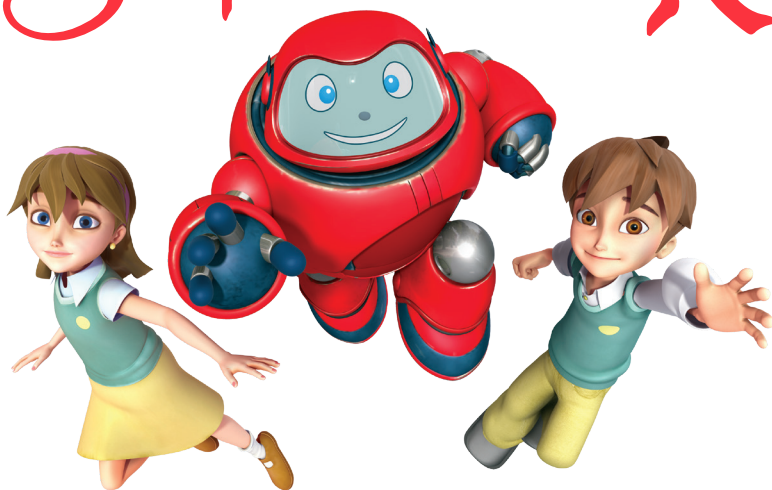


Superbook[®]



30 Day Devotional

A NEW JOURNEY WITH GOD!

➤ **Becoming a Christian**



God loves you and wants you to follow Him with your whole life. This is called becoming a Christian—and it is the most important decision you will ever make.

For God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)

You become a Christian when you:

① **ADMIT** that you are separated from God.

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

God loves us, but we are separated from God and His love because of our sin. Sin is when we do wrong things or make bad choices. These bad choices are different from what God would want us to do.

② **BELIEVE** that Jesus died and rose again to be your Savior.

God sent His only Son Jesus to save us. Jesus was born more than 2,000 years ago and lived a sinless life. Jesus died on a cross to take the punishment for our sin and came back to life three days later. This act of love bridged the gap between you and God!

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

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

③ **CONFESS** your sins and commit your life to God.

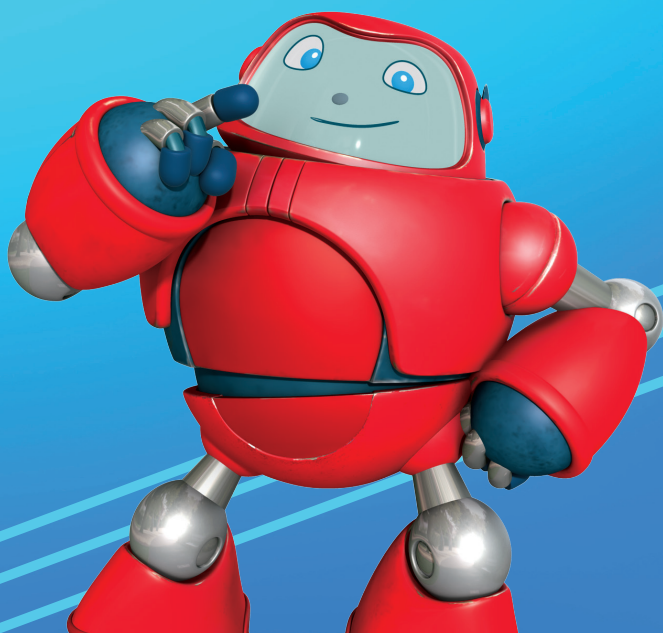
Jesus is the way to eternal life with God. Asking God for forgiveness and accepting Jesus as your Savior will begin your relationship with God here on earth, as well.

But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.
(1 John 1:9)

If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.
(Romans 10:9)

**Jesus made it possible for you
to experience God's love!**

***Would you like to ask Jesus to
become your Savior right now?***



> Pray

Dear God,

I admit that I have done things that are against Your will for me, and I want to have a relationship with You. Please forgive me for my sins. I believe in my heart that Jesus died and rose again to take away my sin, and I declare Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior. Please fill me with your Holy Spirit so that I may be faithful to You. Thank You for saving me and for letting me become Your child. Please speak to me and help me to hear Your voice and to follow the way that You want me to live. I look forward to spending time with You both here on earth and in heaven. In Jesus' name, Amen.

For his Spirit joins with
our spirit to affirm that
we are God's children.

ROMANS 8:16



Welcome to God's Family!

When you invited Jesus into your life as Savior, you became a child of God. You were born into the family of God!

Gizmo's Bible Adventures will help you understand more about what happened to you and how you can grow in your friendship with Jesus. It will also help you learn how God wants you to live as His child.

Reading the Bible and spending time with God each day is important and exciting. Here are 30 days of devotions to get you started on your new journey.

