*

That night, during family devotions, Noah's dad read about **Saul of Tarsus. Saul was on his way to Damascus to arrest Christians** because he thought they were wrong. But on the way, **a bright light from heaven flashed around him, and Jesus spoke to him.**

Noah tilted his head. "So, Saul was **going the wrong way in life,** and Jesus **stopped him and showed him the truth?**"

"Yes!" Mom said. "At first, Saul thought he was doing the right thing. But when **Jesus appeared to him,** he realized he was **completely wrong.**"

Dad continued, "That day, **Saul's life changed forever.** He **accepted Jesus as Lord,** and instead of arresting Christians, he became one of the **greatest preachers of the gospel!**"

Noah grinned. "So, it's never too late for someone to **change and follow Jesus?**"

"Exactly," Mom said. "No matter **how lost** someone is, **Jesus can turn their life around.**"

Faith Connection

Saul was **on his way to arrest Christians** when **Jesus appeared to him in a bright light.** That moment changed everything—Saul accepted Jesus as Lord and became a **new person in Christ.** No matter what someone has done, **Jesus can change their heart and give them a new purpose!**

Discuss It

Why do you think Jesus **chose to appear to Saul in such a powerful way?** How does Saul's story show that **God can change anyone's heart?**

Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank You for **turning lives around** and showing us the truth. Help me to **follow You with all my heart,** and remind me that **no one is too far from Your love.** Amen.

Live It

This week, think of someone who **needs to know about Jesus.** **Pray for them** and ask God to help you **be a light** that points them toward Him—just like Jesus led **Saul to the truth!**

Early Church Miracles

Bible Verse

"...The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results." – James 5:16 (NLT)

Story Emma and her family were watching a rescue show on TV. She saw firefighters **save a trapped dog**, and doctors **help a sick child get better**. "It's amazing how people can be rescued and healed!" she said.

That night, during family devotions, Emma's dad read about **three amazing rescues in the Bible**:

- **Tabitha (Dorcas) was raised from the dead when Peter prayed.**(Acts 9:36-42).
- **Peter escaped from prison when an angel came, opened the doors, and led him out the night before he was supposed to be executed** (Acts 12:6-11).
- **Paul was stoned and left for dead in Lystra, but God healed him, and he got up and kept preaching** (Acts 14:19-20).

Emma tilted her head. "God can heal people and even **set them free from prison**?" "Yes!" Mom said. "When Peter **prayed for Tabitha**, she came back to life, showing that **God's power is stronger than death**."

Dad continued, "And when Peter was in **prison**, the believers were **praying for him**, and **God sent an angel to rescue him!**"

Emma's eyes widened. "And Paul **got back up after being stoned**? That's a miracle!"

"Yes," Mom said. "No matter what happened, Paul **kept sharing about Jesus** because he trusted **God's power to heal and protect him**."

Emma smiled. "So, God still **rescues and heals people today**?"

"Exactly," Dad said. "**Prayer is powerful**, and God is always with us, no matter what we go through."

Faith Connection God showed His power in amazing ways—**Tabitha was raised from the dead, Peter was rescued from prison, and Paul was healed after being stoned**. These stories remind us that **God hears our prayers, has the power to rescue and heal, and is always in control!**

Discuss It Why do you think **prayer was important in these miracles**? How does knowing that **God can heal and rescue** help us when we go through hard times?

Prayer Dear Jesus, thank You for Your **power to heal and rescue**. Help me to **trust You no matter what happens** and to pray for others just like Peter did. Amen.

Live It This week, **pray for someone who is sick or going through a hard time**. Remember that **God hears our prayers** and can bring healing and help in amazing ways!

Paul and Ephesians

Bible Verse

"Children, obey your parents because you belong to the Lord, for this is the right thing to do." – Ephesians 6:1 (NLT)

Story

Mia and her friends loved collecting **stickers**, but one day, she realized she had **some stickers with rude sayings** on them. "These don't fit who I want to be," she thought, and she threw them away.

That night, during family devotions, Mia's dad read **about the people of Ephesus who had practiced witchcraft before they became Christians. When they turned to God, they burned their books of witchcraft to show they were fully leaving their old life behind**.

Mia tilted her head. "So, just like I got rid of my stickers because they weren't good, they got rid of their books because they weren't honoring God?"

"Yes!" Mom said. "They wanted to **follow Jesus completely**."

Dad continued, "Paul also wrote to the **Ephesians and told them how to live for Jesus. He commanded children to obey their parents because it pleases God and leads to blessings**."

