

3RD QUARTER 2023

# Juniors

JUL • AUG • SEPT

IN THE WORLD,  
NOT OF THE WORLD

HANGING ON  
FOR THE RIDE

CALLED TO MINISTRY



# Juniors Quarterly

3<sup>RD</sup> QUARTER 2023

JUL • AUG • SEPT

VOLUME 5 • NUMBER 3

## Note to Parents

### Welcome to the Juniors Quarterly!

This devotional is designed to help your child develop the habit of spending time in the Bible each day. Each week's devotions are written to encourage individual application and response to the verses read that day. The devotional includes age-appropriate stories and activities to engage your child. Some features are even designed to be interactive for the whole family. It is our prayer that you and your child will enjoy exploring the Bible and growing together in the Lord.

**Don't forget . . .** help your child learn the verses suggested on the weekly pages. Consider learning them together.

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**GROWING TOGETHER**  
Sabbath School Curriculum

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# I Can Have Self-Discipline

## MONDAY

Read Daniel 1:1-4 (ICB)

After King Nebuchadnezzar took control of the Israelites' home, he told his servant to bring some Israelites to his palace. What kinds of people did he want his servants to find?

The king wanted to teach these young men how to be like his own people, the Babylonians. What do you think is the problem with someone else wanting us to be too much like them?

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*Everyone will have an opinion of how I should live, but God's opinion matters the most.*

## TUESDAY

Read Daniel 1:5-8 (ICB)

**DANIEL / SERVANTS / UNCLEAN / FOOD / KING / THREE YEARS**

The king gave the young men a certain amount of \_\_\_\_\_ and wine every day. That was the same kind of food that the \_\_\_\_\_ ate. They were trained for \_\_\_\_\_.

Then the young men would become \_\_\_\_\_ of the king of Babylon. \_\_\_\_\_ decided not to eat the king's food and wine because that would make him \_\_\_\_\_.

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*I always have the choice to say no to sin.*

## WEDNESDAY

Read Daniel 1:9-15 (ICB)

As a Jew, Daniel followed strict rules about what he could and could not eat. Even though the king was telling him to break those rules and eat meat, Daniel asked permission to eat vegetables instead. How would you have felt if you were Daniel?

At the end of ten days, how did Daniel look?

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

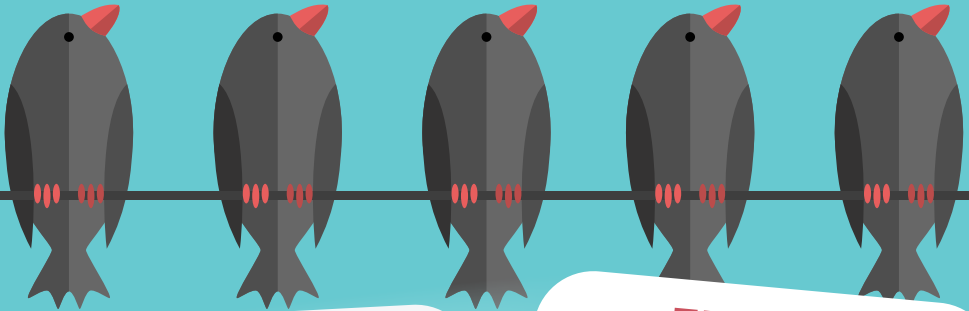
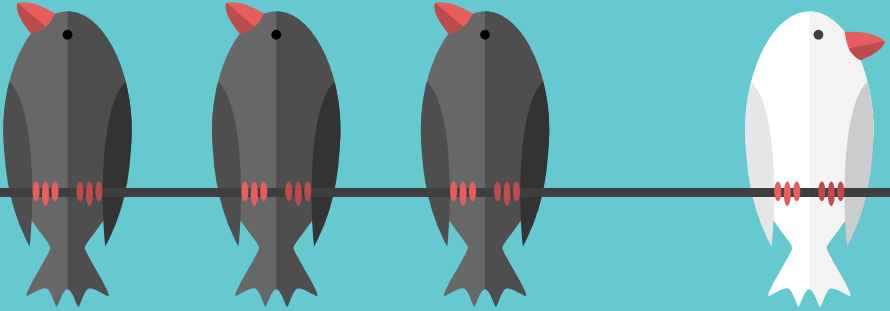
*Even when others choose what pleases themselves, I can choose what pleases God.*

## Family Theme:

Seeking God's Kingdom First

## Application Verse:

1 John 2:5-6



### THURSDAY

Read Daniel 1:17-20 (ICB)

God gave these four men wisdom and **the ability to learn/skills/riches**. Daniel could also understand all kinds of **babies/languages/visions and dreams**. The king talked to them. He found that **most of/some of/none of** the young men were as good as Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah.

#### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*When I choose to obey God, God uses me to bring Him glory.*

### FRIDAY

Read Psalm 1:1-3 (ICB)

A person is more blessed if they don't spend a lot of time with ...

- A. Family
- B. Older people
- C. Bad people
- D. Sad people

A person is more blessed if they think about God's teachings ...

- A. As little as possible
- B. Day and night
- C. Then forgets it
- D. At a young age

#### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*The more time I spend with God, the easier it will be for me to choose what's right when the time comes.*

# CHECK IT OUT

Can you spot the person in each row who is different from the others?



ANSWERS ON PAGE 44

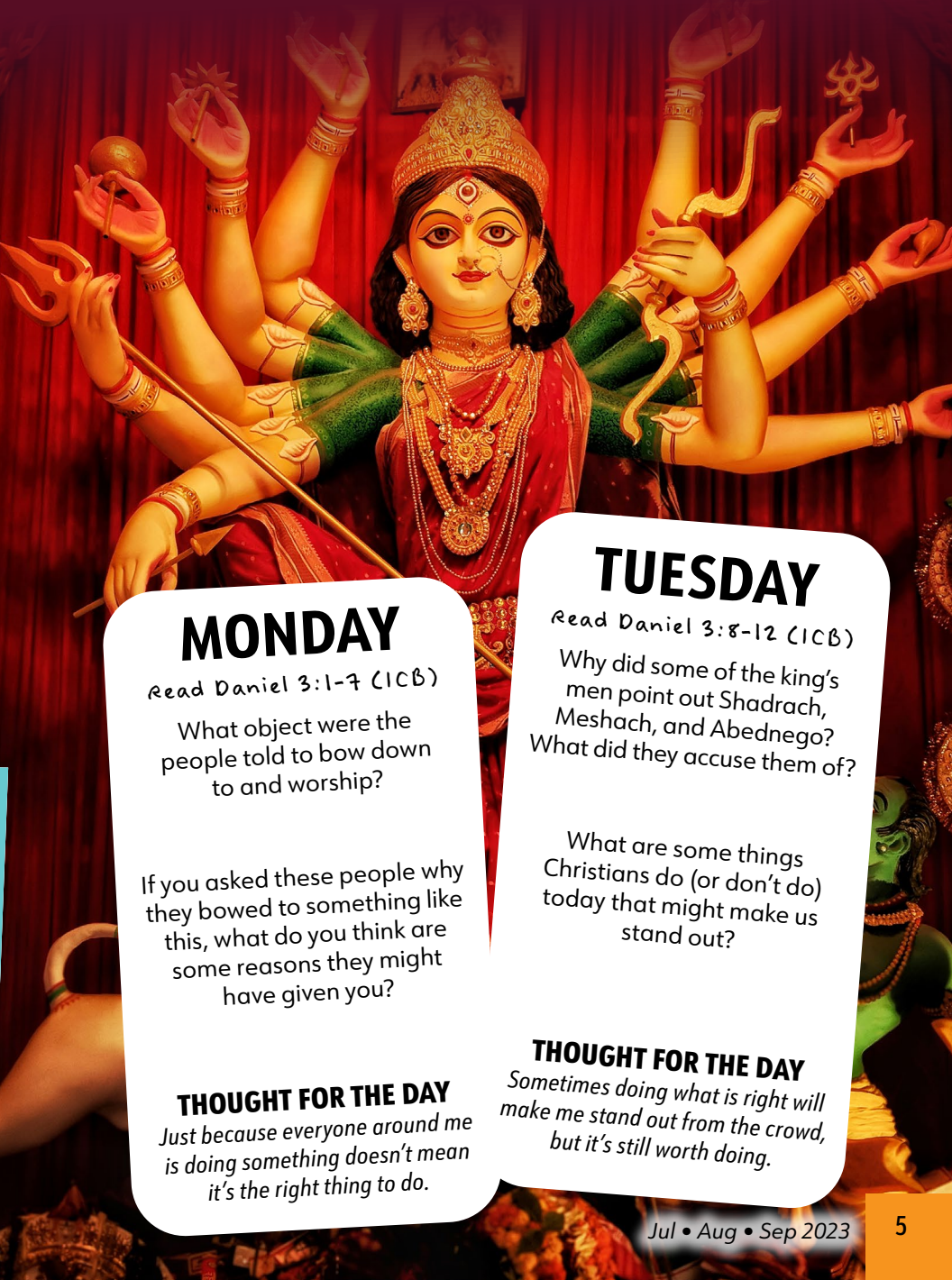
**Lots of things can make you stand out from the crowd: green hair, funny clothes, a loud laugh, toilet paper stuck to your shoe . . .**

But the best reason to stand out is because of your character. When you choose to do the right thing and live for God, people notice. Even more importantly, God notices. God pours out blessings on those who are faithful to Him. Even when no one around you is living for God, you can. Stand out!