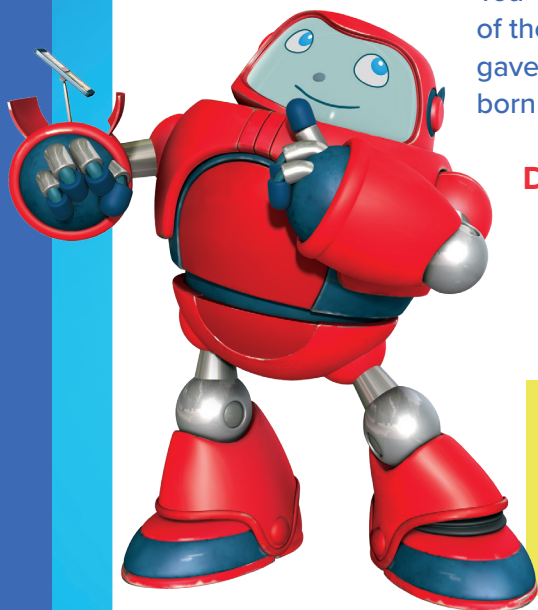
**BEFORE YOU START READING EACH DAY,
PRAY A PRAYER LIKE THIS:**

Dear God, please help me understand what I read in the Bible. Help me apply what I learn to my own life.

> Day 1

READ

Being a Child of God



Do you know what has happened? You—yes, you!—have become part of the family of God! When you gave your life to Jesus, you were born into God's family!

**Do you know what being
a child of God means?**

Read John 1:12

But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God.

PRAY

Dear God, thank You that I can have a special relationship with You as my heavenly Father. I belong to You and want to please You—today and always!

Please show me how to please You in all that I do. Amen.

READ

Two Birthdays

Can you imagine what it would be like to have two birthdays?

Guess what? You really DO have two birthdays! Every Christian has two birthdays: the first one is the day that you were born physically and the second is the day you were born spiritually into God's family. The Bible says that when we accept Jesus into our hearts, we are "born again."



Read John 3:1-3

There was a man named Nicodemus, a Jewish religious leader who was a Pharisee. After dark one evening, he came to speak with Jesus. "Rabbi," he said, "we all know that God has sent you to teach us. Your miraculous signs are evidence that God is with you."

Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, unless you are born again, you cannot see the Kingdom of God."

PRAY

Dear God, thank You for loving me and making me a part of Your family. Help me understand what it means to be born again and to be Your child. Amen.



> Day 3

READ

A New You

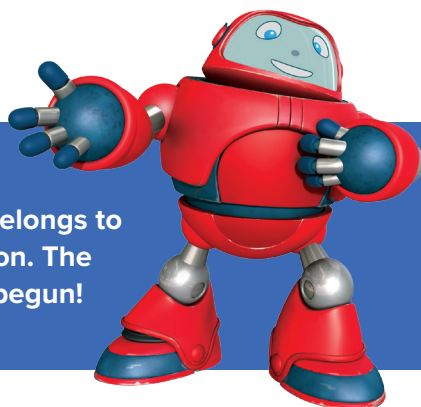
Have you ever imagined yourself dressed in fancy new clothes or with a new hairstyle?

You might end up looking completely different. But guess what? No matter which clothes you wear or how you style your hair, inside, you are still the same.

But when you became a Christian, you changed on the inside. You may not look different, but you really are different! The Bible says that when we accept Jesus, we become a new creation!

Read 2 Corinthians 5:17

This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!



PRAY

Dear God, I am so excited that I belong to Jesus and that I have begun a whole new life as a new creature. Help me to think and act in the way that I should as a brand-new creature—as a child of God!

READ

Grow Like Jesus

Have you ever seen how newborn babies grow?

They become more and more like their parents. We say they are “maturing.” First they learn to crawl, then to walk, and then to run! As a newborn Christian, you’re going to grow and mature spiritually. Every day that you grow, you’re going to be more like Jesus! It’s amazing, isn’t it?



Read Luke 2:52

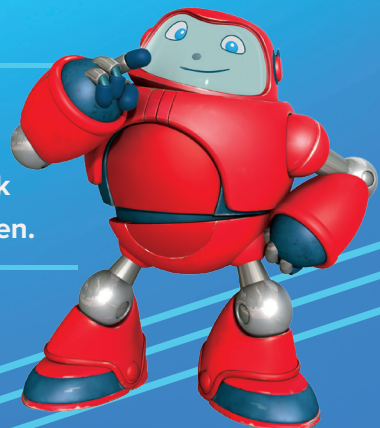
Jesus grew in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and all the people.

We follow Jesus to learn how to grow spiritually and honor Him by learning new things, growing in wisdom, loving others, growing in favor with people, and taking care of our physical bodies growing in stature.



PRAY

Dear God, I want to grow just as Jesus did. Help me to grow spiritually so that every day I look and behave more like Jesus. Amen.



> Day 5

READ

Food for Growth

As everyone knows, babies need milk to grow. But what kind of milk does a spiritual newborn need to grow? **Can you guess?**

Read 1 Peter 2:2-3

Like newborn babies, you must crave pure spiritual milk so that you will grow into a full experience of salvation. Cry out for this nourishment, now that you have had a taste of the Lord's kindness.

