

31 **FUN** DEVOTIONS
FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2020

ADVENTURE **DEVOTIONS**

FOR KIDS AGES 7–10



Making Choices

Adventure is designed to encourage kids in the 3rd and 4th grades (7-to-10-year-olds) to spend time with God each day.

Volume 59, Number 11
July 2020

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Printed in the United States of America

Adventure (ISSN 0001-8783; Item 005075143) is published monthly by LifeWay Christian Resources, One LifeWay Plaza, Nashville, TN 37234, Ben Mandrell, President.
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We believe that the Bible has God for its author; salvation for its end; and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter and that all Scripture is totally true and trustworthy. To review LifeWay's doctrinal guideline, please visit www.lifeway.com/doctrinalguideline.

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Contents

July
2020



DEVOTIONS EVERY DAY

Use *Adventure* to spend time with God every day. Each day has a verse, story, and prayer. *Check it out starting on page 7!*

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July 27–31 Devotions



Devotions Digging Deeper into God's Word (Explore the Bible)

This month: I can choose to obey God.



Gospel-Centered Devotions (The Gospel Project)

This month: Jesus taught that all Scripture is about Him.



Devotions about Life Issues (Bible Studies for Life)

This month: I can face any problem with God.



IN EVERY ISSUE Don't miss these great features!

6

**10 Things to Do ...
to Help Others**

10

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LOL!

GAMES & PUZZLES They begin on page 7

You won't have to turn many pages to find games, puzzles,
and activities. We can't list them all because there are so many!
You'll find the answers to them on page 35!

DIG DEEPER Want more?

Each week, try to "Dig Deeper" with a passage and activity related
to that week's readings. *Try the first one on page 12.*

WHO DID THIS?

Scott Wiley is a teacher and writer living in Hermitage, Tennessee. He and his wife, Cindy, teach Sunday School at Tulip Grove Baptist Church.



July is Ice Cream Month.

FIND OTHER
GREAT FUN FACTS
INSIDE.

THE GOSPEL

GOD'S PLAN FOR ME



God Rules. Who is in charge of your life? Because God created everything, He is in charge of everything. [Read REVELATION 4:11.](#)



We Sinned. Have you ever done something wrong? Everyone sins or disobeys God. Our sin separates us from God. [Read ROMANS 3:23.](#)



God Provided. God is holy and must punish sin. God sent His Son, Jesus, to take the punishment we deserve. [Read JOHN 3:16.](#)



Jesus Gives. What is the best gift you have ever received? Jesus took our punishment for sin by giving His life, and He gives us His righteousness. God sees us as if we lived the perfect life Jesus lived. This is the best gift ever! [Read 2 CORINTHIANS 5:21.](#)



We Respond. Everyone has a choice to make. Will you trust Jesus as your Savior and Lord? You can turn from self and sin and turn to Jesus. [Read ROMANS 10:9-10.](#)

Adventure can be a regular part of your child's daily time with God and your family devotion time. Try these ideas this month with your child.

1. This month *Adventure* is all about Making Choices. On page 6 is a list "Ten Things to Do to Help Others." Encourage your child to read over the suggestions and decide when to do each one.
2. On page 22, you'll find an activity called "Drop In." Together drop the three-letter combinations onto the spaces to make words. Then transfer the numbered letters to the same numbered spaces below. Discover what God can help your child do.
3. Check out the jokes on page 34. Take turns reading the jokes. See if the other person can tell the answer before reading it.
4. Your child may be asking questions about how to become a Christian. Be ready with an answer. Use the verses and information on page 4 to talk with your child about becoming a Christian. If your child is ready to respond by becoming a Christian, lead him to pray a prayer similar to this one:

DEAR GOD,

I know I have disobeyed You and gone my own way. My sin separates me from You. I am sorry that I have disobeyed You and earned Your punishment, but today I turn back to You. I believe that Jesus died on a cross in my place so that my sins can be forgiven. I believe Jesus rose from the dead and is alive. I trust Jesus to save me. Thank You for sending Jesus to live a perfect life and to take away my punishment. God, please forgive me and help me to obey You and to live for You the rest of my life.

THANK YOU.

AMEN

5. On page 10, read about Daniel Byrd and how he helps the Roma people discover the joys of choosing to follow Jesus.
 - ☐ Who besides Daniel are telling the Roma people about Jesus?
 - ☐ Why are the Roma people treated badly by other people?
 - ☐ Why did Daniel come to Romania?





THINGS TO DO ...

TO HELP OTHERS

- ① Offer to play with a younger brother or sister while your mother is preparing supper.
- ② Take a trash bag to the back yard and pick up paper that has blown into the yard.
- ③ Clear the dinner dishes from the table without being asked.
- ④ Offer to help your brother (or sister) clean his bedroom.
- ⑤ Take a trash bag to the back yard and pull weeds from the flower beds.
- ⑥ Set the table for dinner without being asked.
- ⑦ Offer to do two of your brother's or sister's chores.
- ⑧ Clean the bathroom without being asked.
- ⑨ Ask your mother if you can take some cookies to an older neighbor down the street.
- ⑩ Offer to wash the family vehicle.

