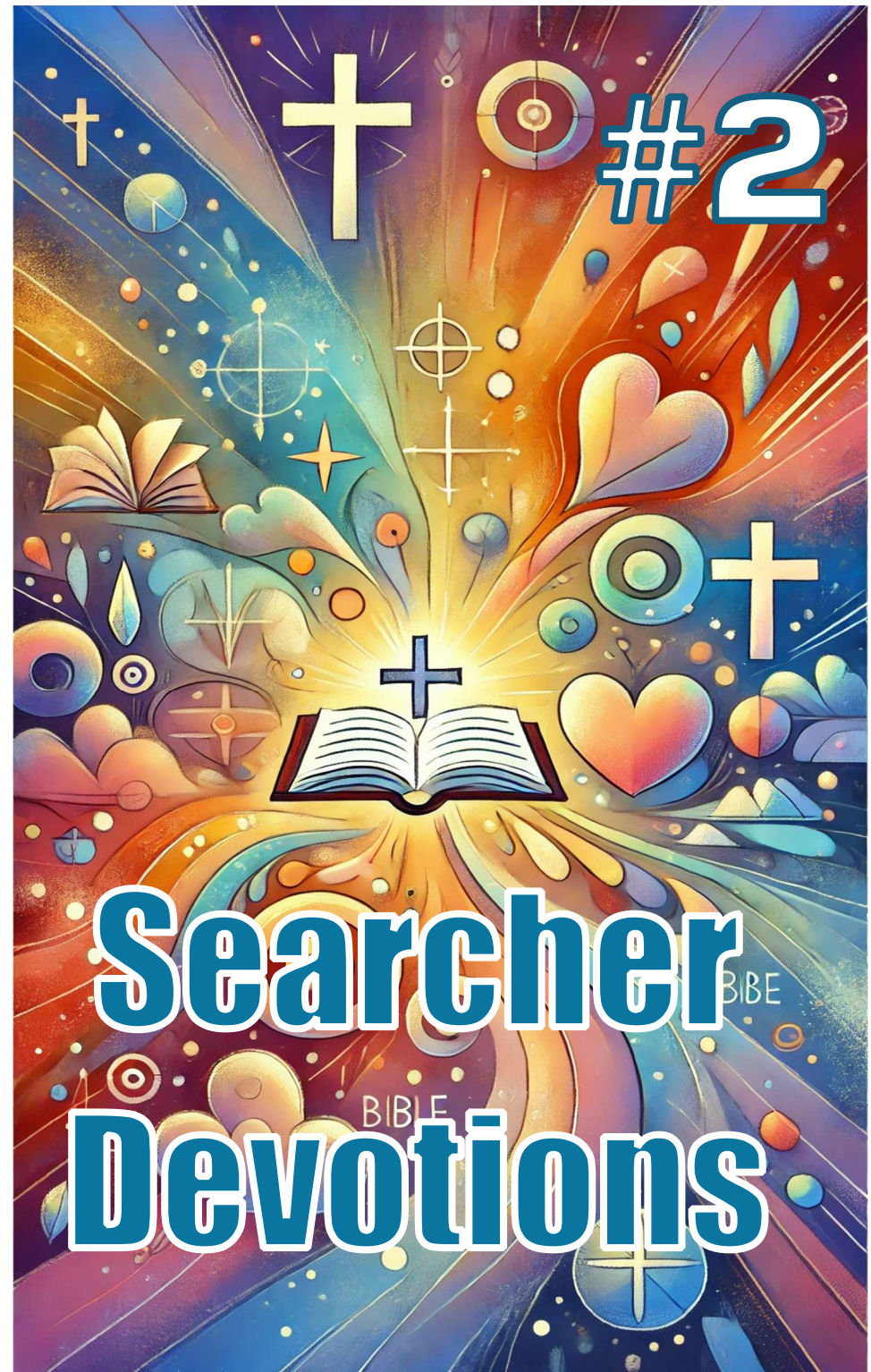


# BIBLE CLUB

## QUESTION TRACKER

Levels of Achievement for Recognition:

Wk#	10s Discoverer	20s Searcher	30s Achiever
#1	(001-018)	(289-300)	(481-486)
#2	(019-036)	(301-312)	(487-492)
#3	(037-054)	(313-324)	(493-498)
#4	(055-072)	(325-336)	(499-504)
	<b>Matthew (001-072)</b>	<b>Isaiah (289-336)</b>	<b>Ask (481-504)</b>
#5	(073-090)	(337-348)	(505-510)
#6	(091-108)	(349-360)	(511-516)
#7	(109-126)	(361-372)	(517-522)
#8	(127-144)	(373-384)	(523-528)
	<b>Mark (073-144)</b>	<b>Jeremiah (337-384)</b>	<b>Believe (505-528)</b>
#9	(145-162)	(385-396)	(529-534)
#10	(163-180)	(397-408)	(535-540)
#11	(181-198)	(409-420)	(541-546)
#12	(199-216)	(421-432)	(547-552)
	<b>Luke (145-216)</b>	<b>Ezekiel (385-432)</b>	<b>Confess (529-552)</b>
#13	(217-234)	(433-444)	(553-558)
#14	(235-252)	(445-456)	(559-564)
#15	(253-270)	(457-468)	(565-570)
#16	(271-288)	(469-480)	(571-576)
	<b>John (217-288)</b>	<b>Daniel (433-480)</b>	<b>Declare (553-576)</b>





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# For Coaches

## Why This Matters for Bible Quizzers

- Helps quizzers see Scripture as **more than competition—it's life-changing truth.**
- Builds **spiritual maturity** alongside memorization skills.
- Encourages a **personal relationship with God**, not just knowledge of His Word.
- Reinforces that **Bible Quiz is not just about winning, but about knowing and living out God's truth.**

By incorporating devotionals into practice, a coach can help quizzers develop a **love for God's Word that lasts far beyond their quiz years!**

## Bible Quiz Coach Can Use Devotions Effectively

### 1. Every practice should include a devotion time

- Begin or end each practice with a short devotional time.
- Follow-up on what was learned from previous devotion.

### 2. Read the Bible Verse Together

- Have a quizzer read the key verse aloud.
- Discuss its meaning and how it connects to the assigned material for the week.
- Ask quizzers to explain the verse in their own words to ensure understanding.

### 3. Engage with the Devotional Story

- Read the short story provided in the devotional.
- Encourage discussion by asking, "How does this relate to our own lives?"
- Relate the story to real-life challenges quizzers may face, such as handling competition, teamwork, or trusting God.

### 4. Make the Faith Connection

- Reinforce how Scripture is more than just words to memorize—it's God's message to us.
- Discuss how the verse applies to everyday situations, such as making wise choices, being honest, or trusting God during challenges.
- Show how each verse points back to Jesus and His plan of salvation.