## JUNIORS CHALLENGE

*Write in a journal some traits you want to be known for (your speech, your attitude, the way you treat others, etc.). Begin each day by reading your list, and then try to live up to it.*

# I Can Have Courage



## MONDAY

Read Daniel 3:1-7 (ICB)

What object were the people told to bow down to and worship?

If you asked these people why they bowed to something like this, what do you think are some reasons they might have given you?

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*Just because everyone around me is doing something doesn't mean it's the right thing to do.*

## TUESDAY

Read Daniel 3:8-12 (ICB)

Why did some of the king's men point out Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego? What did they accuse them of?

What are some things Christians do (or don't do) today that might make us stand out?

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*Sometimes doing what is right will make me stand out from the crowd, but it's still worth doing.*

## Family Theme:

Staying Faithful When It Costs

## Application Verse:

1 John 2:5-6

# WEDNESDAY

Read Daniel 3:13-18 (1CB)

**ANGRY / DEFEND / WORSHIP / BOW DOWN / SAVE / FURNACE / SERVE**

Nebuchadnezzar became very \_\_\_\_\_. He said, "You must be ready to \_\_\_\_\_ and worship the statue I made. But if you do not \_\_\_\_\_ it, you will be thrown quickly into the blazing \_\_\_\_\_." Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego answered the king, "Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to \_\_\_\_\_ ourselves to you. The God we \_\_\_\_\_ is able to \_\_\_\_\_ us from the furnace and your power."

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*Only God is worthy of my service and my worship.*

# THURSDAY

Read Daniel 3:19-25 (1CB)

How did the men who were guarding Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego die?

- A. God struck them down
- B. The king beheaded them
- C. The idol fell on them
- D. The fire was too hot

When the king looked in the furnace, what was he surprised to see?

- A. A fourth man
- B. The men were unhurt
- C. Someone who looked like a god
- D. All of the above

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*I remain faithful to God because God always remains faithful to me.*

# FRIDAY

Read Daniel 3:26-30 (1CB)

After Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego came from the fire unharmed, what did the king say about their God?

What are some ways we can let others know about the great things God has done for us?

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*One of the best ways to give glory to God is to tell others what God has done for me.*



There's something off about one half of these images. Can you spot the real item in each pair?

## CHECK IT OUT



ANSWERS ON PAGE 44

**The more you study something and become familiar with it, the better you are at knowing when you're looking at the real thing (and when you are not).**

The same is true when it comes to obeying God. When everyone around you is gossiping, making fun of someone, or worshipping a statue of the king, it's easy to believe it's not so bad after all. It's hard to do the right thing when you're under pressure. But the more you study God's Word, the easier it is to remember what the right thing is . . . and why it's always the best choice!

### JUNIORS CHALLENGE

*Be a light for Christ. Choose to do what's right even when no one else does.*

# I Can Choose Humility

## MONDAY

Read Daniel 5:1-4 (ICB)

King Belshazzar commanded he be brought items that were once used for godly worship and he used them for his own feast instead. He then worshiped idols, thinking he was unstoppable. What do you think can happen to our relationship with God when we think too highly of ourselves?

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*Only God is God. Christ deserves my awe and respect.*

## TUESDAY

Read Daniel 5:5-9 (ICB)

**CHAIN / FINGERS / KNEES /  
READ / WALL / WISE MEN**

\_\_\_\_\_ appeared and began to write on the \_\_\_\_\_. The king was troubled; his \_\_\_\_\_

knocked together. He declared, "If anyone can

\_\_\_\_\_ this and explain it to me, he will receive

a \_\_\_\_\_ of gold." But none of the

\_\_\_\_\_ could explain it.

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*God's wisdom and power are beyond what I can even comprehend.*

## WEDNESDAY

Read Daniel 5:13-17 (ICB)

King Belshazzar had heard about Daniel and knew he was full of . . .

A. Pride B. Wisdom C. Lies D. Magic

Daniel agreed to explain the writing on the wall, but he did not want . . .

A. To do it B. The king to hear C. A reward D. A crowd

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*I should live in such a way that the people around me know I am a Christ-follower.*

## Family Theme:

Though Kingdoms  
Fall, God Remains

## Application Verse:

1 John 2:5-6



### THURSDAY

Read Daniel 5:18-23 (ICB)

God gave King Belshazzar's father plenty of **trials/majesty/children**. But he became hardened with **sickness/old age/pride**, and he was removed from his **country/throne/bedroom**. Even still, Belshazzar did not **humble/listen to/give up** his heart.

#### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*Life is better when I humble myself and stay close to God.*

### FRIDAY

Read Daniel 5:24-30 (ICB)

Daniel explained what the message meant. Was it good news or bad news for Belshazzar?

Belshazzar felt all-powerful before this. How do you think he felt after?

#### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*No matter how great a person thinks they are, God is greater.*

## CHECK IT OUT

Listed below are eight jobs or roles that involve leading or ruling over other people. Can you unscramble the letters?



SBOS

B \_ \_ \_ \_

GIKN

K \_ \_ \_ \_

ACCOH

C \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

EENQU

Q \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

AENPRT

P \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

AACINPT

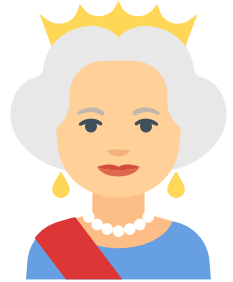
C \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

DEEINPRST

P \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

ACIILNPPR

P \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_



ANSWERS ON PAGE 44

**For the world to run smoothly, we need leaders.  
We need stand-up people to make the hard  
decisions and help us know the right way to go.**

But at the end of the day, leaders are just people. Only God is God. The Lord rules over the highest and greatest leaders on earth. No matter who you answer to on earth (or no matter who answers to YOU), remember it is God we answer to first of all. No one is greater, wiser, or more loving than God.

### JUNIORS CHALLENGE

*Whenever you are rewarded for something or given an important job, take time to thank God for the honor. This will help keep your mind focused on the fact that God is great.*

# I Can Be Faithful

## MONDAY

Read Daniel 6:1-4 (ICB)

Why couldn't the leaders issue a complaint against Daniel?

Is there someone you look up to because you can't find many faults in them?

If so, what about this person do you admire?

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*If people wanted to tear down my Christian walk, would they be able to find any faults?*

## TUESDAY

Read Daniel 6:5-10 (ICB)

The leaders wanted a law that said people could only make requests . . .

- A. On weekends
- B. To the king
- C. To God
- D. Loudly

When Daniel heard about the new law, what did he change about his prayer life?

- A. How many times he prayed
- B. Where he prayed
- C. Whom he prayed to
- D. Nothing

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*Nothing is important enough to keep me from spending time with God.*

## WEDNESDAY

Read Daniel 6:11-18 (ICB)

CHANGED / DELIVER / KING / LAW / LIONS' DEN / PRAYING / SLEEP

When some men found Daniel \_\_\_\_\_, they asked the \_\_\_\_\_ to throw Daniel into the \_\_\_\_\_. The king wanted to \_\_\_\_\_ Daniel, but the \_\_\_\_\_ could not be \_\_\_\_\_, so he gave the command. That night, the king could not \_\_\_\_\_.

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*Not everyone will understand or like my decision to follow God, but God is still worth it.*

## Family Theme:

Remaining Faithful  
When Opposed

## Application Verse:

1 John 2:5-6



## THURSDAY

Read Daniel 6:19-24 (ICB)

When the king found out Daniel was **not harmed/dead/missing**, he was very **glad/angry/confused**. Daniel had **turned his back on/trusted in/looked like** God. As for the men who accused Daniel, the king **rewarded/questioned/punished** them.