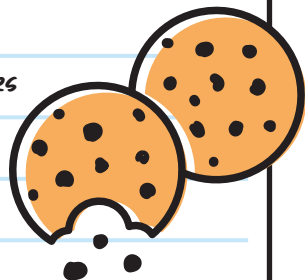

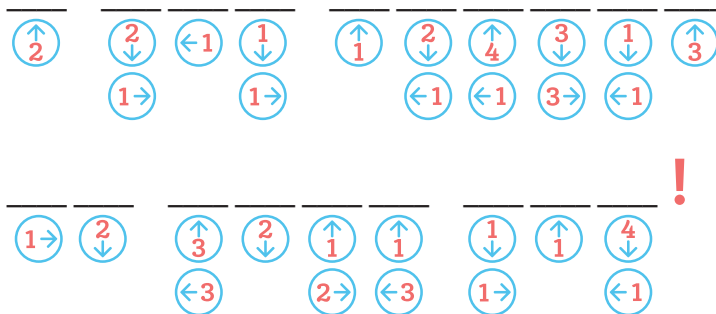


IMAGE CREDIT: SHUTTERSTOCK.COM

 **DEAR GOD,** Help me focus on Your Word and not neglect it.



WAY TO GO



Y	O	I	S	L
R	G	J	E	T
W	B	A	C	F
E	K	P	N	O
D	P	H	S	H

JULY 2020 **ADVENTURE** 7

A Helper from God



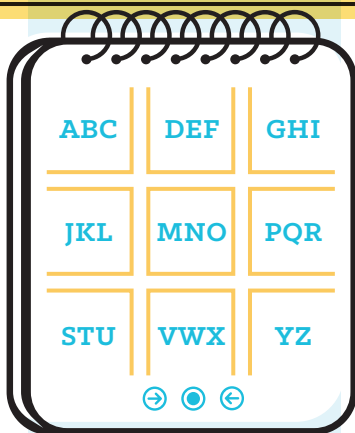
I have spoken these things to you while I remain with you. But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and remind you of everything I have told you. *John 14:25-26*

God sends the Holy Spirit to you when you choose to follow Jesus. The Holy Spirit is a teacher; He helps you know and understand God's Word. The Holy Spirit is a comforter. When you are sad or upset, the Holy Spirit can help calm you and remind you of God's care. The Holy Spirit is a helper; He guides you to make wise choices that honor God.



DEAR GOD, Thank You for the Holy Spirit, a Helper from You.

CRACK THE CODE



Crack this code. Write the letter in the space from the Decoder Key that matches the symbol below the space. The answer is what God can help you do.



Give Freely

Give to the one who asks you, and don't turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you. *Matthew 5:42*

Dad and Foster saw a man standing outside the supermarket. The man held a sign asking for help. As they moved closer, Dad pulled some money out of his pocket and gave it to the man.

"Why did you give him money?" asked Foster.

Dad said, "He was asking people for help. And he looked like he needed it."

Foster said, "But won't he spend it on something bad?"

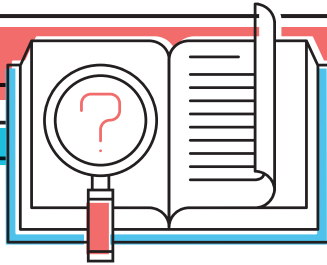
"Maybe," Dad said. "But he may buy food or medicine, too. How the man uses the money is his responsibility. God tells us to give to others. That's our responsibility."



DEAR GOD, Help me make wise choices as I choose to give to others.



SEARCH IT



1. uant A _____
2. tobrhre B _____
3. eotmhr M _____
4. gaduhetr D _____
5. fthaer F _____
6. gandfatarhre G _____
7. grhonadmter G _____
8. tisser S _____
9. osn S _____
10. ncule U _____

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

Unscramble the family member names. Find and circle them in the puzzle. Then thank God that you can choose to serve each person in your family.



ON MISSION IN ROMANIA



The Roma people live in Romania and other parts of Europe. They were once called gypsies because people believed they came from Egypt. Traditionally, the Roma people made their living as circus performers, fortune tellers, or traveling sales people.

The Roma are a nomadic people. They move from place to place, looking for work and ways to support their families. Their families are large and often include five to ten children. Because they are very poor, some Roma think they have to steal from others to help their families survive.

The Roma are treated poorly by other Europeans, and most Roma do not know Jesus.

Daniel Byrd and other groups of short-term missionaries help Roma families discover the joy of choosing to follow Jesus. Daniel felt God calling him to leave a good job and a nice house in America to serve the Roma people.



Roma children often do not have enough to eat and are almost always hungry. This makes it hard for Roma families to believe that God cares for them. Daniel and other Christian workers want to meet both the spiritual and physical needs of the Roma people so that they might learn to love God and choose His ways.