### 5. Discuss It

- Use Discussion question to deepen what we learn.

### 6. Pray Together

- End devotional time with a prayer, either using the one provided or asking a quizzer to lead.

### 7. Application to our lives

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

## Seeking God Every Day

### Bible Verse

"True godliness with contentment is itself great wealth." – 1 Timothy 6:6 (NLT)

### Story

Noah wanted a new bike more than anything. He talked about it every day and checked the store's website to see if it was on sale. One day, his grandpa sat next to him and asked, "Noah, do you think having that bike will make you happy forever?"

Noah shrugged. "Well, maybe for a little while."

That night, during family devotions, Noah's mom read 1 Timothy 6:6. "**True godliness with contentment is great wealth,**" she explained. "That means being close to God and thankful for what we have is better than having lots of things."

Noah thought about it. "So, if I always want more stuff, I won't be happy?"

Grandpa nodded. "Exactly! But **if you start seeking God now while you're young, He will fill your heart with something even better** than a new bike—peace and joy that last forever."

Noah smiled. "So, seeking God and being happy with what I have is more valuable than any bike?"

"Yes!" Mom said. "That's the kind of treasure that never fades."

### Faith Connection

God wants us to seek Him while we are young so we can grow in faith and find true joy. Real happiness doesn't come from having more things—it comes from loving God and being content with what He gives us. When we seek Him first, He fills our hearts with peace and purpose.

### Discuss It

What does it mean to seek God while you are young? How can being content help you feel closer to God?

### Prayer

Dear God, help me to seek You every day and find joy in knowing You. Teach me to be thankful for what I have instead of always wanting more. You are the greatest treasure! Amen.

### Live It

This week, take time each day to pray and read the Bible, even if it's just a few verses. Also, write down three things you are thankful for and tell God how much you appreciate them!

## Loving God's Word

### Bible Verse

*"Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18 (NLT)*

### Story

Emma's family started a new tradition—they would read the Bible together every morning before breakfast. At first, Emma wasn't sure about it. "Why do we have to do this every day?" she asked.

Her mom smiled. "The Bible is like food for our hearts. Just like we need breakfast to start our day, we need God's Word to help us grow in our faith."

That night, during family devotions, Emma's dad read about the Bereans. *"The Christians in Berea were honored because they received God's Word eagerly and studied the Scriptures every day."*

Emma thought about that. "So, they didn't just listen once in a while—they wanted to learn from the Bible every day?"

Dad nodded. "Yes! They loved learning about God and made it a habit to study His Word."

Mom added, *"And another important habit is thanking God in all circumstances. No matter what happens, we should always have a heart of gratitude."*

Emma grinned. "So, reading the Bible and thanking God should be part of our everyday life?"

"Exactly!" Dad said. "When we love God's Word and give thanks in everything, we grow closer to Him."

### Faith Connection

The Bereans were honored because they loved studying God's Word daily. When we make reading the Bible a habit, it helps us grow in faith. God also tells us to be thankful in all situations. When we trust Him, we can give thanks no matter what happens!

### Discuss It

Why do you think it's important to study the Bible every day? How can you practice being thankful in all circumstances?

### Prayer

Dear God, thank You for Your Word that helps me grow. Help me to love reading the Bible and to always have a thankful heart, no matter what happens. Amen.

### Live It

Start a daily habit of reading the Bible, even if it's just a few verses. Also, think of one thing you can thank God for every day this week, even in tough situations!

# 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

## 05 - (337-348)

These devotions are built around Bible Fact-Pak 20-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.

### Jesus is Alive (1 Corinthians 15:17)

- 337: Jesus' resurrection proved He is the Son of God, Savior, and Lord.
- 338: The resurrection is essential to our Christian faith—without it, our faith is useless.

### Jesus is Really Alive! (1 Corinthians 15:6)

- 339: More than five hundred people saw Jesus after He was raised from the dead.
- 340: Jesus walked and talked with His apostles for forty days after His resurrection.
- ."

### Jesus is Always in Control (Revelation 22:13)

- 341: Jesus is now at the right hand of the Father, interceding for believers.
- 342: QQ In Revelation, Jesus declares, "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End

### God Mad Us Special (Genesis 2:7)

- 343: God created man from the dust of the ground and breathed life into him.
- 344: God created woman from one of Adam's ribs.

### Made in God's Image (Genesis 1:27)

- 345: People were created in God's image, with spiritual natures that allow them to reason, make choices, and know and love God.
- 346: When Adam and Eve sinned, God provided them clothing made from the skins of animals.

### Why We Need Jesus (Romans 3:23)

- 347: "Original sin" means that because Adam and Eve chose to sin, all people are born in sin and have the tendency to sin.
- 348: The duties of the Old Testament priest were to intercede with God for the people and offer sacrifices to atone for their sins.

## Living God's Way

### Bible Verse

*"But don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves." – James 1:22 (NLT)*

### Story

Olivia's teacher gave the class instructions for a science experiment. "Follow each step carefully," she said. But Olivia thought she already knew what to do, so she skipped a few steps. When she finished, her experiment didn't work.

That night, during family devotions, Olivia's dad read *James 1:22*. "The Bible says we shouldn't just listen to God's Word—we have to do what it says."

Olivia sighed. "I thought I knew better today, but I didn't follow the instructions, and my experiment failed."

Dad nodded. "That's what happens when we don't follow God's instructions too. *One of the things God teaches us is to keep our hearts, minds, and bodies pure, before and after marriage. When people ignore His plan, it can destroy purity and bring hurt instead of happiness.*"

Olivia thought for a moment. "So, just like my experiment went wrong when I didn't follow the directions, life doesn't go the way God intended when we don't follow His way?"

"Exactly," Mom said. "God's Word is our guide, and when we live by it, we experience the joy and peace He wants for us."

### Faith Connection

God's Word is not just something to hear—it's something to live by. One of the ways we honor Him is by keeping our hearts and bodies pure. Immoral behavior can ruin the joy and blessing that God planned for marriage. When we follow God's instructions, we experience His best for our lives.

### Discuss It

Why do you think it's important to not just hear God's Word but also obey it? How does following God's plan help us live in His joy?

### Prayer

Dear God, thank You for giving me Your Word to guide my life. Help me not just to listen but to obey. I want to honor You with my thoughts, words, and actions. Amen.

### Live It

Think of one way you can follow God's instructions better this week. Maybe it's showing kindness, being honest, or avoiding things that don't honor Him. Ask God to help you live out His Word every day!