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*Even when things look bad, God can still receive the glory and bring about something good.*

## FRIDAY

Read Daniel 6:25-28 (ICB)

After seeing what happened to Daniel, what are some things the king said about God?

If God could use Daniel's awful situation to help a king learn the truth about God, what might God be able to do through the tough situations you face?

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*When I remain faithful to God, Christ can use any situation to bring God glory.*

Surfers can't be sure a shark won't attack them, but they still go in the ocean. A mom cooking spaghetti can't be sure she won't burn herself, but she still uses the stove.

## CHECK IT OUT

Was Daniel sure he would come out of the lions' den unhurt? Probably not. But he did know one thing: his God was worth serving and worshiping, no matter what it might cost him. It's always better to be on God's side, even when the people around us are not.



**Acting in faith means doing what we know is right because we believe God's plan is best.**

Here's the great news:

God has promised wonderful things to those who act in faith.

Look in Psalm 37 (ICB) to learn how you can act in faith and what promises you can hold on to.

If I...

\_\_\_\_\_ in the Lord (v4)  
\_\_\_\_\_ in Him (v5)  
Turn from \_\_\_\_\_ (v27)  
\_\_\_\_\_ for the Lord (v34)

Then...

God will give me \_\_\_\_\_ (v4)  
God will \_\_\_\_\_ (v5)  
I will \_\_\_\_\_ forever (v27)  
He will \_\_\_\_\_ me (v34)

## JUNIORS CHALLENGE

*The next time you want to do what's right, but you're having trouble doing it, remember God's wonderful promises and ask the Lord for strength.*

# I Can Show Reverence

## MONDAY

Read Daniel 7:13-14 (ICB)

**CLOUDS / EVERLASTING /  
GLORY / LANGUAGES /  
PASS AWAY / VISION**

In a \_\_\_\_\_, Daniel  
saw the Son of God coming  
on the \_\_\_\_\_. He  
was given \_\_\_\_\_ and  
a kingdom, that all people and  
\_\_\_\_\_ should  
serve Him. His dominion is  
\_\_\_\_\_ and will  
not \_\_\_\_\_.

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*The future is already set.  
God's kingdom will last forever!*

## TUESDAY

Read Mark 13:24-27 (ICB)

When Jesus returns to earth,  
He will come on the clouds  
with great what?

God will send out His angels to  
gather all people who love and  
serve Him. How does it make  
you feel to know Jesus wants  
you to be with Him for eternity?

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*God will reign forever,  
and He wants me by His side.*

## WEDNESDAY

Read Exodus 15:11-13, 17-18 (ICB)

These verses tell us that God is saving a place for us in Heaven, where He will reign forever. The Lord is guiding us to God and will bring us home one day. Why is it helpful to think about this, especially when life gets hard?

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*Nothing can take away my hope because my future is in Heaven.*



## Family Theme:

God's Kingdom  
Endures Forever

## Application Verse:

1 John 2:5-6



## THURSDAY

Read Psalm 146:5-10 (ICB)

Happy is he whose **hope/sorrow/treasure** is in the Lord. The Lord made **babies cry/Heaven and earth/dust and sand**. He **lifts up/ignores/removes** those who are down. He loves the **wicked/beautiful/righteous**. He will **smile/reign/wait** forever.

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*The best place for my hope to be is in God because God never changes.*

## FRIDAY

Read 1 Corinthians 15:12-20 (ICB)

**Finish the sentences.**  
If the dead are not raised,  
then Christ . . .

If Christ has not been raised,  
your faith . . .

If our hope is in this life  
only, we . . .

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*Christ did arise from the dead,  
which means my faith matters and  
I have hope of eternal life.*

# CHECK IT OUT

Check out these products that were short-lived:

In 1985, the Coca-Cola Company changed the formula for Coca-Cola and called the new drink "New Coke." The public was not happy with the change, so, after only 79 days, the company brought back the original recipe.

In 2002, Ore Ida released a line of "Funky Fries." Cinnamon french fries, chocolate french fries, blue-colored french fries—you could take your pick. In less than a year, however, Ore Ida had given up on these crazy fries.

In 1974, Gerber (the maker of baby food) released jarred food for adults called Gerber Singles. The "mashed meals in a jar" came in flavors such as Creamed Beef and Beef With Mushroom Gravy. Adults did not like the idea, and the product failed.



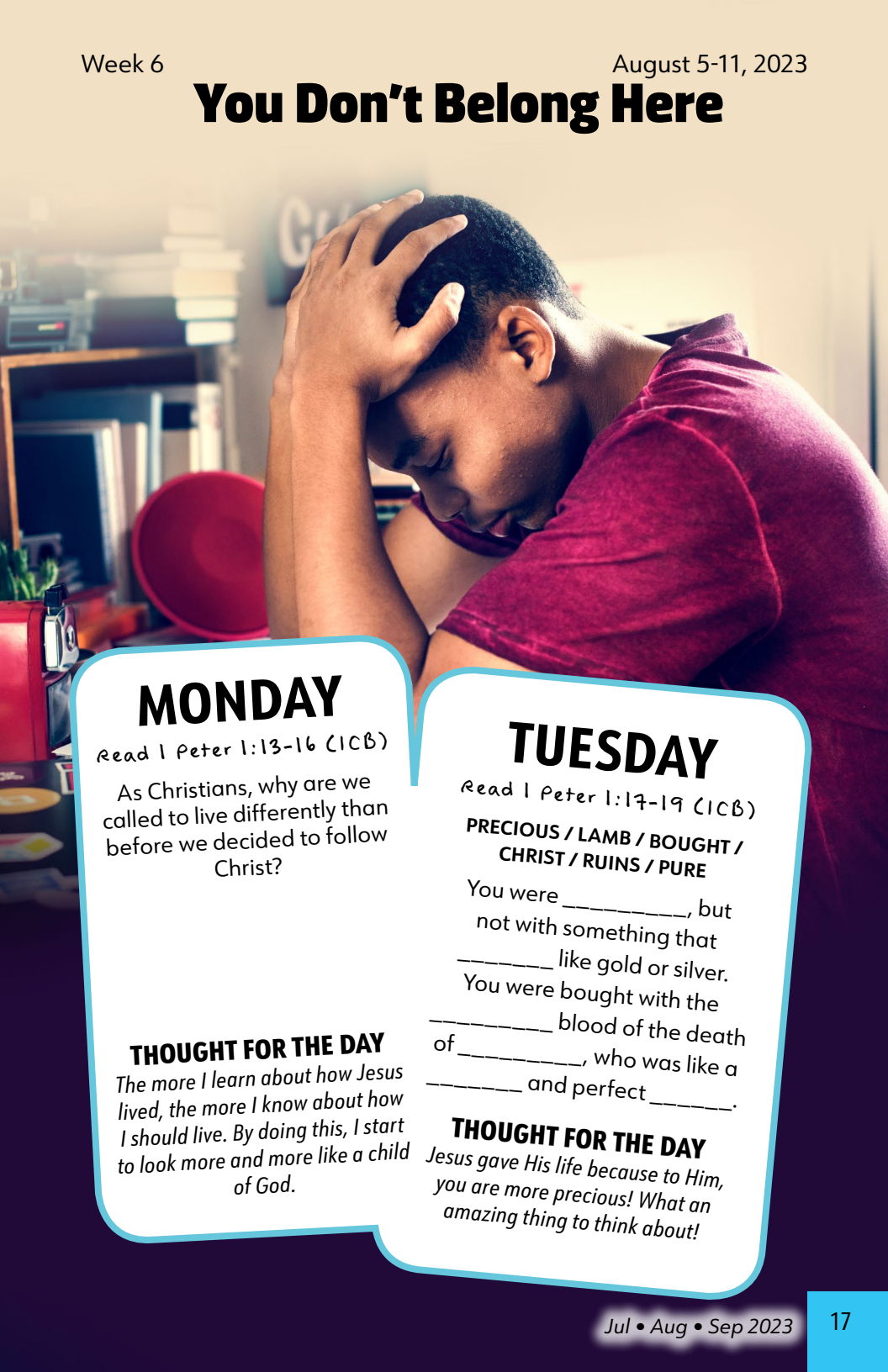
Nothing lasts forever. If you put too much hope in something in this world, you will only be disappointed.

If you want to lean on something that will never go away, will always be in control, and will love you with an everlasting love, lean on God! Past, present, and future, God is on the throne.