YOU NEED TO KNOW


- ☐ In terms of gold resources, Romania is the richest country in Europe.
- ☐ For many years the Roma people of Romania have been mistreated. However, God has used Christian ministries and believers to take the good news of His Son, Jesus Christ, to these people and many Roma are choosing to follow Him.
- ☐ Romanian Nadia Comaneci was the first Olympic gymnast to ever score a perfect 10.
- ☐ Many people in Romania love sports. Missionaries and local believers host football leagues and volleyball and basketball teams with the goal of sharing the gospel with others.
- ☐ Today the church in Romania is one of the strongest in Europe. Romanian missionaries are taking the gospel to other countries so others will hear about Jesus.

Source: *imb.org*

Gotta Have Sole

A generous person will be blessed, for he shares his food with the poor. Proverbs 22:9

Nicholas Lowinger saw homeless children with worn out shoes or no shoes. One brother and sister had to take turns wearing the same pair of shoes. Whoever was wearing the shoes could go to school that day. Nicholas gave a pair of his shoes to the brother so both could go to school every day. Then Nicholas started collecting donations of shoes and money so he could help more homeless children have shoes. His organization, Gotta Have Sole, gives shoes to children all over the United States.

 **DEAR GOD,** Show me how I can be generous, giving, and sharing with others.



Sneakers got their name because their rubber soles do not make noise.

What's That Mean?

Help me understand your instruction, and I will obey it and follow it with all my heart. Psalm 119:34


Elise sat at the table reading her Bible. "What's up?" Justin, her older brother, asked.

"I don't understand this," Elise said. "I'll just skip over it."

Justin looked closely. "That word is covet," he said. "That means to really want what someone else has."

"So the Bible says not to do that?" Elise asked.

"Wanting one *like* they have is OK but wanting *what* they have is coveting," Justin said. "You can always ask me what words in the Bible mean when you don't understand them."

 **DEAR GOD,** Help me learn more about Your message in the Bible.




Thousands of Stars



God comes from Teman, the Holy One from Mount Paran. Selah His splendor covers the heavens, and the earth is full of his praise. *Habakkuk 3:3*

How many stars can you see at night? Sometimes the moon and the lights on earth block some of the stars. An older adult or a person who has poor eyesight, will see fewer stars. But if you go out away from all the city lights on a moonless night and have good eyesight, you will see many stars. God created all of that beauty. And those stars are one part of His creation that shows how magnificent God is.

 **DEAR GOD**, I praise You for being the magnificent Creator of the universe.



DIG DEEPER

Wise words from the Bible can help you obey God. Check out these verses and complete the table.

This Bible verse:

Will help me:

1. Proverbs 3:31 _____
2. Proverbs 4:24 _____
3. Proverbs 11:13 _____
4. Proverbs 12:16 _____

Your Thoughts

And every proud thing that is raised up against the knowledge of God, and we take every thought captive to obey Christ.

2 Corinthians 10:5

You have thousands of thoughts every day. What do you think about? You probably think about things you want to do or your favorite video game, TV show, or book. Maybe you think about what your brother said to you last night or what snack to have. Did you know you can choose what to think? And you can ask God to help change what you are thinking. In Philippians 4:8, God gives you some things you should think about. Choose to focus on things that honor God.



DEAR GOD, Help my thoughts focus on what honors You.



Some people say that the louder chips crunch, the better they taste.

Is That Right?

Therefore, love the LORD your God and always keep his mandate and his statutes, ordinances, and commands. **Deuteronomy 11:1**

“Mrs. Dell, is this right?” asked Wyatt.

“What are you talking about, Wyatt?” Mrs. Dell asked.

Wyatt opened his Bible wider and said, “This says to love your enemies. Did Jesus really say that?”

Mrs. Dell nodded. “Yes,” she said, “He said to love those who curse you. He said if someone slaps your cheek, offer the other cheek to that person, too.”

“Whoa,” Jessica said. “Those are hard things to do.”

“You’re right,” Mrs. Dell said. “Followers of Jesus cannot keep God’s commands by themselves. They must ask the Holy Spirit to help them live like Jesus. No one could love his or her enemies except when God loves through them. How you treat others shows your love for God.”



DEAR GOD, Show me how to love You and love others.

Obeying



Children, obey your parents in the Lord, because this is right.
Ephesians 6:1

"We'll be right over," Dad said. He clicked off the phone and said to Naomi, "Gramma needs our help. Let's go."

In the car, Naomi asked, "Dad, do you always do what Gramma says?"

Dad chuckled and said, "I try. She's my mother, and I choose to obey her. Sometimes it is hard. I may have other things I want to do."

Naomi said, "I thought adults could do whatever they wanted."

Dad said, "God's Word says that we are to obey and respect our parents. That doesn't stop when someone grows up. It's my responsibility to help care for Gramma now that she is older."

Naomi smiled and said, "I'll help you when you are old, Dad."



DEAR GOD, Help me obey and respect my parents.

SOLVE IT

To discover the missing word of the message, answer each clue and write the letters in the boxes. Then write each numbered letter in the same numbered box below the puzzle.

1. Your mother's sister.

--	--	--	--

①②
2. A sharp object on a rose stem.

--	--	--	--	--

③④⑤
3. The opposite of last.

--	--	--	--	--

⑦⑥
4. The number after 29.