Read 2 Timothy 3:14-17

But you must remain faithful to the things you have been taught. You know they are true, for you know you can trust those who taught you. You have been taught the holy Scriptures from childhood, and they have given you the wisdom to receive the salvation that comes by trusting in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.

PRAY

Dear God, I want to grow strong spiritually. May I be like a newborn baby and want the pure, spiritual "super milk" that comes with reading the Bible every day! Amen.



READ

A Growing Relationship

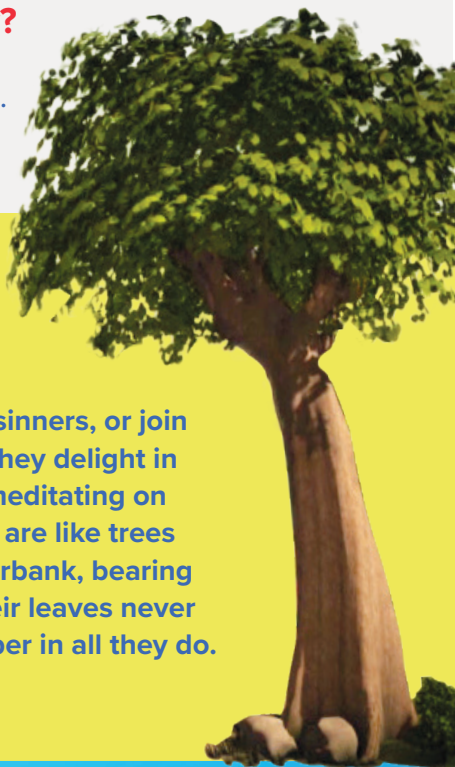
Have you noticed how big and tall and strong a tree can grow?

The Bible uses the image of a tree to show us how we can grow as Christians.



Read Psalm 1:1-3

Oh, the joys of those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or stand around with sinners, or join in with mockers. But they delight in the law of the LORD, meditating on it day and night. They are like trees planted along the riverbank, bearing fruit each season. Their leaves never wither, and they prosper in all they do.



PRAY

Dear God, I want to grow strong as a Christian by reading the Bible every day, by thinking about it and by putting into practice what I learn from it. Amen.

> Day 7

READ

The Bible Is Like...

The Bible is so amazing that it's hard to describe.

Read Psalm 119:105

Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path.

Read Psalm 119:9

How can a young person stay pure? By obeying your word.



The Bible is like a *lamp* because it's able to *light our way* in darkness, to show us the *right path for our lives*.

PRAY

Dear God, thank You for giving me the Bible! It shines like a lamp to guide my feet so that I won't stumble, and it lights up my path as I walk forward with You. Amen.



READ

Mirror Talk

Have you ever looked in the mirror and noticed that your hair was all messed up?

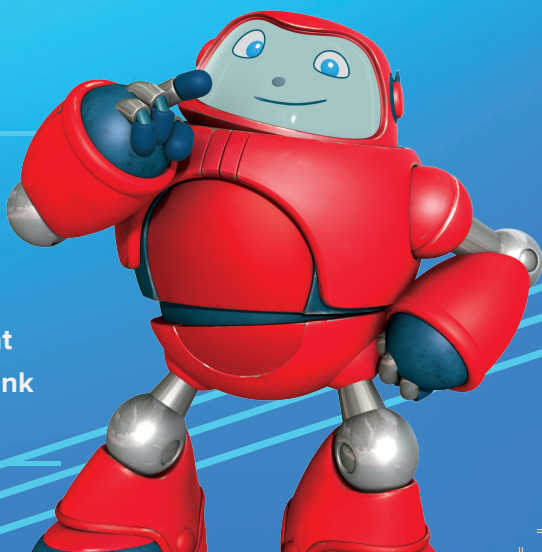
Or maybe you noticed that you had something stuck in your teeth—*yuck!* Or maybe you noticed there was a smudge of dirt on your cheek! We use mirrors to show us what's wrong—so that we can fix it! We can comb our hair, we can brush our teeth, and we can wash our faces!

Read James 1:22-25

But don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves. For if you listen to the word and don't obey, it is like glancing at your face in a mirror. You see yourself, walk away, and forget what you look like. But if you look carefully into the perfect law that sets you free, and if you do what it says and don't forget what you heard, then God will bless you for doing it.

PRAY

Dear God, please help me to use the Bible just like a mirror—to see what is wrong in my life, to change those things, and to do what is right by obeying You. Thank You for helping me. Amen.



> Day 9

READ

Talking Together

Today, there are many ways in which people communicate with each other:

Letters, telephone calls, text messages, and email. God wants us to communicate with Him through prayer.

Praying really just means talking to God! He wants us to talk to Him and tell Him honestly what we are thinking.

