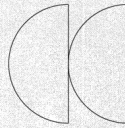




Daily Devotionals



FOR AN
everyday faith.



HABITS / WEEK 2

MIDDLE SCHOOL

<p>In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.</p> <p>GENESIS 1:1 NLT</p>	<p>DAY 1</p> <p>What's your favorite part of God's creation? Maybe it's something like waterfalls or bright stars. Or maybe it's a cuddly animal or a glimpse at the ocean. No matter where you live, God's creation is all around you. And one of the coolest things about that creation is that it shows us more about who God is. The flowers that bloom, the sunshine on our faces, the people we meet—they all reflect who God is and help us know Him better.</p> <p>This week, make a point to look around and notice some of God's creation. Write down some of the things you see that show you a little more about God in the world around you.</p>
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<p>Let the heavens be glad, and the earth rejoice! Let the sea and everything in it shout His praise!</p> <p>PSALM 96:11 NLT</p>	<p>DAY 2</p> <p>One of the things we can do to get to know God better is look for Him in the world around us. As this Psalm tells us, all of heaven and earth are a reflection of God. All of creation is praising Him for who He is. That's pretty cool, right? When we're not sure if God is with us, we can simply open our eyes to the world around us to see that He is there.</p> <p>Today, share this Psalm with your small group. Text it to them, talk about it, or even post it on social media or in a group chat. Then, start a conversation about what parts of creation or the world around you help you know or connect with God.</p>
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<p>By faith we understand that the entire universe was formed at God's command, that what we now see did not come from anything that can be seen.</p> <p>HEBREWS 11:3 NLT</p>	<p>DAY 3</p> <p>God formed the universe on purpose with a purpose. He created each and every thing with detail—including <i>you!</i> Whether you believe it or not, you are a beautiful part of God's creation. And that's something worth remembering! When we show kindness and love to ourselves, we are showing kindness and love to God, too, because we are a part of His creation.</p> <p>On a piece of paper, write down three things you love about the way God made you and who He created you to be. Then stick that note on your mirror to be a reminder to you of how wonderful He believes you are!</p>
<p>He counts the stars and He calls them all by name.</p> <p>PSALM 147:4 NLT</p>	<p>DAY 4</p> <p>All throughout Scripture, we see that God cares about His creation. This Psalm points out that He cares about the stars so much, He calls them each by name. So if God cares that much about the stars in the sky, how much more does He care for you—the one created in His very image? God knows every part of who you are. He knows your thoughts, your hurts, your dreams, and even your questions. That's how much He cares!</p> <p>Before your head hits the pillow tonight, thank God for how well He knows you and how much He cares about every part of who you are. Pray that you would come to know Him and connect with Him more.</p>
<p>O Sovereign Lord! You made the heavens and earth by your strong hand and powerful arm. Nothing is too hard for you!</p> <p>JEREMIAH 32:17 NLT</p>	<p>DAY 5</p> <p>Life can be hard... especially in middle school! Remember that when you're facing difficult things in your life, God is bigger. He is stronger, more powerful, and greater than the challenges you might be dealing with. And because of that, nothing is too hard for Him.</p> <p>This week, ask your small group leader, friend, or a trusted adult in your life to share with you how God has helped them through a hard time. Ask them to help you remember that He will do the same for you when you turn to Him and connect with Him in your struggles.</p>

DAY 6

Written by Molly, age 18 from Illinois, USA

Starting to read your Bible can seem like a huge task, especially if it's your first time doing so. The Bible is broken up into two different sections: the Old Testament and the New Testament. The Bible contains a total of 66 books, tens of thousands of verses, and hundreds of thousands of words. Of course, it can be easy to feel lost when you try to read it.

It might feel like God's Word wasn't meant for those young in age or young in faith, but God's purpose for the Bible wasn't to confuse us. The author of these verses describes God's Word in the way He wants for us to see it. The Bible contains our instructions for life. It's our constant guide. And when we allow God's Word to be our guide, we become wiser than our enemies.

But how do we use the Bible as a guide if we don't know where to start? First of all, congratulations! You've already started! When studying the Bible, you don't have to jump right in. With every devotion you read, you're studying more and more of God's Word.

When you're ready to dive in even more, start with the book of John. The book includes the many miracles Jesus performed during His time on Earth. It's a great place to learn of the love Jesus has for you.

Right now, take a moment to think about one way God has already guided your life. Then, thank Him for giving us the Bible as one way to guide us through life.

Oh, how I love your instructions! I think about them all day long. Your commands make me wiser than my enemies, for they are my constant guide.

PSALM 119:97-98 NLT

DAY 7

One of the best places we can listen to and hear God's voice is in Scripture. God uses the Bible to speak to us—His followers! And that's why having Scripture memorized can help keep God's voice in our hearts and minds. So this week, try memorizing this verse! Set an alarm for the same time every single day. When that alarm goes off, stop and read this verse. Doing this consistently every day this week will help you commit it to memory.

Go to the Lord for help; and worship him continually.

PSALM 105:4 GNT