--	--	--	--	--	--

⑧⑨

I can learn about and recognize God's


①	②	③	④	⑤	⑥	⑦	⑧	⑨

Promise Keeper

Now if you will carefully listen to me and keep my covenant, you will be my own possession out of all the peoples, although the whole earth is mine. *Exodus 19:5*

A *covenant* is a pledge or promise between two people or groups. God led the Israelites from Egypt, and He talked with them at Mount Sinai. He gave them the Ten Commandments. He made a covenant that they would be His people and they would live in Canaan. The people promised to worship and serve God. The people did not keep their promise and worshiped idols. They did not listen or respect God. But God kept His promises. God is the only One who always keeps His promises.



 **DEAR GOD,** I praise You because You always keep Your promises.

IT ALL ADDS UP

>	o		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
10	5	1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

Each group of symbols stands for a single letter of the alphabet. To discover the message, add the numbers represented by each set of symbols and write on the line the letter indicated by that number.

<u>o </u>	<u>>o</u>	<u> </u>	<u>>> </u>	<u> </u>	<u>> </u>	<u>>></u>	<u>>o </u>
<u>> </u>	<u>o</u>	<u>>></u>	<u>>o</u>	<u>> </u>	<u>o </u>	<u>>> </u>	<u>o</u>
<u>o </u>	<u>> </u>	<u>>> </u>	<u> </u>	<u>>>o</u>	<u>>o </u>		
<u>>></u>	<u>o </u>	<u> </u>	<u>>></u>				
<u>o </u>	<u>>o</u>	<u>> </u>	<u>>o</u>	<u>>o </u>	<u>o </u>	<u>> </u>	<u>.</u>



PICTURE PUZZLER

To discover the message, write the word for each picture on the line above the picture. Follow the directions to add or subtract letters from the word you wrote. The remaining words will reveal the message.



- bke



- lp



- fi +



+ o +



- x + ble



- k



th + - be

cho +



+ s



- ron

m +



- r

Paul the Apostle

Through him we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the Gentiles. *Romans 1:5*

Paul was an important person in the New Testament. He loved Jesus very much and dedicated half of his life to telling others about Him. God gave him the task of telling Gentiles (non-Jews) about Jesus and Paul became a missionary, making trips all over the world to tell the good news. He wrote that all of God's children should tell others about Jesus' love and salvation.



DEAR GOD, Show me how to follow You as Paul did.



The Climber

Don't be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and turn away from evil. *Proverbs 3:7*

Ranger Mitchell carefully moved down his rope to the climber tightly holding onto the rock. The ranger secured a safety harness around the climber. He signaled the other rangers, and they lowered the climber down to safety. Ranger Mitchell climbed down.

The climber said, "I'm strong. I thought I could climb down this rock wall with no problem."

Mitchell said, "The sign at the top says no climbing on this wall."

"But I'm a good climber. I thought I could do it," said the climber.

Sometimes you may think you know best. But you should always choose to pay attention to God and His Word. God knows best.



DEAR GOD, I trust You and want to listen to Your wisdom.



The world record in climbing speed was set by Czech climber Libor Hroza, ascending a 49-foot speed course in 5.73 seconds, during a competition in Arco, Italy.

JULY 2020

S

M

T



NATIONAL HOT DOG MONTH

Build A Scarecrow Day

5

Fried Chicken Day

6



Chocolate Day

7



Different Colored Eyes Day

12



Barbershop Music Appreciation Day

13

Shark Awareness Day

14



PICNIC MONTH

Ice Cream Day

19



Ice Cream Soda Day

20



Junk Food Day

21



Aunt and Uncle Day

26

Take Your Houseplants for a Walk Day

27



Milk Chocolate Day

28



W**T****F****S**

Creative Ice
Cream Flavors
Day

1



Made in the
USA Day

2



Eat Beans Day

3



Independence
Day

4



Blueberry Day

8



Sugar Cookie
Day

9



Teddy Bear
Picnic Day

10



Cheer up the
Lonely Day

11



Cow Appreciation
Day— Go out and
give a cow a hug

15



Fresh Spinach
Day

16



Emoji Day

17



Caviar Day—
something's
fishy here

18



Hammock Day

22

Hot Enough
for Ya
Day

23



Cousins Day

24

Day of the
Cowboy

25



Tiger Day

29



Cheesecake Day

30



Mutt's Day

31



Jericho



The LORD your God is among you, a warrior who saves. He will rejoice over you with gladness. He will be quiet in his love. He will delight in you with singing. *Zephaniah 3:17*

Joshua and the Israelites stood outside the city of Jericho. The city was surrounded by high and thick walls. God told the people what to do to conquer the city. Every day for six days, the Israelites walked around the city once. The people stayed silent. On the seventh day, the people circled the city seven times, just as God said. Joshua told the people to shout. When they shouted, the wall fell down. God wants His people to listen to Him and follow Him.

 **DEAR GOD,** Help my church listen to You and follow You.



DIG DEEPER

God loves and forgives people even when they make wrong choices. Circle examples of good choices. Cross out the choices that are bad.