Read Matthew 6:5-8

“When you pray, don’t be like the hypocrites who love to pray publicly on street corners and in the synagogues where everyone can see them. I tell you the truth, that is all the reward they will ever get. But when you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father in private. Then your Father, who sees everything, will reward you. When you pray, don’t babble on and on as people of other religions do. They think their prayers are answered merely by repeating their words again and again. Don’t be like them, for your Father knows exactly what you need even before you ask him!”



PRAY

Dear God, thank You that I can talk to You in prayer. Thank You that I can be honest with You and tell You just what I am feeling and thinking straight from my heart. Amen.

READ

A Prayer

Praying is important! But how should we pray?

When the disciples asked Jesus how to pray, He taught them a prayer that we now call the **Lord's Prayer**.



Read Matthew 6:9-13

Pray like this: "Our Father in heaven, may your name be kept holy. May your Kingdom come soon. May your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us today the food we need, and forgive us our sins, as we have forgiven those who sin against us.

And don't let us yield to temptation, but rescue us from the evil one."

PRAY

Dear God, thank You for teaching us how to pray. Thank You that I can also talk to You any time and about anything. Thank You for listening and answering my prayers. Amen.



> Day 11

READ

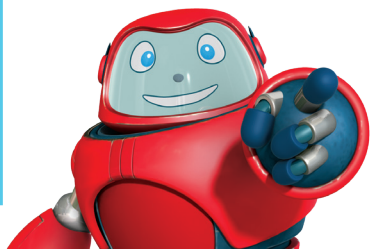
Meeting Together

Just as friends and families spend time together, Christians should meet together. Do you know why?

According to the Bible, spending time with other Christians—which is called “fellowship”—is very important. It’s one of the ways that God helps us to grow as Christians!

Read Acts 2:42

All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord’s Supper), and to prayer.



Read Acts 2:46-47

They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord’s Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity—all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.

PRAY

Dear God, please help me to do the things that help me grow spiritually as Your child. Help me to read the Bible every day, to pray every day, and to spend time with other Christians who love You and obey You. Amen.

Don’t know any Christians your own age?

1. Keep looking!
2. Pray that you will meet new friends who will help you grow.
3. Ask a trusted adult to help you find a church or Christian youth group.

READ

Tell Others

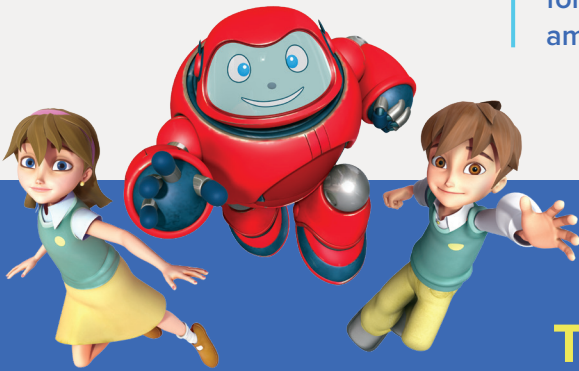
When we discover something exciting, we usually want to tell others.

One of the most exciting things we can imagine is the idea that we are God's children! So we should tell others about it. In fact, God wants us to tell others!

Read Mark 5:19-20

"...go home to your family, and tell them everything the Lord has done for you and how merciful he has been."

So the man started off to visit the ten towns of that region and began to proclaim the great things Jesus had done for him; and everyone was amazed at what he told them.



**You are
God's child.
Tell your story!**

PRAY

Dear God, thank You for all of the amazing and wonderful things You've done for me! Help me to tell others about those things in a way that will bless them and show them Your love. Amen.



> Day 13

READ

Think Right

We all know that what we do is important. But did you know that the Bible says that what we think is just as important? That's because what we think influences our attitudes and our actions.

The Bible tells us to “think right” so that our actions will be right too!



Read Philippians 4:8

And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise.

The Bible says that how we think really affects how we act. So to obey God and please God, we have to get our thoughts in line with His thinking too!

PRAY

Dear God, help me to watch my thoughts and to think right. I want to think like You so that I can be more like You. Please help me to do that. Amen.



READ

Watch Your Words

What we do is important and what we think is important.

But did you know that, according to the Bible, what we say is important too?

Read James 1:26

If you claim to be religious but don't control your tongue, you are fooling yourself, and your religion is worthless.

According to the Bible, the tongue is small, but it can be very powerful.

Read James 3:3-6

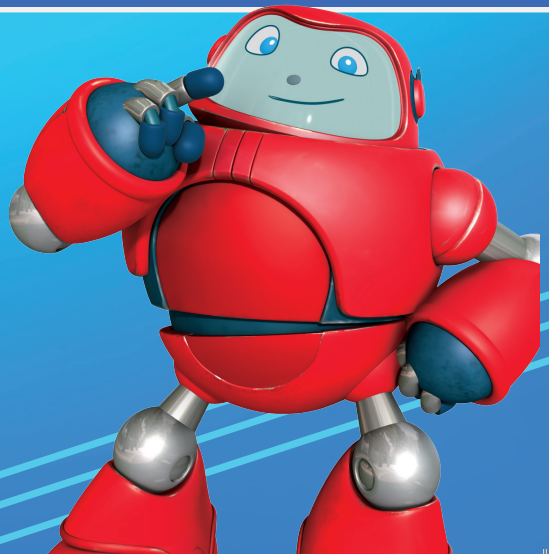
We can make a large horse go wherever we want by means of a small bit in its mouth. And a small rudder makes a huge ship turn wherever the pilot chooses to go, even though the winds are strong. In the same way, the tongue is a small thing that makes grand speeches.