Mia grinned. "So, when I **listen to my parents**, I'm also **obeying God**?"

"Exactly," Mom said. "Paul also reminded everyone that **God treats all people equally. No one is more important than another—we are all equal before God**."

Mia smiled. "So, when we **follow Jesus**, we **leave behind wrong things, obey our parents, and treat everyone with kindness**?"

"Yes!" Dad said. "That's how we **live for God** every day."

Faith Connection

The **people of Ephesus** showed they **truly followed Jesus** by **burning their books of witchcraft**. Paul reminded **children to obey their parents** and taught that **God sees all people as equal. Living for God means making right choices, honoring our parents, and treating others with fairness and love**.

Discuss It

Why do you think the **Ephesians burned their books** instead of just putting them away? How does knowing that **God treats everyone equally** help us love and respect others?

Prayer Help me to **live for You every day**. Teach me to **obey my parents, treat others with kindness, and remove anything in my life that doesn't honor You**.

Live It This week, **think about something in your life that doesn't honor God**—a bad habit, unkind words, or something that distracts you from Him. **Pray and ask God to help you let go of it** and grow closer to Him!

15 - (253-270)

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.

Paul and Ephesians (Ephesians 6:1)

- 253: The people of Ephesus showed their turning to God by burning their books of witchcraft.
- 254: Paul commands children to obey their parents in Ephesians.
- 255: God treats all people equally, as all are equal before Him.

Sin and Salvation (Romans 6:23)

- 256: God gave the Law to show us how sinful we are.
- 257: QQ The penalty of sin is death, but God offers eternal life through Jesus Christ.
- 258: Jesus died on the Cross for our sins.

Armor of God (Ephesians 6:11)

- 259: We wear all of the armor of God to resist the attacks of the devil.
- 260: The belt in the Christian's armor is truth.
- 261: The body armor in the Christian's armor is God's righteousness.
- 262: The feet in the Christian's armor are fitted with the peace that comes from the Good News.

Shield and Sword (Ephesians 6:16)

- 263: The shield in the Christian's armor is faith.
- 265: The shield of faith protects us from the devil's fiery arrows.
- 266: The Spirit's sword is the Word of God.

Joy and Leadership (1 Thessalonians 5:16)

- 267: Christians should rejoice always.
- 268: Paul wrote two letters to Timothy, a young pastor.
- 269: Paul won Onesimus, a slave, to the Lord while in prison.

God Loved Us First (1 John 4:19)

- 264: The helmet in the Christian's armor is salvation.
- 270: We love God because He first loved us.

Gentiles Included

Bible Verse

"...The Holy Spirit fell upon all who were listening to the message." – Acts 10:44

Story

Noah was playing soccer when a new kid joined the team. Some of the players weren't sure if they wanted him there, but Noah said, "Everyone deserves a chance to play." By the end of the game, they were all good friends.

That night, during family devotions, Noah's dad read about **Cornelius, a Roman officer. Even though Cornelius wasn't Jewish, he loved God and wanted to learn more about Jesus. One day, God told him to send for Peter**, one of Jesus' disciples.

When **Peter arrived, he preached the gospel to Cornelius and his household.**

While he was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon everyone listening! This amazed Peter because, before this, many thought that only Jews could receive the Holy Spirit. But now, it was clear—**Jesus came for everyone!**

Noah tilted his head. "So, God was showing Peter that **anyone can follow Jesus, no matter who they are?**"

"Yes!" Mom said. "After that, Jesus' followers kept spreading the Good News. **In the city of Antioch, they were first called 'Christians'**—meaning 'followers of Christ.'"

Noah grinned. "So, just like I welcomed the new kid to our soccer team, **Jesus welcomes everyone into His family?**"

"Exactly," Dad said. "No matter where someone is from, **Jesus came to save them.**"

Faith Connection

Cornelius, a **Roman officer**, wanted to learn about Jesus, so he **sent for Peter to come preach**. While Peter was speaking, **the Holy Spirit fell upon everyone listening**, showing that **salvation is for all people**. Later, in **Antioch, Jesus' followers were first called 'Christians'**, meaning they belonged to Christ. **No matter where someone comes from, Jesus welcomes them into His family!**

Discuss It

Why do you think **God wanted Peter to preach to Cornelius?** What does it mean to be called a **Christian?**

Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank You for **loving all people and making a way for everyone to follow You**. Help me to **welcome others and share Your love** with everyone I meet. Amen.