Take the largest piece of cake

Disrespect your parents

Pray for your family

Destroy your siblings' toys

Use your allowance to help someone else

Be a good example for your younger siblings

Share your toys

Use good manners

Comfort someone who is sad

Tuesday, July 14

My Little Brother

The one who says he is in the light but hates his brother or sister is in the darkness until now. *1 John 2:9*

Does your younger sibling ever make you angry? Maybe he touches all your stuff, follows you around everywhere, or bugs you to play outside with him. He teases you. He whines. Some days you might wish he would just go away. But maybe he also helps you clean up all your toys and likes to play card games with you. He listens when you have a bad day. Even if you get upset with him sometimes, you can choose to love him. He is part of the family that God gave you.



DEAR GOD, Thank You for every member of my family.



Studies have shown that younger siblings are born with a higher IQ, but by the time they turn 12, the firstborn has gained a 3-point IQ advantage over their younger siblings.

Wednesday, July 15

Resist

Therefore, submit to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. *James 4:7*

After Jesus was baptized, He went into the wilderness. He stayed there and fasted for 40 days. Read what happened in Matthew 4:1-11. The devil asked Jesus to do different things. Each time Jesus spoke Scripture and chose to resist the devil. Then the devil left and angels came to help Jesus. God will help His followers resist the devil, too. Every person is tempted to sin. When Christians are tempted to do wrong things, they can remember what the Bible says and ask God for help. God is the One who helps Christians make right choices.



DEAR GOD, Help me learn Scripture and choose to resist the devil.

The Promise



Lying lips are detestable to the LORD, but faithful people are his delight. *Proverbs 12:22*

“Charlotte, I won! I won!” Layne shouted to her best friend.

“You won what?” Charlotte asked.

“I’m captain of my team! They chose me! See?” said Layne.

Layne handed Charlotte a flyer. On it was a picture of Layne. Charlotte read the flyer. “It says that you will buy a movie ticket for every person who votes for you. That’s a lot of money to spend.”

Layne said, “Oh, that’s just something I said. Nobody really expects me to do that. You say stuff like that so people will vote for you.”

“I don’t know,” Charlotte said. “It’s like a promise. If you don’t do it, you will be lying. God tells us that He can’t stand liars. You need to tell them the truth or buy them movie tickets.”



DEAR GOD, Let my words be true when I speak.

DROP IN

Drop each three-letter combination onto one of the three grouped spaces to make a word. Now, move the letter on each numbered space to the same numbered box at the bottom of the page. The sentence tells one thing God wants you to do.

LOV

ICK

ISE

REA

CHI

RIG



① ② _____ L D

P _____ ⑤ Y

_____ ③ E

_____ ⑥ D

_____ ④ H T

W _____ ⑦

I can make good

①

②

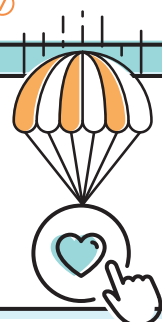
③

④

⑤

⑥

⑦



Greedy

For know and recognize this: Every sexually immoral or impure or greedy person, who is an idolater, does not have an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. *Ephesians 5:5*

“Hey Nick,” Tim said, “Could I use this book for a minute?”


“No! I need it,” Nick said.

“But you have all the books about planets. I need information about Jupiter. I just need it for a short time. I’ll give it back,” said Tim.

Nick shook his head.

Mom overheard the boys arguing and said, “Nick, you need to let Tim use the books. God says it’s wrong to be greedy. Being greedy doesn’t show His love.”

“Well, ok. Just as long as he lets me use them again!” said Nick.

 **DEAR GOD,** I need Your help to choose to think of others and not just myself.



EYE SPY



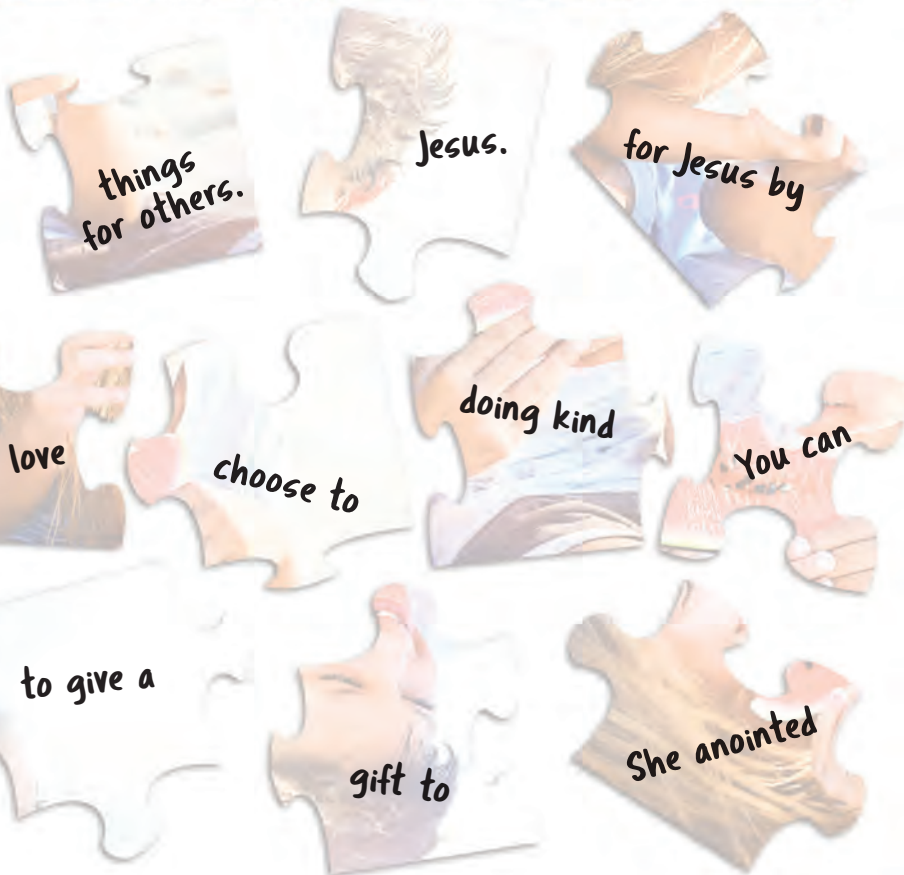
Circle the row and column that contain pictures of six DIFFERENT objects.