But a tiny spark can set a great forest on fire. And the tongue is a flame of fire. It is a whole world of wickedness, corrupting your entire body. It can set your whole life on fire, for it is set on fire by hell itself.

The words we speak affect how we think and what we do.
So to obey God, we have to be careful of what we say!

PRAY

Dear Lord, please help me to control my tongue, and help me only to speak words that are pleasing to You. Amen.



> Day 15

READ

Live Right

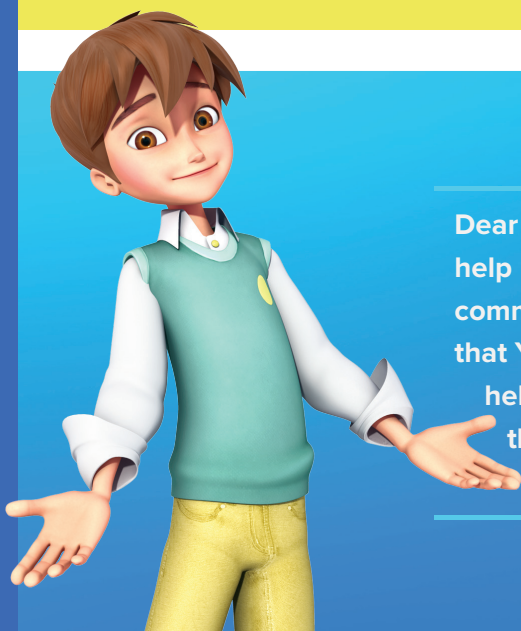
In order to live right, we must obey God.

That's why He has given us rules. They help us to live right and to obey Him. Imagine what would happen if there were no rules for anyone to follow! What if everyone thought it was right to steal from your neighbors whenever they wanted?

Just as there are laws in every community against stealing, there are rules for living. And God has given us those rules to protect us and to help us live lives that are pleasing to Him.

Read Mark 12:30-31

“And 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.”



PRAY

Dear Lord, please
help me to know the
commandments and rules
that You have given us, and
help me obey them so
that I can live right and
please You. Amen.

**If you want to live a life that's pleasing to God,
you have to obey the rules that He's given to us.**



Read Exodus 20:3-4; 7-8; 12-17

**The verses are called
The Ten Commandments.**

- 1. You must not have any other
god but me.**

God is the only god.

- 2. You must not make for yourself
an idol of any kind or an image
of anything in the heavens or
on the earth or in the sea.**

We are not to make up things to
worship instead of God. He is the
only one worthy of our devotion.

- 3. You must not misuse the name
of the LORD your God. The LORD
will not let you go unpunished if
you misuse his name.**

God's name is very powerful. Show
respect to God by using His name
with love and care.

- 4. Remember to observe the
Sabbath day by keeping it holy.**

Just like God rested after He
finished creating the world, He
wants us to take a day of rest and
reflection every week to spend time
with Him.

- 5. Honor your father and mother.
Then you will live a long, full life
in the land the LORD your God is
giving you.**

Respect your parents and those
who take care of you.

- 6. You must
not murder.**

Do not kill.

- 7. You must
not commit
adultery.**

Married people
should be loyal
to their spouse.

- 8. You must
not steal.**

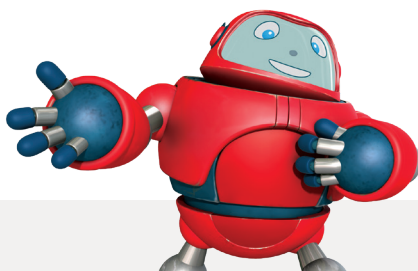
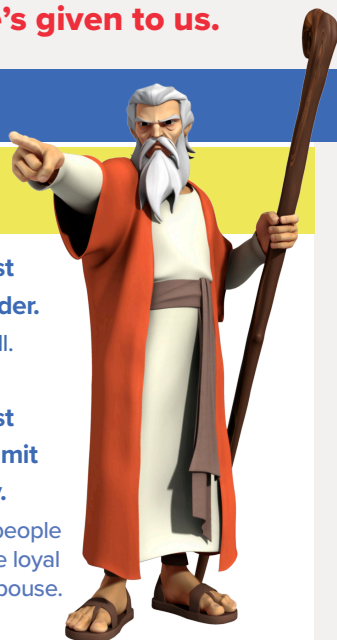
Do not take things that are
not yours.

- 9. You must not testify falsely
against your neighbor.**

Do not tell lies.