## JUNIORS CHALLENGE

*When everything around you feels like it is changing, stand firm in your faith that God is in control—always!*

# You Don't Belong Here



## MONDAY

Read 1 Peter 1:13-16 (ICB)

As Christians, why are we called to live differently than before we decided to follow Christ?

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*The more I learn about how Jesus lived, the more I know about how I should live. By doing this, I start to look more and more like a child of God.*

## TUESDAY

Read 1 Peter 1:17-19 (ICB)

**PRECIOUS / LAMB / BOUGHT / CHRIST / RUINS / PURE**

You were \_\_\_\_\_, but not with something that \_\_\_\_\_ like gold or silver. You were bought with the \_\_\_\_\_ blood of the death of \_\_\_\_\_, who was like a \_\_\_\_\_ and perfect \_\_\_\_\_.

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*Jesus gave His life because to Him, you are more precious! What an amazing thing to think about!*

## WEDNESDAY Read 1 Peter 1:20-21 (ICB)

**WORLD / GOD / MADE / GLORY / CHOSEN / YOU / DEATH / HOPE**

Christ was \_\_\_\_\_ before the world was \_\_\_\_\_. But he was shown to the \_\_\_\_\_ in these last times for \_\_\_\_\_. You believe in \_\_\_\_\_ through Christ. God raised Christ from \_\_\_\_\_ and gave him \_\_\_\_\_.  
So your faith and your \_\_\_\_\_ are in God.

### **THOUGHT FOR THE DAY**

*To believe in God means to know and trust that the story of Jesus is true. He defeated sin so we could have life and hope.*

## THURSDAY Read 1 Peter 1:22-23 (ICB)

What does God call us to do for our brothers and sisters in Christ?

Where did our new life come from?

### **THOUGHT FOR THE DAY**

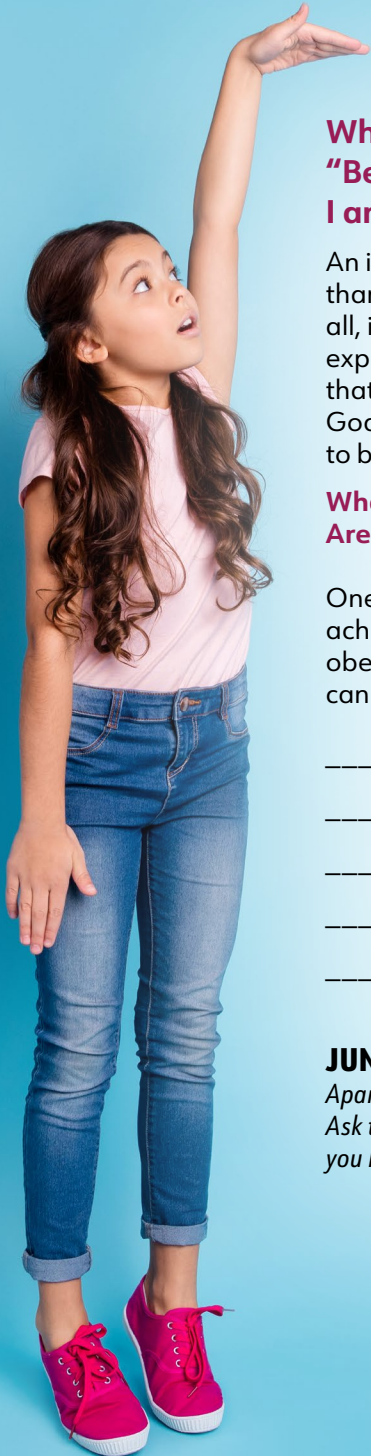
*When we love and help others, we give them hope, and they experience new life. So, since God gives us new life, it is right for us to give new hope to others through caring for them.*

## FRIDAY Read 1 Peter 1:24-25 (ICB)

All **things/people/animals** are like the grass. And all their **strength/wisdom/thinking** is like the flowers of the field. The **field/tree/grass** dies and the flowers fall. But the **testimony of our faith/word of the Lord** will live forever.

### **THOUGHT FOR THE DAY**

*God's word and message of hope is one that will be true forever. It is good for us to focus on that, instead of things that are passing and not as important.*



## What if an adult said to you, “Be six feet tall, because I am six feet tall”?

An instruction like that may get more than just a funny look from you. After all, it seems like a pretty ridiculous expectation. God gives us a command that may seem just as difficult as that, but God expects us at least to try. He tells us to be holy because Christ is holy.

### What a challenge! Are you up to it?

One command God gives to help us achieve that whole “holiness” thing is to obey Him. Below, list five other things you can do to be holy like God.

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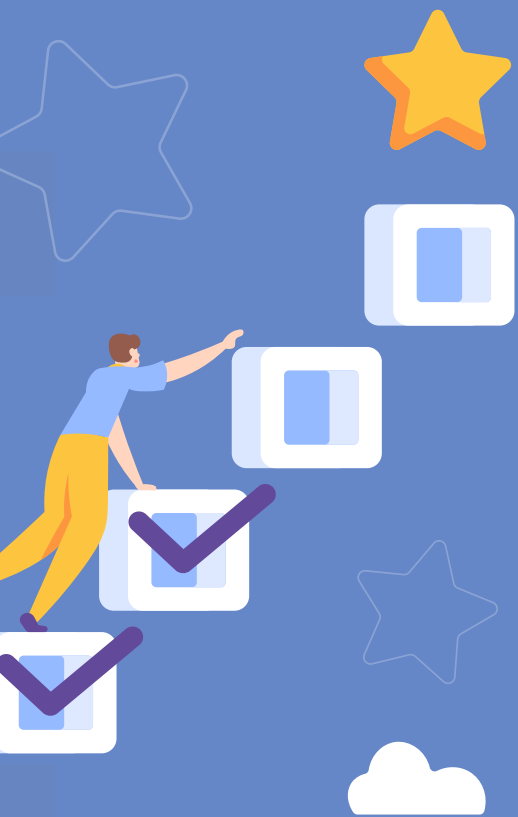
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### **JUNIORS CHALLENGE**

*Apart from God, it is impossible to be holy. Ask the Holy Spirit to fill you every day and help you live the life that God wants you to live.*

# Don't Stunt Your Growth



## MONDAY

Read 1 Peter 2:1-3 (ICB)

**SPEAK / EVIL / BABIES / HYPOCRITE / LIFE / TEACHING /**

So then, get rid of all \_\_\_\_\_ and all lying. Do not be a \_\_\_\_\_. Do not be jealous or \_\_\_\_\_ evil of others. Put all these things out of your \_\_\_\_\_. As newborn \_\_\_\_\_ want milk, you should want the pure and simple \_\_\_\_\_.

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*What Jesus has done for us is enough to save us, but we should still do our best to mature and grow everyday!*

## TUESDAY

Read 1 Peter 2:4-5 (ICB)

The Lord Jesus is the **lamb/stone/anchor** that lives. The people of the **world/city/village** did not want this stone. But he was the stone God **gave us/offered/chose**. To God he was worth much. So **worship him/come to him/bow down**.

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*There is no way we can pay Jesus back for what He has done for us. However, we can give a thank-you gift. A life lived with love is the best gift we can give God!*



## WEDNESDAY

Read 1 Peter 2:6-8 (ICB)

How can believing in Jesus build people up?

How can the message of Jesus cause people to fall? Ask your parents what they think!

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*Living the right way (how Jesus did) can build us up, but is sometimes difficult. Let's keep trying so we can grow!*

## THURSDAY

Read 1 Peter 2:9-10 (ICB)

**DARKNESS / CHOSEN / ALONE / HOLY / PRIESTS**

But you are \_\_\_\_\_ people. You are the King's \_\_\_\_\_. You are a \_\_\_\_\_ nation. You are a nation that belongs to God \_\_\_\_\_. God chose you to tell about the wonderful things he has done. He called you out of \_\_\_\_\_ into his wonderful light.

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*Jesus chose you and He made His decisions with you in mind. How can we live our lives with Jesus in mind?*

## FRIDAY

Read 1 Peter 2:11-12 (ICB)

What is something you like to do that you shouldn't do?

When others watch the way you live, can they say good things?

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*Living like Jesus helps us to grow, and it shows others what God is like in action!*

## CHECK IT OUT

### Babies have it easy.

Others are responsible for feeding them, carrying them, and cleaning up after them.

But there comes a time when a baby must grow up, and when that day arrives, everything you just mentioned becomes a thing of the past. There comes a time when all Christians must grow up, too. Every day is another chance for you to grow in your faith.

Each new day, try to find childish things you can leave behind, and grow closer to God.