## A Heart That Pleases God

### Bible Verse

*"Work at living in peace with everyone, and work at living a holy life, for those who are not holy will not see the Lord." – Hebrews 12:14 (NLT)*

### Story

Jake loved playing video games, but sometimes he got frustrated when he lost. One day, after losing a game, he yelled at his little brother, "You're distracting me! Go away!"

Later that night, during family devotions, Jake's mom read *Hebrews 12:14. "The Bible tells us to live in peace and be holy so we can see the Lord."*

Jake frowned. "But what does 'holy' mean?"

Dad explained, "Being holy means choosing to live in a way that pleases God. It's not about being perfect, but about letting God shape our hearts and actions."

Jake sighed. "I don't think I was very holy today. I got mad and yelled at my brother."

Mom nodded. "That's why *we also need to be careful about what we think. The Bible says our thoughts determine who we are and what we say and do.* If we let anger stay in our hearts, it can turn into unkind words and actions."

Jake thought for a moment. "So, if I think about good things, it will help me make better choices?"

"Yes!" Dad said. "When we focus on God and what's right, it helps us live in a way that honors Him."

### Faith Connection

Living a peaceful and holy life means choosing to think and act in ways that honor God. Our thoughts shape our words and actions, so we need to focus on what is good and pleasing to God. When we do, we grow closer to Him and show His love to others.

### Discuss It

Why do you think our thoughts are so important? How can thinking about good things help us make better choices?

### Prayer

Dear God, help me to live in peace and make choices that honor You. Teach me to guard my thoughts so that my words and actions reflect Your love. Thank You for guiding me every day. Amen.

### Live It

Pay attention to your thoughts this week. If you start thinking about something negative or unkind, ask God to help you replace it with something good. Choose peace and kindness in your words and actions!

## Jesus is Alive!

### Bible Verse

*"And if Christ has not been raised, then your faith is useless and you are still guilty of your sins." – 1 Corinthians 15:17 (NLT)*

### Story

Ella loved playing with her wind-up toy car. One day, she twisted the key, but the car wouldn't move. "It's broken," she sighed. "Without power, it doesn't work." That night, during family devotions, Ella's dad read from 1 Corinthians 15:17. *"The Bible says that if Jesus had not been raised from the dead, our faith would be useless."*

Ella tilted her head. "What does that mean?"

Dad explained, *"Jesus' resurrection proved He is the Son of God and our Savior.* If He had stayed in the grave, then sin and death would have won. But because Jesus is alive, we know He is Lord, and we can have eternal life!"

Ella thought for a moment. "So, if my car has no power, it won't work. And if Jesus didn't rise, our faith would have no power either?"

"That's exactly right!" Dad said. "The resurrection is what makes our faith real and powerful."

### Faith Connection

Jesus' resurrection proves that He is the Son of God, our Savior, and our Lord. Without it, our faith wouldn't mean anything. But because Jesus is alive, we can trust Him, have eternal life, and know that He is always with us!

### Discuss It

Why is Jesus' resurrection important to our faith? How does knowing He is alive help you trust Him?

### Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank You for rising from the dead and proving that You are the Son of God. Because You are alive, I know I can trust You. Help me to live for You every day. Amen.

### Live It

Think about what Jesus' resurrection means for you. Share the good news with a friend or family member and tell them why it's exciting that Jesus is alive!

## Jesus is Really Alive!

### Bible Verse

"He appeared to more than 500 of his followers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died." – 1 Corinthians 15:6 (NLT)

### Story

Noah's teacher told the class about an upcoming surprise guest. "Someone famous is coming to visit our school!" she said. The next day, Noah told his friends, but they didn't believe him. "You're making that up," one boy said. But when the guest finally arrived, everyone saw him, and no one could deny it anymore.

That night, during family devotions, Noah's mom read 1 Corinthians 15:6. "After Jesus rose from the dead, He appeared to more than 500 people. Jesus also walked and talked with His apostles after His death for 40 days!"

Noah's eyes widened. "That's a lot of people! So, there were lots of witnesses?" Mom nodded. "Yes! If only one or two people had seen Jesus, some might say it wasn't real. But over 500 people saw Him alive! The disciples even ate with Him and listened to His teachings for 40 days."

Noah grinned. "So, just like my friends didn't believe me until they saw the special guest, people couldn't deny Jesus was alive because so many people saw Him?"

"Exactly!" Mom said. "Jesus' resurrection wasn't a secret—it was real, and many people saw it with their own eyes!"

### Faith Connection

Jesus didn't just rise from the dead and disappear. He appeared to over 500 people and spent 40 days with His disciples, proving He was truly alive! Because of these witnesses, we can trust that the resurrection really happened and that Jesus is still alive today!

### Discuss It

Why do you think it was important for Jesus to show Himself to so many people after His resurrection?

### Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank You for showing Yourself to so many people after You rose from the dead. Because of their testimony, I know You are alive! Help me to always trust in You. Amen.

### Live It

Imagine you were one of the 500 people who saw Jesus alive. How would you feel? How would you tell others about it? This week, share the good news that Jesus is alive with a friend or family member!

## Loving Like Jesus

### Bible Verse

"Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples." – John 13:35 (NLT)

"Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God. But anyone who does not love does not know God, for God is love." – 1 John 4:7-8 (NLT)

**Story** Sophia and Mia were best friends, but one day, they had an argument over a game. Sophia felt hurt and didn't want to talk to Mia. "She was mean to me," she told her mom.

Her mom listened and then said, "Do you know what Jesus said about love? Jesus said that people will know we are his disciples Him by how we love others."

Sophia sighed. "But what if Mia doesn't say sorry first?"

Mom smiled. "Loving others doesn't mean we wait for them to be perfect. It means we choose kindness because God loves us."

That night, during family devotions, Sophia's dad read 1 John 4:2-8: "Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God. But anyone who does not love does not know God, for God is love."

Sophia thought for a moment. "So, if I love others, I'm showing that I really know God?"

"Yes," Dad said. "Love is essential because God is love. When we love others, we are showing the world what God is like."

The next day at school, Sophia walked up to Mia. "I'm sorry for getting upset," she said.

Mia smiled. "I'm sorry too!"

Sophia felt happy. She realized that loving others—even when it's hard—shows that she follows Jesus.

**Faith Connection** Jesus said that the way we love others proves we are His followers. God is love, and if we truly know Him, we will love others—even when it's not easy. Choosing kindness, forgiveness, and patience shows the world who Jesus is!

**Discuss It** Why do you think Jesus said that loving others proves we are His disciples? How can you show love to someone this week?

**Prayer** Dear Jesus, thank You for loving me. Help me to love others, even when it's hard. I want to show the world that I follow You by how I treat people. Amen.

**Live It** Think of someone you can show love to this week—maybe a friend, sibling, or classmate. Do something kind for them and ask God to help you love others the way He loves you!