- 10. You must not covet your
neighbor's house. You must
not covet your neighbor's wife,
male or female servant, ox or
donkey, or anything else that
belongs to your neighbor.**

Do not be jealous of anything that
is not yours. Be happy for others
and thankful for what you have.



> Day 16

READ

Proof

What proof might someone have that you are a follower of Jesus?

Think about your favorite sports team. What proof do you see that someone follows the same sports team that you do? Perhaps they talk about the team, wear the team colors, or have pictures of the players posted on their walls.



Read John 13:34-35

“So now I am giving you a new commandment: **Love** each other. Just as I have **loved** you, you should **love** each other. Your **love** for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples.”



Think of a person who needs God's love. Write his or her name in the prayer below. What can you do for that person to show them God's love?

Dear Lord, as your follower, I want to show love to others. Help me to show love to

(Write someone's name here.)

by _____

(Write how you want to express God's love.)

Amen



Day 17

READ

Reach Out

In Israel, the Jordan River flows into the Sea of Galilee, and the Sea of Galilee flows into the Dead Sea, but no water flows out of the Dead Sea! The Sea of Galilee is full of fish and living plants, but the Dead Sea is dead. It has no animal or plant life in it!

If we receive God's love and pass it on, we're like the Sea of Galilee—full of life. But if we receive God's love and don't pass it on, we are like the Dead Sea—dead! **God wants us to pass along His love!**



Read Matthew 25:34-40

"Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world. For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home. I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me.' Then

these righteous ones will reply, 'Lord, when did we ever see you hungry and feed you? Or thirsty and give you something to drink? Or a stranger and show you hospitality? Or naked and give you clothing? When did we ever see you sick or in prison and visit you?' And the King will say, 'I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!'"

PRAY

Dear Lord, thank You for loving me so much! Help me pass Your love on to others, so that I can truly be alive in You. Amen.



> Day 18

READ

Power

Power is defined as “strength, force or might; the ability to do or act.”

As Christians, we have a special source of power that helps us live the way God wants us to. Do you know what our source of power is?



Read Acts 1:8

“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.”

And today, the Holy Spirit empowers us to do the same thing—tell people about Jesus! Pray for every person on your list. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you tell them what you have learned about Jesus and what He has done for you.

PRAY

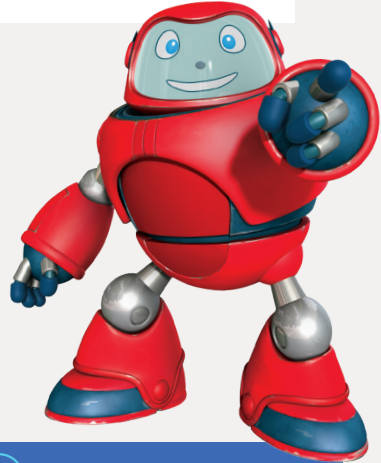
Dear Lord, thank You for the power of Your Holy Spirit. Help me to be Your witness wherever I go, telling others about You. Amen.

READ

Who Is the Holy Spirit?

We can see the power of the wind when it blows, but can we actually see the wind?

It's the same with the Holy Spirit. We cannot see the Holy Spirit, but we can experience His power. The Holy Spirit helps us in many areas of life.



Read John 15:26

“But I will send you the Advocate—the Spirit of truth. He will come to you from the Father and will testify all about me.”



Read John 14:26

“But when the Father sends the Advocate as my representative—that is, the Holy Spirit—he will teach you everything and will remind you of everything I have told you”.

PRAY

Dear Lord, thank You for Your Holy Spirit who lives inside me and who teaches, comforts and encourages me. Amen.

> Day 20

READ

Fruitful Lives



When a farmer plants a fruit tree, he helps it grow and watches for fruit to come.

When we are connected to Jesus, the Holy Spirit helps us grow and our lives produce good “fruit.”

Read Galatians 5:22-23

But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.



Read John 15:5

“Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing.”

If we are connected to Jesus, like a branch is connected to the trunk of a tree, we will produce the good fruit of the Holy Spirit.

PRAY

Choose one fruit of the Spirit that you would really like your life to show and write it on the line in the prayer below.

Dear Lord, help me to stay connected to You so that my life can be fruitful. May I especially learn to show _____ in my life.



READ

Follow the Leader

Have you ever played the game called “Follow the Leader”?

Christians have a leader that they follow at all times. Do you know who that leader is?

Galatians 5:24-26 explains that our leader is the Holy Spirit.

Read Galatians 5:24-26

Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there. Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit’s leading in every part of our lives. Let us not become conceited, or provoke one another, or be jealous of one another.



PRAY

Dear Lord, thank You for the Holy Spirit, who wants to take the lead in every part of my life. Help me recognize Your voice so that I can follow the Holy Spirit in all that I do. Amen.

> Day 22

READ

More Than Talent



The Holy Spirit gives everyone different gifts! A talent is a natural ability to do something well.

But when we become Christians, the Holy Spirit gives us supernatural abilities.