Listed below are five ways you can grow as a Christian. To discover the answers, write the letter that comes BEFORE each letter in the alphabet.

1. There is a                                                         for                                                         (Matthew 5:6)  
I V O H F S L O P X J O H H P E
2. God                                           you through                                                  (2 Timothy 3:16-17)  
F R V J Q T U I F C J C M F
3. You                             by                                                  the Bible (Psalm 1:1-3)  
H S P X T U V E Z J O H
4. The                                           teaches you (Galatians 5:22-23)  
I P M Z T Q J S J U
5.                             through                             times (James 1:2-4)  
H S P X I B S E

ANSWERS ON PAGE 44

### JUNIORS CHALLENGE

Find an old toy or stuffed animal that you probably don't need anymore.  
Bring it to church and give it to a baby who can use it!



# Our Light and Momentary Troubles

## MONDAY

Read 1 Peter 3:13-14 (ICB)

If someone makes you suffer because you did something good, what should you NOT be?

- A. Happy
- B. Angry
- C. Afraid
- D. Righteous

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*It is hard to not be affected by what others think about you, but what is most important is to choose the right thing, no matter what people say.*

## TUESDAY

Read 1 Peter 3:15-16 (ICB)

How should we answer those who ask about the hope that we have?

What will happen to those who speak evil against you?

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*Saying "Jesus saves" is big talk! When we say that, we should aim to live out a saved life, so people can see and believe!*

## WEDNESDAY Read 1 Peter 3:17-18 (1CB)

WRONG / ALIVE / DIED / SUFFER / BRING / WANTS / PAID / GUILTY / KILLED

It is better to \_\_\_\_\_ for doing good than for doing \_\_\_\_\_. Yes, it is better, if that is what God \_\_\_\_\_. Christ himself \_\_\_\_\_ for you. And that one death \_\_\_\_\_ for your sins. He was not \_\_\_\_\_, but he died for those who are guilty. He did this to \_\_\_\_\_ you all to God. His body was \_\_\_\_\_, but he was made \_\_\_\_\_ in the spirit.

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*Be someone who thinks of what is right in the moment, not what is easiest!*

## THURSDAY Read 1 Peter 4:12-14 (1CB)

My friends, do not be **happy/surprised/angry** at the painful things you are now suffering. These things are **testing/distracting from/strengthening** your faith. So do not think that something **terrible/pleasant/strange** is happening to you.

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*With God, we don't need to worry about passing or failing any tests of life. Only God's acts can save us. However, we should take hard times as an opportunity to test our character and celebrate growth.*

## FRIDAY Read 1 Peter 4:15-17 (1CB)

When is it okay to suffer?

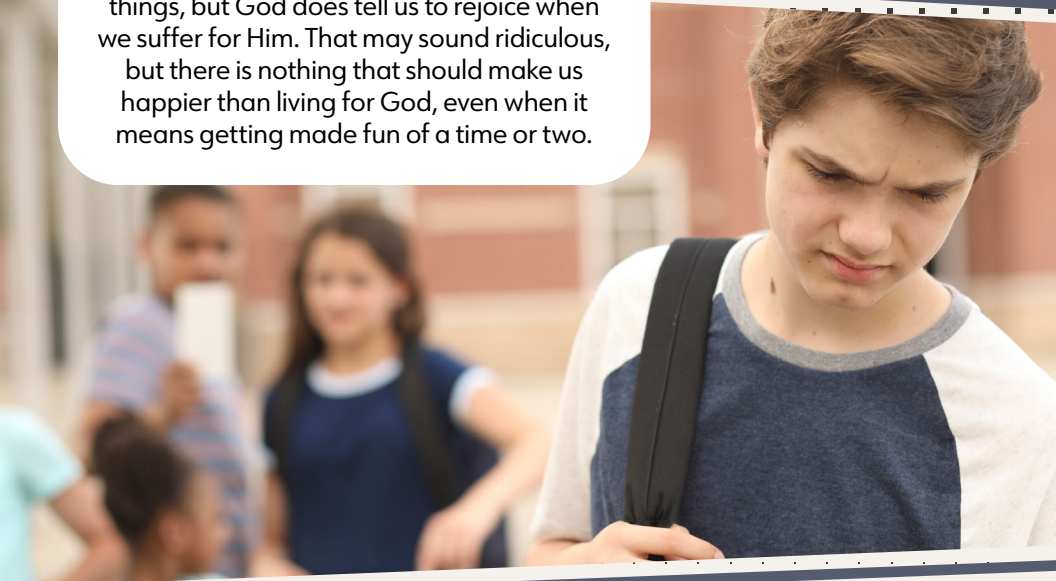
- A. As a murderer
- B. As a thief
- C. As a nice person
- D. As a Christian

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*Be proud that you are a Christian.  
Tell others the good news about what Jesus has done for you!*

### Has anyone ever told you to laugh when you get a paper cut?

Did you say, "Thank you," to the last person who made fun of you? Maybe you leapt for joy when you saw that "F" on your report card. Okay, so you probably didn't do any of those things, but God does tell us to rejoice when we suffer for Him. That may sound ridiculous, but there is nothing that should make us happier than living for God, even when it means getting made fun of a time or two.



**Don't be afraid  
to make it  
known that  
you love God.**

### **JUNIORS CHALLENGE**

*Ask your parents at dinner what the hardest part of their day was. Ask them if there is anything they can rejoice about even though it was hard. These questions are ones we should ask ourselves and our family daily.*

# Insurance That Has Been Paid

## MONDAY

Read 2 Peter 1:3-4 (1CB)

What does God's divine power give us?

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*God gives us the power to serve with love. This is a gift.*

*On our own, it is easy to get stuck in selfish living. With God, we start living selflessly like Jesus.*

## TUESDAY

Read 2 Peter 1:5-9 (1CB)

What are the seven qualities we need to add to our faith?

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_ 6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*The more we build up these qualities, the more clearly we can see how best to serve God and love our neighbors.*



# WEDNESDAY

Read 2 Peter 1:10-11 (ICB)

FOREVER / CALLED / FALL / KINGDOM / HIS / CHOSEN / SHOW / THINGS / GIVEN

My brothers, God \_\_\_\_\_ you and chose you to be \_\_\_\_\_.  
Try hard to \_\_\_\_\_ that you really are God’s \_\_\_\_\_ people.  
If you do all these \_\_\_\_\_, you will never \_\_\_\_\_. And you will be  
\_\_\_\_\_ a very great welcome into the \_\_\_\_\_ of our Lord and  
Savior Jesus Christ. That kingdom continues \_\_\_\_\_.

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*For many people, the best glimpse they will get of God is through watching you.*

# THURSDAY

Read 2 Peter 1:16-18 (ICB)

How do we know Peter is telling the truth?

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*When people watch your actions, do they say, "What Jesus did must be true!"?*

# FRIDAY

Read 2 Peter 1:20-21 (ICB)

Where do prophet’s words come from?

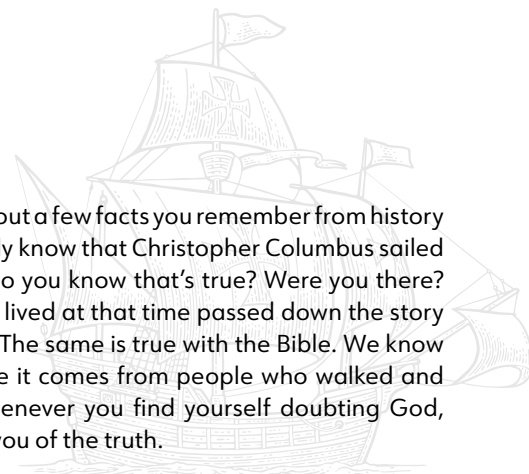
- A. The king
- B. The Holy Spirit
- C. The Scriptures
- D. His own interpretation

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*Ask the Holy Spirit to speak into your life in the same way that it spoke to Peter and the other Bible writers.*

# CHECK IT OUT

**THINK FOR A SECOND** about a few facts you remember from history class. For instance, you probably know that Christopher Columbus sailed the ocean blue in 1492. How do you know that's true? Were you there? Of course not! But people who lived at that time passed down the story so we could hear it years later. The same is true with the Bible. We know what it teaches is true because it comes from people who walked and talked with Jesus Himself. Whenever you find yourself doubting God, pray and ask God to convince you of the truth.



In order for us to be sure we are God's children, Christ listed several qualities we should have. Find these characteristics in the word search.