## Love in Action

### Bible Verse

"There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends." – John 15:13 (NLT)

"If you love me, obey my commandments." – John 14:15 (NLT)

### Story

Liam and his friends were playing soccer when he noticed his little sister, Emily, sitting alone. She had fallen off her bike and scraped her knee. Liam was having fun, but he knew Emily needed help.

He sighed. "I guess I should go help her," he thought. He walked over, helped her up, and stayed with her until she felt better.

That night, during family devotions, Liam's dad read **John 15:13**. "Jesus said the greatest love is to lay down your life for your friends."

Liam frowned. "But I didn't give up my life for Emily. I just gave up playing soccer."

Dad smiled. "That's part of it! Jesus gave His life on the cross for us, but we can also show love by putting others first and obeying His commands."

Liam nodded. "So, when I help others, I'm showing love like Jesus did?"

"Yes!" Dad said. "We show our love for Jesus by following His example and obeying His commandments."

### Faith Connection

Jesus showed the greatest love by dying for us. We may not have to give up our lives, but we can show love by putting others first and obeying Jesus. Every time we choose kindness, honesty, and obedience, we are showing our love for Him.

### Discuss It

What are some ways you can put others first and show love like Jesus? How does obeying Jesus show that we love Him?

### Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank You for showing the greatest love by giving Your life for me. Help me to show love by obeying You and putting others first. I want to follow Your example every day. Amen.

### Live It

This week, look for a way to put someone else first—maybe by helping, sharing, or encouraging. Remember, when you obey Jesus and love others, you are showing your love for Him!

## Jesus is Always in Control

### Bible Verse

"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End." – Revelation 22:13 (NLT)

### Story

Liam and his sister, Emma, were working on a puzzle. "Where's the first piece?" Emma asked.

Liam held up a corner piece. "The first piece is important, but we also need the last piece to finish the puzzle!"

That night, during family devotions, their dad read **Revelation 22:13**. "Jesus said, 'I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.'"

Emma tilted her head. "What does that mean?"

Dad explained, "Alpha and Omega are the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet. Jesus is saying He was here at the very beginning, and He will still be in control at the very end."

Liam thought for a moment. "So, just like a puzzle needs a first and last piece, Jesus holds everything together?"

"Yes!" Dad said. "And right now, Jesus is at the right hand of God, interceding which means he is praying for us and helping us. He is in control of everything from beginning to end."

Emma smiled. "That makes me feel safe, knowing Jesus is always in charge!"

### Faith Connection

Jesus is not only the beginning and the end—He is also with us right now! He is at the right hand of the Father, praying for us and guiding us. Because He is in control, we don't have to be afraid.

### Discuss It

What does it mean to you that Jesus is in control from the beginning to the end? How does knowing that He prays for us help you?

### Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank You for being the Alpha and Omega—the One who is in control of everything. Thank You for praying for me and helping me every day. Help me to trust You with my life. Amen.

### Live It

When you feel worried or scared, remember that Jesus is in control. He knows the beginning and the end! This week, take time to thank Him for praying for you and ask Him to help you trust Him more.

## God Made Us Special

### Bible Verse

*"Then the LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground. He breathed the breath of life into the man's nostrils, and the man became a living person."*

– Genesis 2:7 (NLT)

### Story

Sophie loved making things out of clay. One day, she shaped a little bird and carefully painted it. "Look, Mom!" she said proudly. "I made this with my own hands!"

That night, during family devotions, Sophie's dad read from Genesis. "**God created the first man, Adam, from the dust of the ground and breathed life into him.** Then, **He made the first woman, Eve, from Adam's rib.**"

Sophie's eyes widened. "So, God didn't just speak people into existence like He did with animals?"

Dad smiled. "That's right! God made people in a special way. He formed Adam with His own hands and breathed life into him. And when He created Eve, He took a part of Adam to show they were made to be together."

Sophie looked at her clay bird. "So, kind of like how I made this bird with my hands, God made us with care?"

"Yes!" Dad said. "God made you with love and gave you life. That's why every person is special."

### Faith Connection

God created people in a unique and special way. He didn't just speak us into existence—He shaped us with His hands and breathed life into us. That means every person is made by God and is deeply loved by Him!

### Discuss It

How does knowing that God made you with His own hands make you feel? Why do you think God made people differently from the rest of creation?

### Prayer

Dear God, thank You for creating me with love and care. I am so glad that You made me special and gave me life. Help me to always remember how much You love me. Amen.

### Live It

Look in the mirror and thank God for creating you! This week, show kindness to others, remembering that they are also made by God and loved by Him.

## 08 - (373-384)

These devotions are built around Bible Fact-Pak 20-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.

### Love in Action (John 15:13, John 14:15)

- 373: QQ The greatest display of love is to lay down one's life for one's friends.

- 374: QQ We show our love for Jesus by obeying His commandments.

### Loving Like Jesus (John 13:35; 1 John 4:7-8)

- 375: QQ Our love for one another proves to the world that we are Jesus' disciples.

- 376: QQ Loving others is essential because God is love, and anyone who knows God will love others.

### Heart that Pleases God (Hebrews 12:14)

- 377: QQ Living a peaceful and holy life is necessary because those who are not holy will not see the Lord.

- 378: We should be careful about what we think because our thoughts shape who we are and influence our words and actions.

### Living God's Way (James 1:22)

- 379: Christians should maintain purity in body and mind because immorality destroys the purity and happiness God intends for marriage.

- 380: QQ We must not just listen to God's Word but also do what it says to keep from fooling ourselves.

### Loving God's Word (1 Thessalonians 5:18)

- 381: The Christians at Berea were honored because they received the Word eagerly and studied the Scriptures daily.

- 382: QQ Christians should thank God in all circumstances because this is His will for those who belong to Christ Jesus.

### Seeking God Every Day (1 Timothy 6:6)

- 383: We should begin to seek God in our youth.

- 384: True godliness with contentment is great wealth.

## The Greatest Commandments

### Bible Verse

"You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength. The second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' No other commandment is greater than these." – Mark 12:30-31 (NLT)

### Story

Sophia worked hard on her "All About Me" poster for school. She decorated it with pictures of her family, her favorite activities, and a big heart to show her love for God. "I want everyone to know what's most important to me," she said. Her mom replied, "Loving God and others is the best way to show what's important in your life!"

During family devotions, Sophia's dad shared what Jesus taught about the greatest commandments. "*When someone asked Jesus which commandment was the most important, He said the greatest commandment is to love God with everything we have—our heart, soul, mind, and strength.* But He didn't stop there. *Jesus said the second commandment is to love our neighbor as ourselves.* These two commandments summarize everything God desires from us."