STORY PUZZLER

Complete the sentences by finding the puzzle piece that matches the one in the grid. Write the words from that puzzle piece onto the same numbered line below. When you read the answers from ① to ⑫, you will solve the puzzle.



- ① _____
- ② _____
- ③ _____
- ④ _____
- ⑤ _____
- ⑥ _____
- ⑦ _____
- ⑧ _____
- ⑨ _____
- ⑩ _____
- ⑪ _____
- ⑫ _____



Hating Others

Everyone who hates his brother or sister is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life residing in him. **1 John 3:15**

You have probably never hurt anyone, at least not hurt them very badly. And you have not murdered anyone. But the Bible says that you don't need to actually hurt someone to be guilty of murder. If you hate someone, it's the same as if you did murder that person. If you hate someone, you will not act kindly toward him or her. You might say bad things about them to others. You may even get others to hate them, too. If you choose to hate, that hurts people, as much damage as if you physically harm them.



DEAR GOD, Guide my thoughts and my emotions toward others.



Sunday, July 19

Most Important

Love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. **Deuteronomy 6:5**

A man asked Jesus, "What do I need to do for eternal life?"

Jesus reminded the man about the Commandments.

The man said, "I've done all those things since I was a boy."

Jesus told the man, "Sell what you have. Give the money to the poor and follow Me."

The man walked away. He was very sad. He was rich. His money was the most important thing to him. Jesus said it is difficult for rich people to choose God because money is important to them. We should love God with all we are and all we have. God should be the most important thing to us.



DEAR GOD, Help me make You the most important thing in my life.



Exercising improves brain performance.



Bible Quiz

I delight to do your will, my God, and your instruction is deep within me. Psalm 40:8

Read these statements. If the statement is in the Bible, write Y; if not, write N.

1. Cleanliness is next to godliness. _____
2. God works in mysterious ways. _____
3. God helps those who help themselves. _____

Ready for the answers? None of these statements are in the Bible! To understand God's instruction and His will, you must read the Bible and know what the Bible says. Sometimes things sound good and sound like Bible verses. But the real verses are the ones that have the truth of God in them.



DEAR GOD, Guide me to read the Bible regularly and understand Your instructions.



Before hitting the water in an 88 foot dive, divers reach a speed of 56 miles per hour.

Ambition

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility consider others as more important than yourselves. Philippians 2:3

David Boudia is an Olympic diver. When he went to the Olympics in Beijing, China, he wanted to win a gold medal more than anything. He had worked for years and knew his hard work and desire would pay off. It didn't. He came in tenth place. David was crushed. He quit diving and started going to college. While in college, he made some wrong choices. One day, sad and lonely, he talked to his coach. The coach told him about Jesus. Later David became a follower of Jesus. He began diving again, but now his goal is to give God glory.



DEAR GOD, Help me to make You the most important thing as I grow older.

Baptized

I have been crucified with Christ, and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. Galatians 2:20

Jameson saw Scarlett standing in the water with Pastor Jack. The pastor put Scarlett under the water and pulled her back up. Pastor Jack had baptized Scarlett!

“Mom,” Jameson said, “why are people baptized?”

“Baptism shows other people that you are following and obeying Jesus,” Mom said. “Jesus came to earth and lived a perfect life. When He died on a cross, He took the punishment for sin. Jesus was raised to life again. Jesus is God’s gift and people can choose to follow Jesus and live for God.”



DEAR GOD, Thank You for Jesus, the Savior, who gave Himself for me.



DIG DEEPER

I will dust the family room
without being asked.

I will clear the dinner dishes
from the table.

I will play a game with
my younger sibling while my
mother fixes dinner.

I will take out the trash
and bring the trash bin back
to the house.

I will pick up paper and limbs from
the yard without being asked.