Live It This week, **be a friend to someone new**, just like Jesus welcomes everyone into His family. Think about one way you can **share the love of Jesus** with someone who doesn't know Him yet!

Paul's Journeys

Bible Verse

"So we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us...." – 2 Corinthians 5:20 (NLT)

Story

Mia's school was holding a **food drive** to help families in need. The teacher asked for volunteers to **deliver food to different neighborhoods**. Mia and her friend Noah raised their hands. "We'll go!" they said.

That night, during family devotions, Mia's dad read about **Paul's missionary journeys** and how he traveled to **different places to share the Good News about Jesus**.

- **Barnabas helped Paul on his first missionary journey**, encouraging him.
- **On Paul's second journey, God showed him a vision of a man from Macedonia asking for help**. Paul knew that God was calling him to **preach there**. **Silas and Timothy became Paul's main helpers on this journey**.

Mia tilted her head. "So, just like my school sent volunteers to **help families**, God sent Paul and his friends to **help people know Jesus**?"

"Yes!" Mom said. "Paul and his team traveled to **many places** so more people could hear about **salvation through Jesus**."

Dad added, "And Paul knew where to go because **God gave him a vision**, showing him that people in **Macedonia needed help**."

Mia smiled. "So, **God leads us where He wants us to go**, just like He led Paul?"

"Exactly," Dad said. "When we **listen to God**, He will show us **how to share His love with others**."

Faith Connection

Paul didn't travel alone—**Barnabas, Silas, and Timothy** were **his helpers on different journeys**. When **God gave Paul a vision**, he knew he needed to **preach in Macedonia**. Just like Paul, we are called to **listen to God and share His love wherever He leads us!**

Discuss It

Why do you think **Paul needed helpers** on his missionary journeys? How can we be like **Paul, Silas, and Timothy** by sharing Jesus with others?

Prayer Dear Jesus, thank You for sending **Paul and his helpers** to spread the Good News. Help me to **listen to Your voice and follow where You lead me**, sharing Your love with others. Amen.

Live It This week, **ask God to show you one way to help others**—maybe by being kind, inviting a friend to church, or praying for someone. **God calls us all to share His love!**

Spreading the Good News

Bible Verse

"**Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved, along with everyone in your household.**" – Acts 16:31 (NLT)

Story

Noah's family was on a **road trip**, and his dad handed him a **map**. "We need to follow the right roads to get where we're going," Dad said.

That night, during family devotions, Noah's dad explained that the **Book of Acts** is like a **map** that shows us how the early Church grew. "**Luke, a doctor, wrote Acts to tell us about the amazing things that happened as the gospel spread.**"

Noah tilted his head. "So, **Luke wasn't just a writer—he was also a doctor**?"

"Yes!" Mom said. "And he **traveled with Paul**, recording the miracles and adventures they had."

Dad continued, "One of the most incredible moments was when **Paul and Silas were in prison. They were singing and praying, and suddenly, an earthquake shook the jail and set them free!**"

Noah's eyes widened. "What happened next?"

"The **Philippian jailer** was scared and thought the prisoners had escaped. But Paul told him, '**Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, along with everyone in your household.**' The jailer and his family believed and were baptized that night!"

Mom added, "**Paul also met Aquila and Priscilla, tentmakers who helped him share the gospel in Corinth**. They worked together, showing that anyone—no matter their job—can serve Jesus."

Noah grinned. "God used a **doctor, a jailer, and tentmakers** to spread the gospel?" "Exactly," Dad said. "God calls **all kinds of people** to share His love!"

Faith Connection Luke, a **doctor**, wrote the **Book of Acts** to record how the early Church grew. **Paul and Silas** preached to a **Philippian jailer**, who was saved **along with his family**. **Aquila and Priscilla, tentmakers, helped Paul in Corinth**, showing that anyone can serve God, no matter their job. **God uses all kinds of people to spread His Good News!**

Discuss It Why do you think **God used people from different jobs and backgrounds** to spread the gospel? How can we **share Jesus** in our daily lives, just like Paul, Silas, and their friends?

Prayer Dear Jesus, thank You for using **all kinds of people** to spread Your Word. Help me to **be ready to share Your love** with those around me. Amen.

Live It This week, **think of one way you can share Jesus**—maybe by inviting a friend to church, praying for someone, or helping someone in need. **God can use you just like He used Luke, Paul, Aquila, and Priscilla!**