Sophia asked, "How can I love God with everything?"

Her dad explained, "You can love God by spending time with Him, praying, reading His Word, and choosing to obey Him. And loving others means treating them with kindness, forgiveness, and care. When we love God, it naturally overflows into loving others."

### Faith Connection

Loving God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength is the foundation of a relationship with Him. This love leads us to trust in Jesus for salvation. Loving our neighbors reflects God's love and shows the world His goodness. The two greatest commandments remind us that salvation transforms our hearts, enabling us to love God and others in ways that bring glory to Him.

### Discuss It

Why do you think loving God comes first? How does loving God help us love others better?

**Prayer** Dear God, thank You for loving me first and teaching me how to love You and others. Help me to love You with all my heart, soul, mind, and strength, and to show Your love to those around me. Teach me to live in a way that honors You and reflects Your goodness. Amen.

**Live It** Memorize Mark 12:30-31 and think of one way you can show love to God and one way you can love your neighbor today. Spend time in prayer, thanking God for His love, and ask Him to help you live out these commandments in your daily life. Share an act of love with someone to reflect God's heart.

## Made in God's Image

### Bible Verse

"So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them." – Genesis 1:27 (NLT)

### Story

Logan and his sister, Ava, were drawing pictures of their family. Logan laughed when he saw Ava's drawing. "That doesn't look like Dad!" he teased.

Ava crossed her arms. "I tried my best! It's my picture of him."

That night, during family devotions, their mom read Genesis 1:27. "God made people in His image, which means we are made to be like Him in special ways."

Logan tilted his head. "But we don't look exactly like God, right?"

Mom nodded. "That's right! *Being made in God's image doesn't mean we look like Him. It means we can think, make choices, and love Him*—things no other creature can do."

Then Dad added, "But Adam and Eve made a bad choice. *When they sinned, they realized they were naked, and God made them clothes from animal skins.*"

Ava frowned. "So, God still took care of them, even though they disobeyed?"

"Yes!" Dad said. "Even when we sin, God still loves us and provides for us."

Logan smiled. "So, we are made to know and love God, and even when we mess up, He still cares for us."

### Faith Connection

God made people in His image, which means we can think, make choices, and love Him. When Adam and Eve sinned, God still cared for them by giving them clothes. Even when we make mistakes, God loves us and provides for us.

### Discuss It

What does it mean to you that God made you in His image? How does it feel to know that God loves you even when you make mistakes?

### Prayer

Dear God, thank You for making me in Your image. Help me to use my ability to think, choose, and love in ways that honor You. Thank You for always loving me, even when I mess up. Amen.

### Live It

This week, think about one way you can use your ability to make choices to please God. Maybe it's choosing kindness, honesty, or prayer. Write it down and try to do it each day!

## Why We Need Jesus

### Bible Verse

"For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard." – Romans 3:23 (NLT)

### Story

Ethan and his friends were playing outside when they saw a big mud puddle. "Let's jump over it!" Ethan said. One by one, they tried to jump across. Some got closer than others, but no one made it all the way. Every single person ended up with muddy shoes. That night, during family devotions, Ethan's mom read Romans 3:23. "Everyone has sinned and falls short of God's standard," she explained. Ethan thought for a moment. "So, sin is like the mud puddle? No matter how hard we try, we can't get past it on our own?" Mom nodded. "Yes! When Adam and Eve chose to sin, it affected everyone. Now, *all people are born with sin in their hearts, and we naturally do wrong things. That's called 'original sin.'*" Dad added, "*In the Old Testament, priests had to offer sacrifices to ask God to forgive the people.* But those sacrifices couldn't fully take away sin. That's why Jesus came—He is our perfect sacrifice!" Ethan smiled. "So, Jesus is like a bridge over the mud puddle. He helps us get across!" "Exactly!" Mom said. "Because of Jesus, we don't have to stay stuck in sin."

### Faith Connection

Because of Adam and Eve, all people are born with sin and a tendency to do wrong. In the Old Testament, priests offered sacrifices to make things right with God, but Jesus came as the perfect sacrifice. He made a way for us to be forgiven forever!

### Discuss It

Why do you think people naturally want to do wrong things? How does Jesus help us with our sin?

### Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank You for coming to take away my sin. I know I can't fix my sin on my own, but You made a way for me to be forgiven. Help me to follow You every day. Amen.

### Live It

Think about one way you struggle with sin—maybe lying, being unkind, or disobeying. This week, ask Jesus to help you make the right choice. Remember, He is the only one who can take away sin!

## Christian Virtues and Faith

### Bible Verse

"Three things will last forever—faith, hope, and love—and the greatest of these is love." – 1 Corinthians 13:13 (NLT)

### Story

Liam loved building towers with his blocks. "*Faith, hope, and love* are like the foundation, walls, and roof of my tower!" he said. His dad smiled and replied, "That's a great way to think about it. *These three virtues build the foundation of our lives as Christians.*" During family devotions, Liam's mom shared the importance of faith, hope, and love. "*Faith means trusting in God and believing He exists and rewards those who seek Him, just like Hebrews 11:6* says. Hope is the confident expectation that God will fulfill His promises, and love is the greatest virtue because it reflects God's nature. When we live with faith, hope, and love, we're living the way God wants us to." Liam asked, "Why is love the greatest?" His mom explained, "Because love is eternal and is at the heart of everything God does. Faith and hope are essential for our relationship with God, but love will last forever. It's through love that we connect with God and others, showing the world what He is like."

### Faith Connection

Faith, hope, and love are the foundation of the Christian life. Faith connects us to God, hope anchors us in His promises, and love reflects His character. Salvation begins with faith in God, grows through hope in His promises, and is expressed through love for Him and others. These virtues guide us as we follow Jesus and share His message with the world.

### Discuss It

Why do you think love is the greatest virtue? How can faith and hope help you in your daily life?

### Prayer

Dear God, thank You for the gifts of faith, hope, and love. Help me to grow in faith as I trust in You, to hold on to hope as I await Your promises, and to show love in everything I do. Thank You for loving me first and for giving me the opportunity to share Your love with others. Amen.

**Live It** Read 1 Corinthians 13:13 and Hebrews 11:6. Reflect on how faith, hope, and love are present in your life. Write down one way you can grow in each virtue today—for example, trust God in a specific situation (faith), share encouragement with someone (hope), or show kindness to a friend (love). Take action to live out these virtues.

## Adoption and Good Works

### Bible Verse

“So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God’s Spirit when he adopted you as his own children. Now we call him, ‘Abba, Father.’” – Romans 8:15 (NLT)

### Story

Sophia loved visiting her grandparents. “They always make me feel so special—like I belong,” she said. Her dad smiled and replied, “That’s how God treats us when we’re adopted into His family. He welcomes us with love and gives us all the privileges of being His children.”