**FAITH / VIRTUE / KNOWLEDGE / TEMPERANCE / PATIENCE / GODLINESS / BROTHERLY KINDNESS / CHARITY**

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

ANSWERS ON PAGE 44

## JUNIORS CHALLENGE

*When your doubts keep you separated from Jesus—draw closer to Him. Read the Bible, pray, and go to church. Your faith will grow as you worship with others!*

# Created and Called by God



## MONDAY

Read Jeremiah 1:4-8 (ICB)

When God said He was sending Jeremiah to speak to the people, Jeremiah expressed that he was worried. Why?



What promise did God give to Jeremiah?

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*If God has asked me to do something, He will be with me and help me while I do it.*



## TUESDAY

Read Jeremiah 1:9-10 (ICB)

Have you ever been in a situation where telling the truth was hard to do? Jeremiah was about to tell a large group of people that God was not happy with them. This was a hard truth to tell! What did God promise to put in Jeremiah's mouth?



### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*If I say yes to God's instructions, God will give me the tools I need as I obey.*

## WEDNESDAY

Read Jeremiah 1:17-19 (1CB)

God said to Jeremiah, "Tell the people everything . . ."

- A. You know
- B. Is fine
- C. I command you
- D. They want to hear

He said, "The people will not overpower you because . . ."

- A. You are stronger
- B. I am with you
- C. They are foolish
- D. They are afraid

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*If I obey the commands God gives me, God will not let me fail.*

## THURSDAY

Read Isaiah 40:28-31 (1CB)

The Lord is the \_\_\_\_\_ God, the \_\_\_\_\_ of the earth. He does not faint or grow \_\_\_\_\_. He gives \_\_\_\_\_ to the faint, and He strengthens those who have no \_\_\_\_\_. Those who \_\_\_\_\_ upon the Lord will renew their \_\_\_\_\_.

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*As long as I am doing what honors God, God will give me the strength to keep going.*

## FRIDAY

Read 1 Timothy 4:12 (1CB)

In this verse, Paul told Timothy to set a good example for others in which areas?

Describe one good and godly thing you want others to be able to say about the way you live.

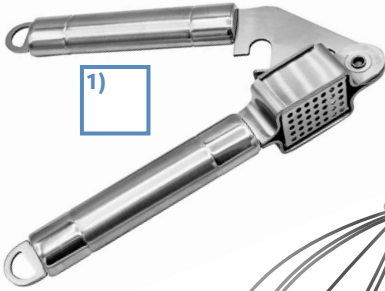
### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*No matter my age, I can set a good example for the people who might be watching me.*



# CHECK IT OUT

Can you guess the main purpose of each tool



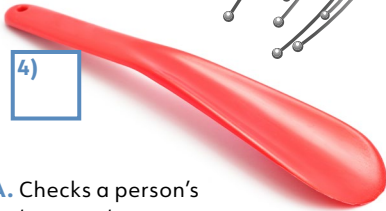
1)



2)



3)



4)



5)



6)

ANSWER BANK

- A. Checks a person's temperature
- B. Crushes garlic into small pieces
- C. Makes a clicking sound to help musicians keep time
- D. Massages a person's head
- E. Peels the skin off vegetables
- F. Slides a foot easily into a shoe

ANSWERS ON PAGE 44

## Some jobs can't get done unless you have the right tools.

As believers, we all have a job to do. God has a special purpose for each of us. Sometimes we know what God wants us to do (or stay away from), but we think we don't have the tools we need. "I'm too weak." "I'm not smart enough." "I'm too scared." But believe this: God knows you better than anyone. If there is something God wants you to do, then God knows you can do it, and God will give you the strength and tools necessary to get the job done.

### JUNIORS CHALLENGE

*When obeying God seems hard, pray for boldness. Trust God to give you the tools you need.*

# Living and Speaking for God

## MONDAY

Read Jeremiah 7:1-34 (ICB)

Jeremiah told the people that God would allow them to dwell in the house of the Lord if they what?

How would you feel if your job was to tell other believers that God was not happy with them?

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*God's messages aren't always fun to hear, but God always has a good reason for sharing them.*

## TUESDAY

Read Jeremiah 7:8-11 (ICB)

Even while the people continued to disobey God, they would stand before Him

- ...
- A. In the streets
  - B. In tears
  - C. In His house
  - D. And laugh

Thanks to them, the house of the Lord had become a den of ...

- A. Wolves
- B. Saints
- C. Money
- D. Robbers

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*Worshiping God while holding on to sin doesn't make my sin okay.*

## WEDNESDAY

Read Jeremiah 7:13-15 (ICB)

ANSWER / CAST YOU / GAVE / HOUSE / LISTEN

The Lord declared, "I spoke, but you did not \_\_\_\_\_.

I called out to you, but you did not \_\_\_\_\_.

Therefore, I will do to my \_\_\_\_\_ and to the place that I \_\_\_\_\_ to you the same thing I did to Shiloh.

I will \_\_\_\_\_ out of my sight."

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*God points out my sin because He loves me and knows sin is not good for me.*

## Family Theme:

Faithfulness to  
Genuine Ministry

## Application Verse:

Jeremiah 1:7-8

### THURSDAY

Read Jeremiah 7:23-26 (ICB)

God commanded the people to **mimic/obey/hear** His voice.

If they **walked in/disobeyed/helped write** His commands, things would go well for them.

But they followed their evil **friends/hearts/idols**. God sent **prophets/angels/books**, but the people did not listen.

#### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*God gives me lots of chances to turn from my sin because He wants what is best for me.*

### FRIDAY

Read Jeremiah 7:27-30 (ICB)

God knew the people would not listen to Jeremiah, but God told Jeremiah to speak to them anyway. Why do you think it's important to tell the truth and share God's love with others, even if they don't accept it right away?

#### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*God's truth is always worth sharing. I never know how God might use my words.*



# CHECK IT OUT

Are you ever scared to do something because you don't know how it will turn out? You want to ride the roller coaster, but is it safe? Will you get sick? You want to try out for the team, but what if you don't make it?

**Sharing God's truth can be scary.**

*(What if the other person thinks I'm crazy?)*

But it is always the right thing to do. And you don't have to worry about the outcome, because as long as you do what is right, God will take care of the rest.



*Directions: Starting with 'D,' circle and write down every other letter. When you reach the end, start again, writing the letters you originally skipped. You will find Paul wrote a good statement about how we should treat God's message of truth.*

A circular word search puzzle with the following letters arranged around the perimeter: D N O E Y E O D U T R O B B E E S A T S T H O A B M E E A D P T P R E O A V T E I D N B G Y G G O O D D S A W O O R R K T E H R E W R H I O G D H O T E W S A N Y T

The puzzle area contains several instances of the letter 'D' on a grid of dashed lines. Some 'D's are circled in the original image. The letter 'D' appears at the beginning of several lines and in the middle of others.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 44

## JUNIORS CHALLENGE

Try to get in the habit of talking about the Bible. Ask an older believer to talk to you about their favorite verse.

# Trusting and Resting in God



## MONDAY

Read Jeremiah 12:1-12 (1CB)

Jeremiah asked God, "Why do \_\_\_\_\_ people prosper?"

- A. Good
- B. Dead
- C. Joyful
- D. Wicked

Even though the people talked about God, He was \_\_\_\_\_ their hearts.

- A. Happy with
- B. Close to
- C. Far from
- D. Listening to

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*When life feels unfair, I can share my true feelings with God.*

## TUESDAY

Read Jeremiah 12:14-17 (1CB)

When God looked at the evil people who were destroying the land God had given to the people, God said, "I will **chill/call them/pluck them** out. Then, I will **have compassion/unleash punishment/pour riches** on them. If they learn to **ignore/swear by/spell** My name, they will join My people.

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*God offers forgiveness to anyone who turns from sin and follows Him.*

## WEDNESDAY Read Isaiah 46:9-10 (ICB)

When we don't know how something is going to turn out, we tend to worry. When was the last time you worried about something?

God is not like us. God always knows how things are going to turn out. That's why we can trust God's promises. Say Isaiah 46:9 out loud three times.

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*I serve a God who is like no one and nothing else.*

## THURSDAY Read John 16:33 (ICB)

We will face trouble as long as we are . . .

- A. Kids
- B. Sinners
- C. In the world
- D. Rude

In God we have peace because He has already . . .

- A. Overcome the world
- B. Removed our trouble
- C. Stopped caring
- D. Sent a miracle

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*My God is bigger than any troubles I face on earth.*

## FRIDAY Read Isaiah 26:3-4 (ICB)

### EVERLASTING / FOREVER / MIND / PEACE / TRUST

If someone's \_\_\_\_\_ is stayed on You, God, then You keep him in perfect \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_ in the Lord \_\_\_\_\_, for the Lord is a strong, \_\_\_\_\_ rock.