Read 1 Corinthians 12:4-11

There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit is the source of them all. There are different kinds of service, but we serve the same Lord. God works in different ways, but it is the same God who does the work in all of us. A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other. To one person the Spirit gives the ability to give wise advice; to another the same Spirit gives a message of special knowledge. The same Spirit gives great faith to another, and to someone else the

one Spirit gives the gift of healing. He gives one person the power to perform miracles, and another the ability to prophesy. He gives someone else the ability to discern whether a message is from the Spirit of God or from another spirit. Still another person is given the ability to speak in unknown languages, while another is given the ability to interpret what is being said. It is the one and only Spirit who distributes all these gifts. He alone decides which gift each person should have.

PRAY

Dear Lord, thank You for the Holy Spirit, who gives us spiritual gifts. Help me use my gifts to serve You by helping others. Amen.

READ

Going Your Own Way

Have you ever gotten lost at the store or on your way to a friend's house?

Sometimes we ignore the rule to stay close to our family or friends, or we don't stop to see that we are going in the wrong direction.



Read Luke 15:11-19

To illustrate the point further, Jesus told them this story: "A man had two sons. The younger son told his father, 'I want my share of your estate now before you die.' So his father agreed to divide his wealth between his sons. A few days later this younger son packed all his belongings and moved to a distant land, and there he wasted all his money in wild living. About the time his money ran out, a great famine swept over the land, and he began to starve. He persuaded a local farmer to

hire him, and the man sent him into his fields to feed the pigs. The young man became so hungry that even the pods he was feeding the pigs looked good to him. But no one gave him anything. When he finally came to his senses, he said to himself, 'At home even the hired servants have food enough to spare, and here I am dying of hunger! I will go home to my father and say, "Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, and I am no longer worthy of being called your son. Please take me on as a hired servant."'"

PRAY

Dear Lord, help me always to listen to Your instructions so that I don't go my own way and get lost. But if I do make a mistake, please help me come to my senses and turn to You. Help me follow Your instructions so that I can be on the right path again. Amen.

> Day 24

READ

Welcome Home

How do you celebrate when someone comes home after being away for a long time?

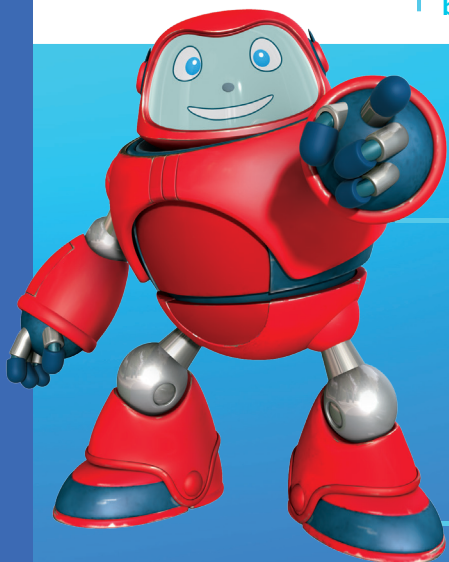
Jesus told a story of a young man who took his inheritance, left home, made bad choices, and lost everything.

He decides to return to his father, even if only as a servant. What kind of welcome would he receive?

Read Luke 15:20-24

“So he returned home to his father. And while he was still a long way off, his father saw him coming. Filled with love and compassion, he ran to his son, embraced him, and kissed him. His son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, and I am no longer worthy of being called your son.’ But his father said to the servants, ‘Quick! Bring the finest robe in the house and put it on him. Get a ring for his finger and sandals for his feet. And kill the calf we have been fattening. We must celebrate with a feast, for this son of mine was dead and has now returned to life. He was lost, but now he is found.’ So the party began.”

The son realized that he had done wrong by going his own way and wasting his inheritance money. He was prepared to go back home and be a servant.



PRAY

Dear Lord, thank You for being my heavenly Father and for loving me so much that, if I confess my sins to You, You are faithful and just to forgive me. Amen.

READ

Temptation

When you take a test at school, what do you do to get a good grade?

When the devil tested Jesus in the wilderness, Jesus knew the Scriptures so well that He passed the test.

Jesus was hungry and the devil tempted Him to use His power for His own benefit. But Jesus didn't rely on His own feelings to make a decision. Instead, He quoted Scripture to stand up to the devil.

Read Matthew 4:1-4

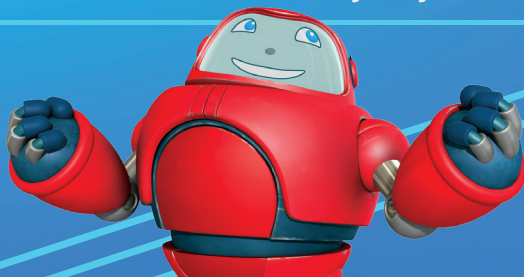
Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted there by the devil. For forty days and forty nights he fasted and became very hungry.

During that time the devil came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become loaves of bread." But Jesus told him, "No! The Scriptures say, 'People do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

We study the Bible to be able to pass life's tests and answer the enemy with God's powerful Word.