Read John 12:1-8. Mary loved Jesus and showed her love to him by anointing Jesus feet. You can show your love for family members. Circle the ways you will show God's love to them this week.

No Matter Where

As the Father has loved me, I have also loved you. Remain in my love. John 15:9

Harper lay on her bunk and stared at the ceiling.

“What’s up?” Maddy asked her.

“I miss my mom, but I bet she doesn’t even miss me,” Harper said.

“Sure she misses you,” Maddy said. “Even when you’re at camp, she loves you.”

Maddy saw a box on the table and said, “This box is yours, Harper.”

Harper opened the box. “Comic books,” she said, “and cookies! From Mom!”

Your parents love you even when you are not with them. Wherever you go, they still love you. God’s love is greater than your parents’ love. No matter where you go or what you do, God will love you. He will help you if you ask Him to help.



DEAR GOD, I praise You for your everlasting love.

Friday, July 24



Apples are a member of the rose family of plants, along with pears, peaches, plums, and cherries.

Adam and Jesus

For the love of Christ compels us, since we have reached this conclusion, that one died for all, and therefore all died.

2 Corinthians 5:14

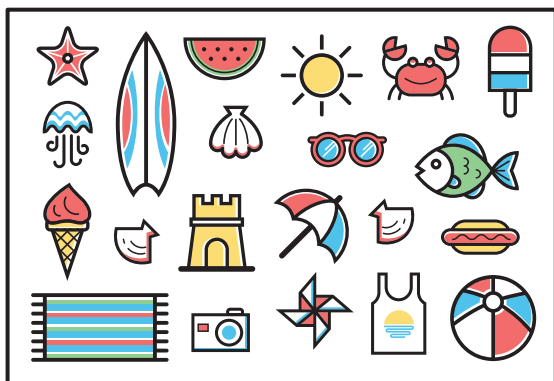
In Genesis 2–3, the Bible tells about Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. God told them they could eat the fruit from any tree except one. “If you eat from that tree, you will die,” God told them. Both Adam and Eve chose to eat the fruit. They knew they had sinned. They were separated from God. Death came to Adam and to all men. Every person sins. Jesus, the only perfect Man, took the punishment for sin. And when He died, He took the spiritual death and punishment for anyone who chooses to follow Him.



DEAR GOD, Help me understand what Jesus did for me.

STARE AND COMPARE

While the pictures below might look identical at first, only two of them are the same. Put a check in the circles below the two that are the same.



John the Baptist



There was a man sent from God whose name was John.
John 1:6

Zechariah was a priest and an old man. He and his wife did not have any children. One day in the temple, an angel appeared to Zechariah. The angel said that his wife would have a baby, even though she was an older woman. They would name the baby John. The angel told him that John would prepare a way for Jesus' coming. Later Elizabeth had her baby. They named him John. As a man, John preached to God's people. He told people that the Messiah was coming. When he saw Jesus, He said that Jesus was the One from God.



DEAR GOD, Thank You for the Bible that tells me Your message.



A soccer ball has 32 panels; each one represents one of the 32 countries in Europe.

The Big Game

But if it doesn't please you to worship the LORD, choose for yourselves today: Which will you worship—the gods your fathers worshiped beyond the Euphrates River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living? As for me and my family, we will worship the LORD. *Joshua 24:15*

"Only four more days," said Evan.

"What's in four days?" Dad asked.

"My friends are playing soccer in the park in the morning! I can't wait to play," Evan said as he kicked his soccer ball across the grass.

"That's on Sunday," Dad said. "Church day."

"But what about my friends?" Evan said.

"Evan," Dad said, "our family puts God first."

Evan started to argue, but Dad stopped him. "Soccer is important. But God is the most important. We choose worship over the game."



DEAR GOD, Help me choose to worship You.

Ruler of the Whole Earth

On that day the LORD will become King over the whole earth—the LORD alone, and his name alone. *Zechariah 14:9*

Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom holds a record for being the oldest and longest serving ruler. She is queen over 16 commonwealth nations around the world. Queen Elizabeth is a human ruler. God is the eternal Ruler of all the earth. One day when Jesus returns, all the people of the earth will recognize God and His Son, Jesus. They will bow down to Him and confess that Jesus is Lord and God is King.



DEAR GOD, I praise You, the eternal King of the whole earth.



DIG DEEPER

1. Therefore, love the LORD your God and always keep his mandate and his statutes, ordinances, and commands. *Deuteronomy 11:1*
2. Children, obey your parents in the Lord, because this is right. *Ephesians 6:1*
3. He said, “Rather, blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it.” *Luke 11:28*

You can choose to follow God's rules. Read the verses below and decide now if you will follow or not.





Some animals are nocturnal. They are awake at night. These animals usually can see very well in the dark.

Light in Darkness

Jesus spoke to them again: “I am the light of the world. Anyone who follows me will never walk in the darkness but will have the light of life.” *John 8:12*

Have you ever walked through a dark house or outside on a dark night? How did you feel? Walking around in darkness can be scary or even dangerous. You cannot see what’s around you. You cannot see where you are stepping or if something is blocking your path. You may bump into things or fall over things. Jesus said He is a light. He helps people see what is right and wrong. He helps people know the right way to go. Sin is darkness and danger. Jesus conquered sin.