During family devotions, Sophia’s mom shared about the idea of adoption in our relationship with God. “When we are saved, we become God’s children. Romans 8:15-17 *says we receive His Spirit, which confirms we belong to Him. This adoption restores all the privileges of being a child of God, including eternal life.* We can call Him ‘Abba, Father,’ which means ‘Daddy.’ It’s a close and loving relationship.”

Sophia asked, “If we’re already saved, why do we still need to do good things?” Her mom explained, “Ephesians 2:10 *tells us that we were created to do good works. We don’t do them to earn salvation—that’s a gift from Jesus. Instead, we do good things to show our love and gratitude to God.* It’s our way of reflecting His love to the world and living out the purpose He has for us.”

### Faith Connection

Salvation brings us into God’s family through adoption, giving us the privileges of being His children. This includes an intimate relationship with Him and the promise of eternal life. Good works are not the cause of our salvation but the response to it, showing our love for God and sharing His love with others.

### Discuss It

Why do you think God adopts us into His family, and how can we show our love for Him through our actions?

### Prayer

Dear God, thank You for adopting me into Your family and restoring all the privileges of being Your child. Help me to show my love for You through good works that honor You and reflect Your love to others. Thank You for the gift of eternal life and the close relationship I have with You. Amen.

### Live It

Read Romans 8:15-17 and Ephesians 2:10. Reflect on what it means to be adopted into God’s family and how you can live out your faith through good works. Write down one way you can show God’s love to someone today and take action on it.

## 06 - (349-360)

These devotions are built around Bible Fact-Pak 20-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.

### Choosing What’s Right (James 4:17)

- 349: Sin is breaking God’s law and acting contrary to it.
- 350: Sin is also knowing what is good and failing to do it.

### We All Need Jesus (Romans 3:23)

- 351: QQ All people have sinned and fall short of God’s standard.
- 352: Paul says all have sinned and fall short of God’s standard because no one can attain God’s righteousness on their own.

### No Matter What God Loves Us (Romans 5:8)

- 353: God’s love for us is demonstrated through the gift of His Son, Jesus, who died for us.
- 354: QQ The greatest proof of God’s love is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

### A Brand-New Life (John 3:3)

- 355: QQ Jesus told Nicodemus that being born again is necessary to see the kingdom of God.
- 356: Being born again means the Holy Spirit gives birth to spiritual life, making us a new person.

### Choosing Jesus and Harmony (Romans 12:16)

- 357: Paul instructed Christians to live in harmony, not be proud, and enjoy the company of ordinary people.
- 358: It is God’s will for all people to be saved, but each person must choose Christ as Savior.

### A Heart That Pleases God (James 4:6)

- 359: The only sin that will not be forgiven is willfully and knowingly speaking evil against the Holy Spirit.
- 360: God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.

## Choosing What's Right

### Bible Verse

"Remember, it is sin to know what you ought to do and then not do it." – James 4:17 (NLT)

### Story

Noah saw his little brother struggling to clean up a big mess of toys. He knew he should help, but he didn't feel like it. "It's not my mess," he thought. Instead, he walked away to play his video game.

Later that evening, during family devotions, Noah's dad read about sin. "**1 John 3:4 tell us sin is when we break God's law, but in James 4:17 the Bible tells us it's also when we know the right thing to do and don't do it.**"

Noah frowned. "Wait... so sin isn't just doing something wrong? It's also not doing something right?"

His dad nodded. "Yes! God wants us to follow His ways, and that means choosing to do good when we have the chance."

Noah thought about his brother and felt bad. "So, if I know I should help and don't, that's sin?"

His dad smiled. "Yes, but the good news is that God forgives us when we ask Him, and He helps us make better choices next time."

### Faith Connection

Sin isn't just about doing wrong things—it's also about not doing the good things God wants us to do. When we see a chance to help, tell the truth, or be kind, and we choose not to, we are going against what God wants. But God is always ready to forgive us and help us make better choices!

### Discuss It

Can you think of a time when you knew the right thing to do but didn't do it? What can you do differently next time?

### Prayer

Dear God, I want to follow Your ways. Please help me to do what is right, even when it's hard or when I don't feel like it. Thank You for forgiving me when I mess up and helping me make better choices. Amen.

### Live It

Look for a way to do something good today—help someone, say a kind word, or be honest. When you have a choice between doing right or ignoring it, ask God to help you choose what's right!

## Salvation through Grace

### Bible Verse

**"For I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ. It is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes." – Romans 1:16 (NLT)**

### Story

Liam proudly showed off his trophy from a school art contest. "I worked so hard for this!" he said. His mom smiled and replied, "That's wonderful, Liam. But when it comes to our relationship with God, we can't earn His love or salvation—it's a gift of grace."

During family devotions, Liam's dad shared the meaning of salvation through grace. "Romans 1:16 says **the gospel—the Good News about Jesus—is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes.** This salvation isn't something we can earn by being good or working hard. Ephesians 2:8 tells us **that God saves us by His grace when we believe. Grace means we're given something wonderful we don't deserve. It's God's free gift.**"

Liam asked, "Why does God give us something we don't deserve?"

His dad explained, "Because He loves us deeply. Even though we've all sinned and fallen short of His standard, God sent Jesus to save us. We can't save ourselves, but when we put our faith in Jesus, His grace transforms us. It's a gift we could never earn, but we can freely accept it."

### Faith Connection

Salvation is a gift of grace, not something we can earn through our own efforts. The gospel reveals God's power to save everyone who believes in Jesus. Through His death and resurrection, Jesus offers forgiveness, new life, and a restored relationship with God. By accepting this free gift of grace through faith, we are made right with God and given the hope of eternal life.

### Discuss It

Why do you think God gives us rules to follow?

### Prayer

Dear God, thank You for saving me by Your grace. I know I could never earn Your love or forgiveness, but I am so grateful for the gift of salvation through Jesus. Help me to trust in Your grace every day and to share the Good News with others. Amen.

### Live It

Memorize Romans 1:16. Reflect on the gift of salvation and thank God for His grace in your life. Share the message of grace with someone who might think they have to earn God's love, and explain how salvation is a free gift through faith in Jesus.

## The Power of Jesus' Blood

### Bible Verse

"In fact, according to the law of Moses, nearly everything was purified with blood. For without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness." – Hebrews 9:22 (NLT)

### Story

Sophia spilled red paint on her favorite white shirt while working on an art project. "It won't come out!" she cried. Her mom comforted her, "It's hard to remove stains like this, but do you know what can remove the stain of sin? The blood of Jesus."