PRAY

Dear Lord, thank You for the Bible. Help me to know it so well that I can pass the real-life tests that come my way. Amen.



> Day 26

READ

The Ultimate Weapon

The devil is very clever when he tries to get us to do wrong things. But we have an ultimate weapon to use in fighting him.

Do you know what it is?

Read Matthew 4:5-11

Then the devil took him to the holy city, Jerusalem, to the highest point of the Temple, and said, "If you are the Son of God, jump off! For the Scriptures say, 'He will order his angels to protect you. And they will hold you up with their hands so you won't even hurt your foot on a stone.'" Jesus responded, "The Scriptures also say, 'You must not test the LORD your

God.'" Next the devil took him to the peak of a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. "I will give it all to you," he said, "if you will kneel down and worship me." "Get out of here, Satan," Jesus told him. "For the Scriptures say, 'You must worship the LORD your God and serve only him.'" Then the devil went away, and angels came and took care of Jesus.

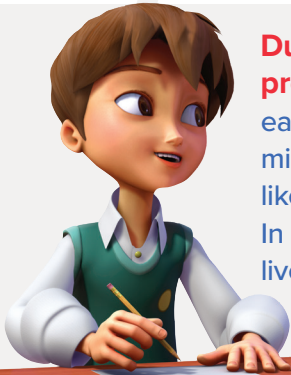
PRAY

Dear Lord, thank You for giving us the Bible, which we can use as the ultimate weapon against the devil in fighting off temptations. Thank You for giving us the victory! Amen.



READ

Testing Time



During what's called the **refining process**, dirt and rocks mined from the earth are heated to separate valuable minerals and metals from the impurities like dirt and debris.

In a similar way, trials and hardships in our lives refine us. They help God remove the impurities from our lives and make our faith strong and pure.



Read 1 Peter 1:7

These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world.



Read James 1:2-4

Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.

PRAY

Dear Lord, whenever troubles come my way, may I consider it an opportunity for great joy. For when my faith is tested, my endurance has a chance to grow. So I will let it grow. For when my endurance is fully developed, I will be strong in character and ready for anything. Amen.

> Day 28

READ

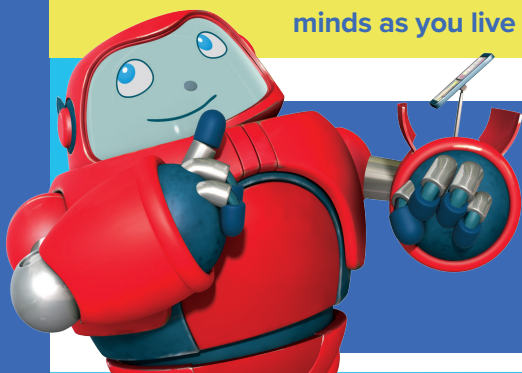
Why Worry?

Did you know that God commands us to not worry but to pray instead? The Bible teaches us that we can give all our worries and cares to God, for He cares about us.



Read Philippians 4:6-7

Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.



In the prayer below, write one or two things that worry you, and then pray to Him about them.

PRAY

Dear Lord, I'm concerned about _____
and _____. Please help me to know
that You don't want me to worry about these things but
that You want me to trust You. I put these things in Your
hands right now, knowing that You love me and that I can
trust You with all my problems. Amen.

READ

Run the Race

The Christian life is like a race, and we are the runners.



Read 1 Corinthians 9:24-27

Don't you realize that in a race everyone runs, but only one person gets the prize? So run to win! All athletes are disciplined in their training. They do it to win a prize that will fade away, but we do it for an eternal prize.

So I run with purpose in every step. I am not just shadowboxing. I discipline my body like an athlete, training it to do what it should. Otherwise, I fear that after preaching to others I myself might be disqualified.

PRAY

Dear Lord, when the going gets tough and I want to quit, help me remember that You are cheering me on and waiting for me at the finish line. Give me the strength to know that You are with me as I run the race of faith, and help me know that the prize I win for staying in the race is the greatest prize imaginable—eternal life in Your presence! Amen.

Day 30

READ

Equipped for Victory

To live the Christian life successfully, God actually tells us to put on a suit of armor

—not armor made of metal but something even more important! In Jesus' time, the Romans ruled in Israel. So Roman soldiers were everywhere! In the Bible, the apostle Paul used the illustration of Roman armor to teach Christians how to defeat the devil and live victorious lives.

> Read Ephesians 6:10-18

A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world,

and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.

Therefore, put on every piece of God's armor so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm. Stand your ground, putting on the belt of truth and the body armor of God's righteousness. For shoes, put on the peace that comes from

the Good News so that you will be fully prepared. In addition to all of these, hold up the shield of faith to stop the fiery arrows of the devil. Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.

PRAY

Dear Lord, thank You for giving me all the equipment I need to fight the enemy, the devil. Help me to use every piece of the armor You have given me so that I can live a victorious Christian life to Your glory. Amen.