DEAR GOD, I thank You for Jesus, the light of the world.

Fear God

How happy is everyone who fears the LORD, who walks in his ways! *Psalms 128:1*

What does it mean to fear God? For those who follow God, fearing God is respecting Him. God’s followers realize that God is mighty and powerful. He is God over everything and everyone. Fearing God is feeling a sense of awe or amazement at God and who He is. Those who fear God choose to follow the ways that God has given. And those who choose to not follow God should realize that He is powerful and will punish sin.



DEAR GOD, Help me really know who You are.

Take Up the Cross

And whoever doesn't take up his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. *Matthew 10:38*

"Mr. West, what does 'Take up his cross,' mean?" Noah asked.

Mr. West said, "The cross in the Bible was something that people died on."

"So I have to die?" Noah said.

"In a way, yes," Mr. West said. "When you *take up your cross*, you stop trying to do things your own way. You choose not to follow your will. Some people say that it means to die to yourself and your own desires. What does it say here?"

Noah read, "Take up his cross and follow me."

"You stop doing what you want, and you choose to follow God's will every day," said Mr. West.



DEAR GOD, Help me follow You every day.



Hiking Trail

A person's steps are established by the LORD, and he takes pleasure in his way. *Psalms 37:23*

"This trail makes me think about God," Evie said. Finn didn't understand what his sister meant. Evie continued, "Someone cut this hiking trail. That person made this path so others would know how to climb through this forest. We could have walked through the forest over there, but it would have been harder and slower to climb."

"How is that like God?" Finn asked.

"The Bible says that God will guide our steps," said Evie. "That means that God has a plan, a path for us. If we follow His path, we know we are in the right place."



DEAR GOD, Guide my steps and establish my path.



Hiking increases the feeling of happiness

LOL

CAN YOU TOP THESE?
Send your Joke to
kiddevos@lifeway.com

Where do goldfish go
on vacation?

Around the globe!

Why did the
robot go on
summer
vacation?

He needed to
recharge his batteries.

What did the
bread do on
vacation?

It loafed around.

Why don't
mummies go
on summer
vacation?

They're afraid to
relax and unwind!

Why can't basketball
players go on summer
vacation?

They'd
get called for
traveling!

What's gray, has four
legs and a trunk?

Not an elephant.
It's a mouse on vacation.

ANSWERS

PAGE 7

I can choose to obey God!

PAGE 8

I can reject wrong!

PAGE 9

1. Aunt
2. Brother
3. Mother
4. Daughter
5. Father
6. Grandfather
7. Grandmother
8. Sister
9. Son
10. Uncle



PAGE 12

1. Choose to be kind
2. Choose to be honest
3. Choose to be trustworthy
4. Choose to ignore insults

PAGE 14

1. Aunt
2. Thorn
3. First
4. Thirty

I can learn about and recognize God's authority.

PAGE 15

God wants me to live in ways that honor Him.

PAGE 16

I am responsible for the choices I make.

PAGE 20

Good choices are:
 Pray for your family
 Use your allowance to help someone else
 Share your toys
 Be a good example for your younger siblings
 Use good manners
 Comfort someone who is sad

PAGE 22

1. Child
2. Love
3. Right
4. Picky
5. Read
6. Wise

I can make good choices!

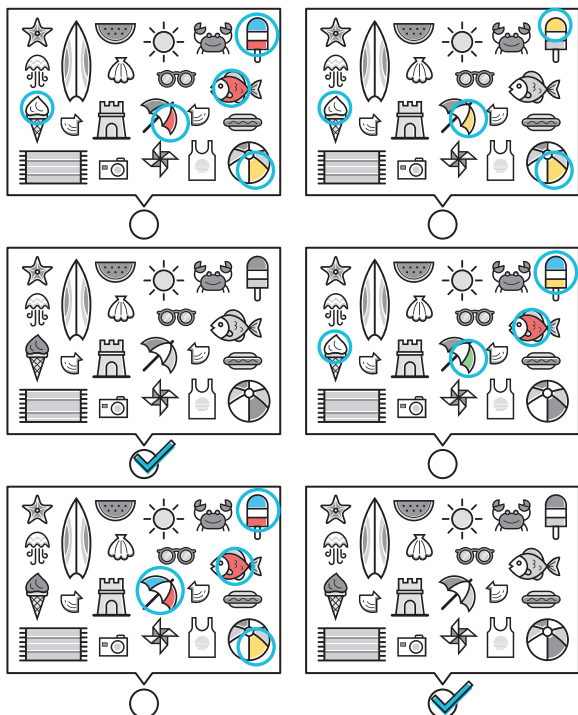
PAGE 23



PAGE 24

Mary chose to give a gift to Jesus. She anointed His feet. You can choose to show love for Jesus by doing kind things for others.

PAGE 29



PAGE 36

Page 32, page 18, page 3
 Page 28, page 6, page 11

WHAT'S INSIDE?

Fill in the page number
of where each picture is
found in this issue of
ADVENTURE.