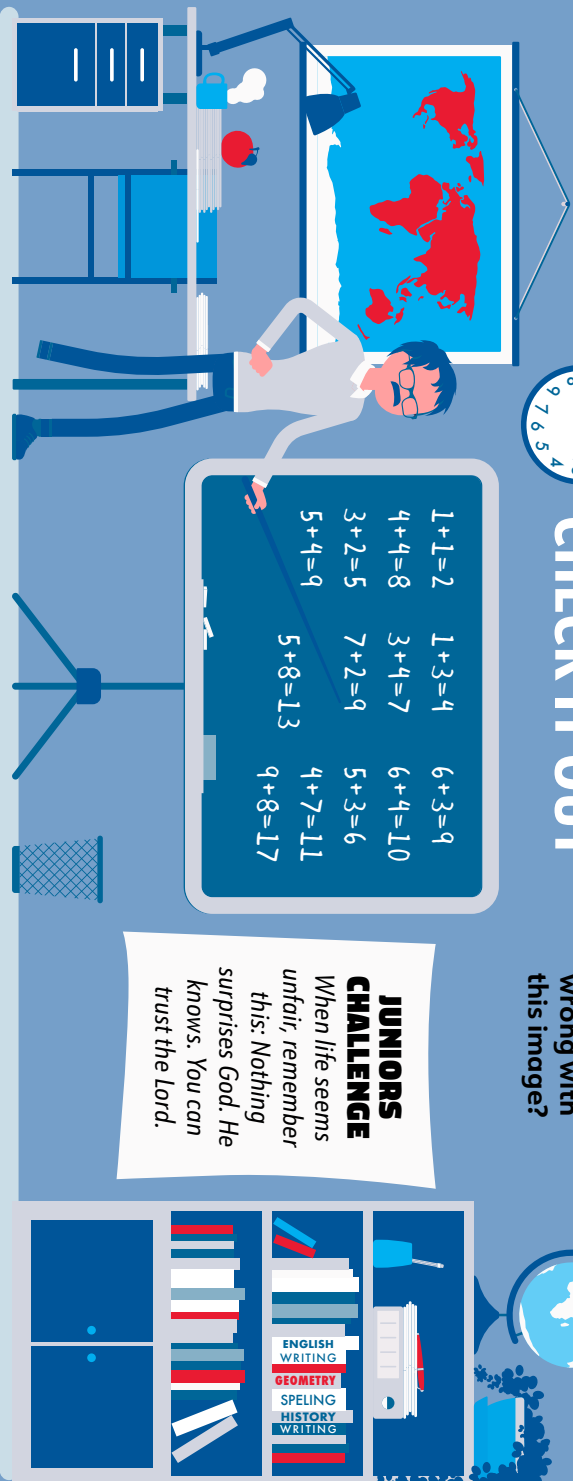
### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*The more I focus on God, the more I will feel God's peace.*



# CHECK IT OUT

Can you find five things wrong with this image?



## JUNIORS CHALLENGE

*When life seems unfair, remember this: Nothing surprises God. He knows. You can trust the Lord.*

**YOU DON'T HAVE TO LOOK AROUND OUR WORLD FOR VERY LONG TO KNOW SOMETHING IS WRONG.**  
It's full of pain and hurt. Good things happen to bad people, while bad things happen to good people.

*This can't be what God had planned, right?*

Even though we might not understand why this is, God sees all of it. One day God will make everything right. But before He does, God wants to give people time to discover Christ and follow Him.

Until that day, we can trust that a world way better than this one is waiting for those who follow God.

# Believing in God's Promises

## MONDAY

Read Jeremiah 31:3-5 (ICB)

With what kind of love does God love His people?

- A. Angry
- B. Everlasting
- C. Shaky
- D. Distant

The people of Israel had lost some of God's wonderful blessings, but God promised that once again they would . . .

- A. Lose the blessings
- B. Pay for it
- C. Be perfect
- D. Plant fruit

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*God is forever faithful. Being close to God is a joyful place to be.*

## TUESDAY

Read Jeremiah 31:13-14 (ICB)

**COMFORT / GOOD THINGS / OLD / HAPPY / SADNESS / YOUNG**

Then young women of Israel will be \_\_\_\_\_ and dance. The \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ men will also dance. I will change their \_\_\_\_\_ into happiness. I will give them \_\_\_\_\_ and joy instead of sadness. And my people will be filled with the \_\_\_\_\_ I give them!

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*If I feel myself getting far from God, Christ is always there to welcome me back when I turn to Him.*

## WEDNESDAY

Read Jeremiah 31:33-34 (ICB)

The Bible will be in our hearts. We will know Him. Our sins will be no more. These are some of the promises God has made to us. Take a moment to think about God's wonderful promises, and thank Him for the ability to know Christ and be in His family.

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*God loves me so much He wants to walk closely with me.*

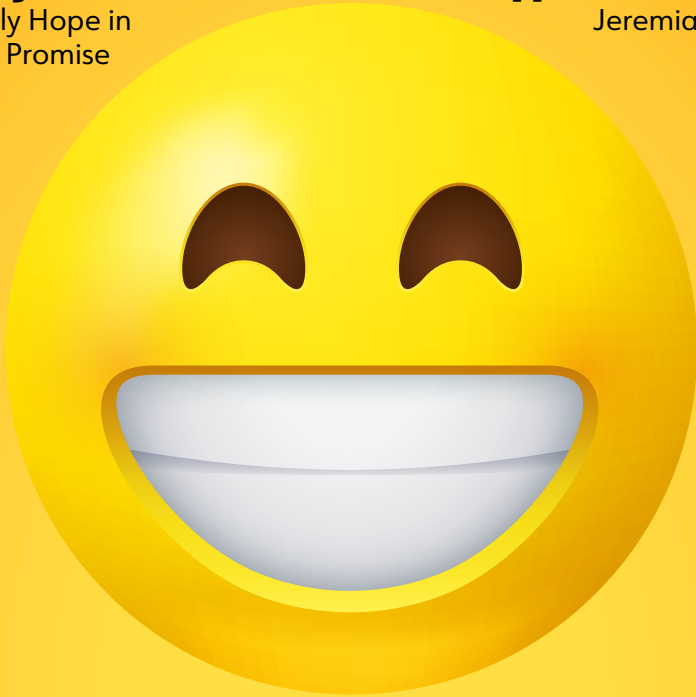


## Family Theme:

Joyfully Hope in  
God's Promise

## Application Verse:

Jeremiah 1:7-8



## THURSDAY

Read Colossians 1:12-14  
(ICB)

Give **gifts/nothing/thanks** to the Father. He has delivered us from the power of **Heaven/His enemies/darkness** and has transferred us to the kingdom of **paradise/His Son/His angels**, in whom we have **forgiveness of sins/a brother/laughter**.

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*If I have placed my faith in Jesus, then I am already part of God's kingdom!*

## FRIDAY

Read 1 Peter 5:8-10 (ICB)

The devil tries to get us to turn from our faith. All believers suffer this problem. What does God promise to do for us once our suffering is over?

What are some things you can do to keep your eyes on God when the devil tries to distract you?

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*Standing firm in my faith can be hard, but that only lasts for a while. My life with God will last forever.*

# CHECK IT OUT

Can you match each emoji to its **real meaning**?



## ANSWER BANK

- A. Disappointed face
- B. Face screaming in fear
- C. Grinning face
- D. Rolling on the floor laughing
- E. Thinking face
- F. Unamused face
- G. Worried face
- H. Zany face

ANSWERS ON PAGE 53

**It's amazing how many different emotions a single person can go through in their lifetime.**

Emotions change all the time. In a split second, our happiness, sadness, fear, or confusion can be taken away and turned into something else.