During family devotions, Sophia's dad explained the importance of Jesus' blood. "The Bible teaches us that *sin separates us from God, and the only way to be forgiven is through the shedding of blood*. In the Old Testament, people offered animal sacrifices to cover their sins temporarily. But *Jesus, the perfect Lamb of God, gave His blood once and for all to take away our sin forever. This is called the vicarious atonement—Jesus took the punishment we deserved.*"

Sophia asked, "Why did Jesus have to die for us?"

Her dad replied, "Because God loves us and wants us to be with Him. Sin has a serious cost, but Jesus paid that cost on the cross. His blood cleanses us completely, making us right with God. *When we accept Him as our Savior, we are forgiven, and we don't have to face the punishment for our sin because of Jesus' vicarious atonement.*"

### Faith Connection

The blood of Jesus is the foundation of our salvation. It represents His sacrifice on the cross, where He took the punishment for our sins. Through His vicarious atonement, we are offered forgiveness and a restored relationship with God. By accepting Jesus as our Savior, we are freed from the penalty of sin and made new in Him.

### Discuss It

Why did Jesus have to die on the cross for our sins?

### Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank You for shedding Your blood to pay for my sins. I am so grateful for Your love and sacrifice. Help me to remember the power of Your blood and to live a life that honors You. Thank You for the forgiveness and new life You have given me. Amen.

### Live It

Read Hebrews 9:22 and 1 Peter 2:24. Reflect on the significance of Jesus' blood in your life and thank Him for His sacrifice. Share the message of His love and forgiveness with someone who needs to hear about the power of His blood.

## We All Need Jesus

### Bible Verse

*"For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard." – Romans 3:23 (NLT)*

### Story

Mia and her friends were playing basketball at recess. Their teacher set up a challenge: whoever could make a basket from the farthest distance would win a prize. One by one, they took their shots. Some got close, but no one made it.

Mia groaned, "No matter how hard we try, we just can't make it!"

That evening, during family devotions, Mia's dad read from *Romans 3:23. "Paul says that all people have sinned and fall short of God's standard,"* he explained.

Mia tilted her head. "What does that mean?"

Dad smiled. "Think about your basketball game. No matter how hard you tried, you couldn't make the shot. Sin is like that. *No one can be perfect or reach God's standard on their own.* That's why we need Jesus! He made a way for us to be forgiven and have a relationship with God."

Mia thought for a moment. "So, Jesus is like the person who makes the basket for us?"

"Exactly!" Dad said. "Jesus took our place and made a way for us to be right with God."

### Faith Connection

We all sin, which means we fall short of God's perfect standard. No matter how good we try to be, we can't reach His righteousness on our own. But Jesus did what we couldn't—He lived a perfect life and took our place so we could be forgiven. When we trust Him, we are made right with God!

### Discuss It

Why do you think it's important to know that we can't be perfect on our own? How does Jesus help us?

### Prayer

Dear Jesus, I know I can't be perfect, but You made a way for me to be forgiven. Thank You for loving me and taking my place. Help me to trust You and follow Your ways every day. Amen.

### Live It

Think about a time when you made a mistake or did something wrong. Instead of trying to fix it on your own, pray and ask Jesus to help you. Remember that He is the one who makes us right with God!

## God Loves Us No Matter What

### Bible Verse

*"But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners." – Romans 5:8 (NLT)*

### Story

Ethan had a really bad day. He spilled his lunch, forgot his homework, and got in trouble for talking in class. "Today was awful," he sighed. "I feel like I can't do anything right."

That evening, during family devotions, Ethan's mom read *Romans 5:8*. "God showed His love for us by sending Jesus to die for us, even when we were still sinners."

Ethan frowned. "But what if I keep messing up?"

Mom smiled. "That's the amazing part—God's love doesn't depend on how good we are. He loved us even when we were far from Him. Jesus died for us because we could never be perfect on our own."

Ethan thought for a moment. "So, even on my worst day, God still loves me?"

"Yes," Mom said. "That's the greatest proof of His love—Jesus gave His life for you, no matter what."

### Faith Connection

*God loves us so much that He sent Jesus to die for us, even when we didn't deserve it.* His love isn't based on how good we are—it's a free gift! When we trust Jesus, we can be sure that nothing will ever separate us from God's love.

### Discuss It

How does it make you feel to know that God loves you no matter what?

### Prayer

Dear God, thank You for loving me even when I mess up. Thank You for sending Jesus to die for me so I can be close to You. Help me to always remember that Your love never changes. Amen.

### Live It

The next time you have a tough day, stop and remind yourself: *God still loves me!* Read Romans 5:8 again and thank Jesus for His love. Then, share that love by encouraging someone who might be having a bad day.

## Prayers of Repentance

### Bible Verse

"But the tax collector stood at a distance and dared not even lift his eyes to heaven as he prayed. Instead, he beat his chest in sorrow, saying, 'O God, be merciful to me, for I am a sinner.'" – Luke 18:13 (NLT)

### Story

Liam had broken a family rule by staying up late playing video games. "I'm sorry," he told his parents the next morning, "I know I messed up." His dad replied, "I appreciate your honesty, Liam. Admitting when we're wrong is the first step to making things right."

During family devotions, Liam's mom shared two powerful prayers of repentance from the Bible. "*In Jesus' story of the Pharisee and the tax collector, the tax collector humbly admitted his sin and asked for God's mercy.* Similarly, the Prodigal Son, after making many mistakes, returned to his father and confessed, '*I have sinned against heaven and you, and I am no longer worthy of being called your son.*' Both prayers show the importance of repentance—being honest with God about our sin and asking for His forgiveness."

Liam asked, "Why does God forgive us when we mess up?"

His mom explained, "Because of His great love for us. When we admit our sin and turn back to Him, God is faithful to forgive us and restore our relationship with Him. Jesus' sacrifice on the cross makes this forgiveness possible."

### Faith Connection

Prayers of repentance remind us of our need for God's mercy and grace. When we humbly admit our sin and ask for forgiveness, God welcomes us with open arms. The stories of the tax collector and the Prodigal Son show us that no matter how far we've strayed, God's love is always ready to restore us through Jesus' sacrifice.

### Discuss It

Why is it important to admit when we've done something wrong, like the tax collector did in the Bible?

### Prayer

Dear God, thank You for Your mercy and forgiveness. I confess that I am a sinner in need of Your grace. Thank You for loving me and welcoming me back when I turn to You. Help me to live in a way that honors You. Amen.

### Live It

Take time to reflect on any areas where you need to ask God for forgiveness. Read Luke 18:9-14 and Luke 15:11-32, and pray your own prayer of repentance. If needed, seek forgiveness from someone you may have hurt, and let God's grace guide you in restoring relationships.



