

DAILY DEVOS

5TH & 6TH GRADE | SEPTEMBER

We know that it is important for us to spend time drawing nearer to God. A great way to do that is through reading His Word. These daily devotions are a simple way to start reading the Bible.

When we desire to build a good habit it is sometimes helpful to know that someone is on the same journey with us. Our whole class is doing this with you! But, we invite you to include your mom, dad, grandma, whoever!

Reading this with your family is a fun way to hold each other accountable for the time we are spending with God and get to know each other better too.

This week in class we studied Exodus 7-11, God showing Himself as the ONLY GOD, the Creator and Master of the world. Let's look a little deeper!

WEEK
2

DAY 1 | READ ROMANS 1:18-20

Long before GOD visibly showed up to take the Hebrews away from Egypt. The Egyptians were seeing God all around them. The Egyptians saw GOD provide for them in the form of the Nile River which flooded and replenishing the soil so they could grow crops, provided fish to eat and transportation, and brought abundant animal life to the desert. GOD provided for them over and over again, and scripture makes it clear that they knew He was there. But, instead of thanking and worshiping the Creator, they chose to worship the created things and made their gods out of stone using images of the birds, animals, and people. When we use the word "worship," we are talking about attributing or assigning worth to something or someone. When the Egyptians worshipped created things instead of the Creator, GOD, they were saying that the created things deserved more honor and were more worthy of praise than GOD is. Oops. But before we are too rough on the Egyptians, we need to take a good look at ourselves and what we worship by making it worthy of our time and attention.

What do you worship or give more time, energy, praise, attention to than the GOD? Spend some time worshipping GOD by thanking Him for what He has provided you with and the creation that shows His creativity. Ask Him to help you remember to thank Him for all you have and see today!

DAY 2 | READ EXODUS 6:6-8

Yesterday we learned that there is no excuse, if you live on this beautiful planet, not to acknowledge and worship GOD, because you can see Him in what He has made. If you ignore Him, it's your choice. During the Exodus though, GOD, through the plagues, made it so that neither the Egyptians nor the Israelites could ignore Him any longer. You see, we think the Israelite people still knew about GOD who had made promises to Abraham, their ancestor. But, we also know from the Old Testament, that the Israelites had started worshiping the gods of the Egyptians as well during their 400 year stay there. So, when GOD called Moses to bring them out of Egypt, GOD had a few specific purposes for the way He did it (plagues, miracles, etc). We will talk about one of those purposes each day for the rest of the week. Here's Purpose 1!

Focus back on verse 7. "Then you (the Israelite people) will know that I am the LORD your GOD." GOD doesn't just want them to think He's another "god". By the time they leave Egypt, GOD wants them to know that HE is their GOD, not one of many, but the only GOD, and that He keeps His promises. What about you? Have you ever thought about GOD as the ONLY LORD (the boss/master/only one in charge) and the ONLY GOD (creator, ruler, king of everything)? Why or why not?

JOURNAL SPACE Use this space to journal your thoughts about what you are learning this week.

DAY 3 | READ EXODUS 7:1-5

Yesterday we focused on God's first stated purpose during the Exodus story, that the Israelites would know that He is the LORD their GOD. Today we look at Purpose 2. Read vs 5 again. Not only did GOD want the Israelites to know He was the only GOD, He wanted the Egyptians to know it too. The Egyptians had over 2000 different "gods" in their religion, who were supposedly watching over everything from harvest to pregnant women. Here is the big deal though. Even though the Egyptians had turned away from GOD to worship the world He created, He still cared about them. 2 Timothy 2:4-5 says, "He wants all people to be saved. He wants them to come to know the truth. There is only one God..." GOD wants people to know Him because living in relationship with Him is the way humans function best. With Him we can know true love, peace, & freedom to name a few. The wonders He did in Egypt weren't GOD being mean, it was a last-ditch effort to get them to turn away from their worthless idols and see GOD keeping His promises in His full power, a true GOD worthy of their worship.

Thank GOD today for His mercy towards people who haven't chosen to worship Him as GOD. Pray specifically for someone you know what hasn't made that choice and ask GOD to open their eyes to see His powerful love for them.

DAY 4 | READ EXODUS 9:13-16

The last few days we've talked about GOD's desire that the Israelites and the Egyptians would know Him as the only GOD. Today we see GOD enlarge that goal to include even more people. Purpose 3. Right before GOD sends the hail to destroy the crops of the Egyptians who are still turning to their unresponsive, false gods, GOD has a word to speak to Pharaoh and the Egyptians. He tells them He could have just wiped them out, but there was a bigger purpose than just proving Himself to them. Focus on verse 16. Purpose 3 is that the whole earth will know HIS NAME and HIS POWER. You see, it has never been just about one person or even about one people group. Jesus said in John 3:16 that "For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life." It's been about GOD preparing the world to know Jesus. It's been about bringing the whole world back into the relationship with GOD, our Father that loves us wants a relationship with us.

Think about John 3:16. What does that mean for the kids in your class at school? For you? If GOD loves the world full of people and you this much, how does that change the way you see GOD? The stories in the Bible?

DAY 5 | READ EXODUS 10:1-2

Today has nothing to do with the Egyptians, the Israelites, or the world full of people. GOD's plan reaches farther than we can imagine! Check out Purpose 4. The Egyptians were still refusing to believe that GOD is in charge. So GOD not only let them choose to be stubborn, He made them even more stubborn. These verses tell us why. GOD knew that what was best for the Egyptians, the Israelites, and the whole world, was to see His power and know He is the ONLY GOD. Why? So that they would tell their children and grandchildren about Him. You see GOD cares just as much about your kids as He does about you. You might be thinking, "I DON'T HAVE KIDS!!! GROSS!!". But real talk, you might someday. And GOD already knows them (check out Psalm 139:13-18). We know that GOD cares enough to show Himself to us through all He has made and through the message of the Bible, but it also means that no matter what is happening in your life, GOD can use it to show Himself to you in ways you will want to tell your kids about. There is only one GOD. The GOD of Abraham, Isaac, & Jacob. The GOD who sent Jesus, part of Himself in human form, to save us from the sin that wrecked us.

Thank Him today for caring about you and those that come after you. Thank Him that He had a plan and that He kept His promise to Abraham, the Israelites, and now to us.

JOURNAL SPACE

Look back over the lessons this week. What day impacted you most? How can you apply the what you've learned, not just to today, but to the rest of your life?