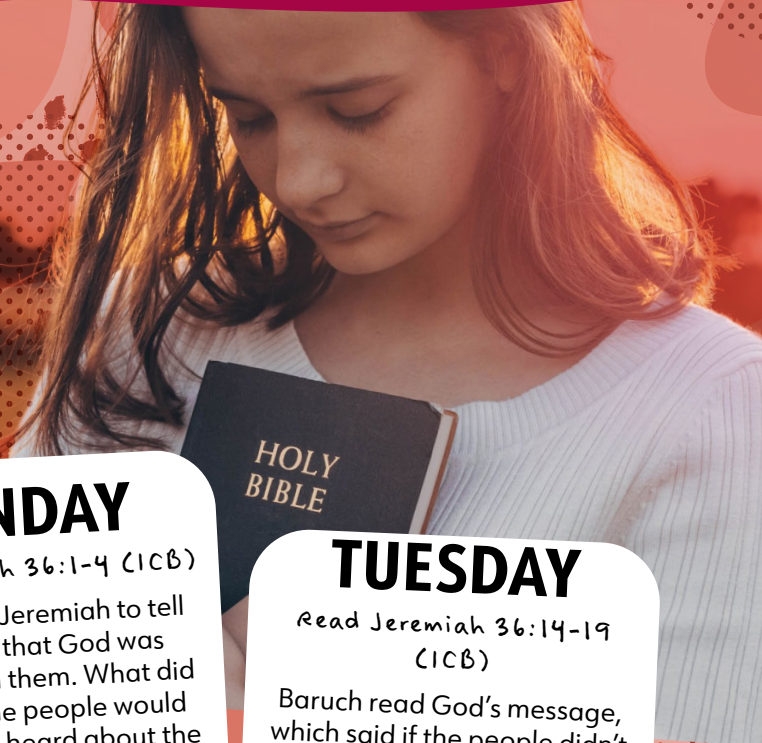
**Joy, on the other hand, is different.  
As believers, our joy comes from God.**

We have joy because we know that no matter how bad this world gets, God's promises are true and a better life is waiting. Nothing can take that away.

## JUNIORS CHALLENGE

*Stay close to God, and live every day with joy!*

# Honoring the Bible



## MONDAY

Read Jeremiah 36:1-4 (ICB)

God wanted Jeremiah to tell the people that God was unhappy with them. What did God hope the people would do when they heard about the punishment that was coming?

Name one thing you think God wants US to do after we read a verse from the Bible.

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*God gave us the Bible to help us turn away from wrong and turn to Christ instead.*

## TUESDAY

Read Jeremiah 36:14-19 (ICB)

Baruch read God's message, which said if the people didn't turn from their wicked ways, God would punish them. How did this make the people feel?

- A. Sad
- B. Angry
- C. Relieved
- D. Afraid

What did the leaders tell Baruch and Jeremiah to do?

- A. Keep reading
- B. Hide
- C. Be quiet
- D. Pray with them

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*The Bible is always worth sharing, even when the message is hard or uncomfortable.*

## WEDNESDAY Read Jeremiah 36:21-26 (ICB)

While Jehudi read God's message, the king **listened to/cut off/laughed at** the words and **asked for forgiveness/asked to hear them again/threw them in the fire**. The king was **not afraid/proud/surprised**. He sent for Jeremiah and Baruch, but God **hid/killed/separated** them.

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*Not everyone will accept God's truth, but God is always in control.*

## THURSDAY Read Jeremiah 36:27-31 (ICB)

**BURNED / HEAR / PUNISH / PRONOUNCED / SCROLL / WORDS**

After the king had \_\_\_\_\_ the scroll, God told Jeremiah to take another \_\_\_\_\_ and write the same \_\_\_\_\_ again. God said, "I will \_\_\_\_\_ the king and his servants for their sin. I will bring disaster upon them, which I \_\_\_\_\_ already, but they did not \_\_\_\_\_."

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*The Bible is true and will always be true, whether people accept it or not.*

## FRIDAY Read Isaiah 55:10-11 (ICB)

The rain and snow do not go back up to where they came from. What do they do?

In the same way, the Bible will do what God sent it to do. It will not what?

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*The Bible is straight from God Himself. Every word of it is true.*

# CHECK IT OUT

The **HINDENBURG** was an airship (a large balloon-like plane that can be steered) carrying 97 people from Germany to the United States in 1937. When it tried to land in New Jersey, it caught fire and went up in flames. That was the last time an airship was used to carry passengers.



At the time the **TITANIC** was built, it was the largest ship ever. Many called it “unsinkable,” which is why it didn’t have as many lifeboats as it should have. After the ship struck an iceberg, water quickly filled the areas at the bottom of the boat, which were not completely sealed, and the ship sank.



When **TACOMA NARROWS BRIDGE** was built in 1940 in Washington, it was the third longest bridge in the world. However, heavy winds made the bridge move up and down. Later that same year, it completely collapsed during 40 miles-per-hour winds.

Pyramids, stadiums, theme parks, palaces, luxury resorts—our world is home to some pretty incredible sights. As easy as it is for us to believe these places will be around forever, the truth is they won’t.

The Bible, on the other hand, will stand the test of time. Even if no one left on earth believed God’s Word, it would still be true, and every single word of it would come to pass.

**You can stand firm on the Bible every day. Honor it. Trust it. Share it.**

## JUNIORS CHALLENGE

*Whenever you read a Bible verse that doesn’t make sense or doesn’t seem right to you, ask an older believer to help you see it the way God intended.*



# Answers

## Page 4

A2, B2, C3, D1

## Page 7

A2, B1, C2, D1, E1

## Page 10

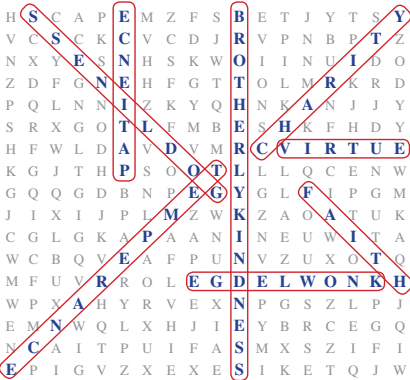
Boss  
King  
Coach  
Queen

Parent  
Captain  
President  
Principal

## Page 22

1. hunger, knowing, God
2. equips, the, Bible
3. grow, studying
4. holy, spirit
5. grow, hard

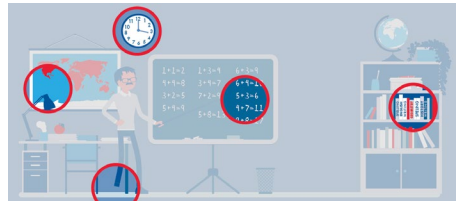
## Page 28



## Page 34

Do your best to be approved by God, a worker who doesn't need to be ashamed, treating God's Word the right way (2 Timothy 2:15).

## Page 37




## Page 40



## Page 31

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# DO YOU KNOW?



WHAT DO YOU  
STAND FOR?

Have you ever thought  
about that question?

Think about the people who know you best.  
Do they know what you believe?  
Do you know what you believe?

*Are you prepared to stand up for what you believe,  
even if it means standing out from the crowd?*

If you are ready to make God the center of your life and stand for God's truth, no matter what everyone else is saying and doing, then you can make the decision right now to believe that Jesus is the Son of God, whom God sent to earth to offer rescue to every single person. You can accept God's gift of salvation and make Christ the Lord of your life. When you do this, you are letting God know that you are prepared to stand for His truth at all costs.

Did you know that the God of the universe wants to be your personal friend? Just like with anyone else that wants to be your friend, all you need to do is let that happen! You don't have to convince God of anything, you just get to be God's friend!

Here's how you do it:

**Admit it: Tell the truth about yourself.** None of us are perfect and we don't have to pretend in our friendship with God. Romans 3:23 says that all of us have sinned and none of us measure up. So we can tell God the truth about everything, and know that God loves us and will help us to do better as we grow.

**Believe it: God loves us more than anything!** Jesus came and took care of the very worst things that sin and evil could do by dying for us. John 3:16 reminds us that God loved us so much that God sent Jesus to do this, and that all we need to do is accept this gift and believe it, and know that we will live forever with God because of it.

**Confess it: Live like you believe it is true!** Romans 10:9 says that we should not be afraid to say it out loud. Jesus is Lord! Jesus is the one who loves me, died for me, wraps His arms of love around me, and lets me know I am safe with Him. This also brings God glory.

In fact, you might want to pray something like this:

*Jesus, thank you for being the kind of God I can be honest with and tell the truth to. I admit that I am not perfect and fall short. I know that You love me so much, that You were even willing to give up Your life for me, so that I could be free from all the damage that sin has done and live forever with You when You come again. I want to show my thanks by loving You, following You, and being the kind of friend You long for me to be. Amen!*

One of the ways we celebrate choosing to be God's friend is by being baptized. You might want to talk more to your parents or pastor (or both) about how or when that might happen for you.

# Juniors Quarterly

3<sup>RD</sup> QUARTER 2023

JUL • AUG • SEPT

VOLUME 5 • NUMBER 3

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