## 07 - (361-372)

These devotions are built around Bible Fact-Pak 20-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.

### Prayers of Repentance (Luke 18:13)

- 361: In Jesus' story, the tax collector prayed, "O God, be merciful to me, for I am a sinner."
- 362: The Prodigal Son said, "Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, and I am no longer worthy of being called your son."

### The Power of Jesus' Blood (Hebrews 9:22)

- 363: The blood of Jesus is essential to our salvation because without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness of sin.
- 364: The vicarious atonement means Jesus took the punishment for our sins when He died on the cross, so we will not have to be punished if we accept Him as Savior.

### Salvation through Grace (Romans 1:16)

- 365: QQ The gospel is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes.
- 366: We are saved by grace through faith, not by our own efforts—it is a gift from God.

### Adoption and Good Works (Romans 8:15)

- 367: Through salvation, we are adopted as God's children, with all the privileges, including inheriting eternal life.
- 368: Christians do good things not to earn salvation but to show their love for God.

### Christian Virtues and Faith (1 Corinthians 13:13)

- 369: The three great Christian virtues are faith, hope, and love, with love being the greatest.
- 370: According to Hebrews 11:6, those who come to God must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who sincerely seek Him.

### The Greatest Commandments (Mark 12:30-31)

- 371: The first and most important commandment is to love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength.
- 372: The second-most important commandment is to love your neighbor as yourself.

## A Brand-New Life

### Bible Verse

"Jesus replied, 'I tell you the truth, unless you are born again, you cannot see the Kingdom of God.'" – John 3:3 (NLT)

### Story

Logan loved his old bicycle, but it was getting rusty and the tires were worn out. No matter how much he tried to fix it, it still didn't work well. On his birthday, his parents surprised him with a brand-new bike! Logan was so excited. His old bike was broken, but now he had something completely new.

That night, during family devotions, Logan's dad read about Jesus and Nicodemus. "Jesus told Nicodemus that to see God's kingdom, a person must be born again."

Logan tilted his head. "Born again? How can someone be born twice?"

Dad smiled. "Nicodemus asked the same thing! Jesus explained that being born again means the Holy Spirit gives us new life. It's like your old bike—you couldn't make it new by yourself, but your parents gave you a brand-new one. When we believe in Jesus, He makes us brand-new inside!"

Logan grinned. "So, being born again means I get a fresh start with God?"

"Yes!" Dad said. "Jesus changes us from the inside out and gives us a new life with Him."

### Faith Connection

Jesus told Nicodemus that being born again is necessary to enter God's kingdom. We can't fix our hearts on our own, but when we believe in Jesus, the Holy Spirit makes us new. Being born again means we get a fresh start and a brand-new life with God!

### Discuss It

What do you think it means to be born again? How does Jesus change us when we believe in Him?

### Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank You for giving me a new life. I know I can't fix my heart on my own, but You make me new. Help me to follow You every day. Amen.

### Live It

Think of one way Jesus has changed your heart since you started following Him. Share your story with a friend or family member, and thank God for making you new!

## Choosing Jesus and Harmony

### Bible Verse

*"Live in harmony with each other. Don't be too proud to enjoy the company of ordinary people. And don't think you know it all!" – Romans 12:16 (NLT)*

### Story

Lily loved playing soccer, but she didn't always get along with her teammates. One day at practice, she didn't want to pass the ball to a younger player. "She's not as good as me," Lily thought. But later, when her coach talked about teamwork, she realized she hadn't been kind.

That night, during family devotions, Lily's mom read from Romans 12:16. "**Paul tells us to live in harmony and not be too proud.**" God wants us to be kind to everyone, not just the people we think are important."

Lily sighed. "I guess I was thinking I was better than my teammate today."

Her mom nodded. "God wants us to love and respect everyone, just like Jesus does. And the greatest choice we can make is choosing to follow Jesus. **God wants everyone to be saved, but we have to decide to trust Him.**"

Lily thought about it. "So, just like I have to choose to be a good teammate, I also have to choose Jesus?"

"Yes," Mom said. "God invites everyone, but each person has to decide to follow Him."

### Faith Connection

God wants everyone to be saved, but we must choose Jesus for ourselves. When we follow Him, He helps us live in harmony with others. That means being kind, not thinking we're better than others, and treating everyone with love—just like Jesus does!

### Discuss It

Why do you think God wants us to live in harmony with others? How can you show kindness to someone new this week?

### Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank You for loving everyone and inviting us to follow You. Help me to live in harmony with others, be kind, and not think I'm better than anyone. I choose to follow You and love people the way You do. Amen.

### Live It

Look for someone this week who might feel left out and show kindness to them. Also, if you haven't already, take time to pray and choose to follow Jesus as your Savior!

## A Heart That Pleases God

### Bible Verse

*"But he gives us even more grace to stand against such evil desires. As the Scriptures say, 'God opposes the proud but favors the humble.'" – James 4:6*

**Story** Owen was the best player on his baseball team, and he knew it. He bragged about his skills and acted like he didn't need help from anyone. One day, during a game, he refused to listen to his coach's advice. Instead of making the right play, he made a mistake, and his team lost the game.

That night, during family devotions, Owen's dad read James 4:6. "**God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.**"

Owen frowned. "What does that mean?"

Dad explained, "When we're proud and think we don't need help, we push God away. But when we're humble, God helps us and gives us grace."

Owen sighed. "I guess I acted like I knew everything today. I didn't listen, and I hurt my team."

Dad nodded. "Being humble means admitting when we're wrong and asking for help. But the biggest mistake someone can make is rejecting God completely.

**Jesus said the only sin that won't be forgiven is when someone knowingly speaks evil against the Holy Spirit.**"

Owen's eyes widened. "Why?"

Dad replied, "Because the Holy Spirit is the one who helps us see the truth. If someone refuses to listen to God and keeps rejecting Him, they are choosing to stay far from Him."

Owen thought for a moment. "So, if I want God's help, I need to be humble and listen to Him?"

"Yes!" Dad said. "God loves to help those who turn to Him."

**Faith Connection** God wants us to have humble hearts and listen to Him. When we are proud and reject His help, we push Him away. But when we choose to trust Him, He gives us grace. The worst mistake anyone can make is turning away from God completely. But when we humbly seek Him, He is always ready to forgive and help us.

**Discuss It** Why do you think pride keeps us from listening to God? How can you show humility in your life?

**Prayer** Dear God, I don't want to be proud and push You away. Help me to be humble and listen to You. Thank You for always being ready to forgive and help me when I turn to You. Amen.

**Live It** Think of a time when you didn't want to listen to advice. This week, practice humility by listening to others, admitting when you're wrong, and asking God for help in everything you do.