

As you read these devos, you'll see that we've written them for **Y-O-U** if you're a tween girl! But you may need your mom sometimes. Why? Well, the honest answer is

that sometimes when you're first learning to do something, it's good to have help from someone with more experience!

It might be your first or second or third year having devotions on your own. But it's probably your mom's tenth or twentieth year of doing it. So, she's gonna come in handy from time to time. Every now and then, one of the writers will encourage you to ask your mom for help.

(So, Mom, if you're reading this, we hope you are on standby every day. When your girl comes to you for advice or help, try to be available soon, even if you can't be at that very moment.)

If it is helpful, you could decide you want to start by reading these together with your mom, but we sure hope you will grow in your ability to read the Bible and understand it on your own. After all, someday, you may be the mom helping a girl learn to do the very same thing!

I love you, and Jesus loves you.

Dannah Gresh, Founder of True Girl

#### Glow and Tell

Let each generation tell its children of your mighty acts; let them proclaim your power. { Psalm 145:4 }

o you want to know more about what your mom was like at your age? Well, it's "throwback" time! *Throwback* is a word used to reference something

from the past. This month is about having your mom "glow" back to to the past and tell you about her life! Most importantly, she'll tell you her God story. All believers have one!

So, get ready to "glow" back in time. You two can talk about the precious God moments in her life. I'm sure she'd love to tell you all about how God has shown His faithfulness to your family through the good and bad times.

Why is telling our God story so important? Well, check out today's verse again. It says that parents should tell their children of God's mighty acts. We do this to proclaim or announce God's mighty power. And guess what?? You and your mom can do that together.

So, get started!!!

ACTION POINT: As your mom talks about her tween years, make a list of her favorite things. Then make a list of yours. Compare the lists. I have a feeling you may see how much you and your mom have in common!

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#### For Eegore Days

I look up to the mountains does my help come from there? My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth! {Psalm 121:1-2}

eyore, Winnie the Pooh's donkey friend, always seems to have a rain cloud over his cute, droopy head. Sometimes we all have Eeyore days!

I know a girl named Megan. She has awesome friends who like being with her. She's a gifted guitarist and singer who loves Jesus wholeheartedly. When Megan feels like Eeyore, she strums her guitar. Sometimes she sings worship songs from church, and other times she writes her own songs. To Megan, praising Jesus is like hugging a big, fluffy pillow.

I'm so proud of Megan because she knows where to get help when she feels blah. She goes to Jesus. According to today's verse, our help will never come from any other place. When we're upset, it's not always easy to praise and thank Jesus. It might be easier to eat a ton of food, watch TV, or sleep. But to really feel helped, we need to turn to Him.

ACTION POINT: You may not be able to play the guitar, but you have some special way to come to Jesus when you feel the blues. Maybe you can draw a pacture or write a letter to Him. Try doing that today.

Today's encouragement is by JANET MYLIN and is an adapted excerpt from The One Year Mother Daughter Devo by Dannah Gresh and Janet Mylin. Get a copy at mytruegirl.com.



# when Growing Is Hard

If you reject discipline, you only harm yourself; but if you listen to correction, you grow in understanding. { Proverbs 15:32 }

t was the New Year, and my mom spent time with my siblings and me to tell us what she was praying for us. I was anxious to hear what she had to share because one of my love

languages is words of affirmation. But her words were hard to swallow.

"Nikki, I'm praying you will learn not to be so negative."

Deep down, I knew she was right. I did look at everything negatively, and it was noticeable to others.

God's Word tells us we harm ourselves when we reject others' correction! I'm thankful my mom loved me enough to correct me. Since that day, I have worked on being more positive, and the Lord has changed me for the better.

So, the next time your parents have something difficult to say to you, take it to the Lord. Ask Him to show you how to grow in understanding.

ACTION POINT: Do you take your parents' correction to heart, or alo you aleny there may be truth to their words? Commit to taking your parents' correction before the Lord, knowing they give it to you in love.

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# Speaking Through Shine

In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father. { Matthew 5:16 }

ne time I asked my mom why fireflies light up. She said that they talk to each other through their glow. I thought it was so cool they could communicate like that! Did you know we can communicate through our shine, too? No, our bodies don't start shining at night! Instead, our shine comes from the H oly Spirit, who lives inside us when we accept Jesus as our Savior. Often, people describe the Holy Spirit as a certain "shine" that Christians have. It is as if our spirit is glowing with God's love!

You can communicate to others about Jesus through your glow. When people see your gentleness, kindness, love, and patience, they see the Holy Spirit in you. This might lead them to ask questions about Jesus, allowing you to talk to them about God!

Are you glowing for God? Let your shine speak!

ACTION POINT: Is your allitude showing the love, patience, and kindness of God? Create a list of some "glowing" personality traits. Read through each day to check if you are glowing or dim, and ask God to help you shine for Him.

ELAIYNA HOPE loves pink, sparkles, and learning about Jesus. Her favorite hobbies include singing, dancing, and playing instruments.



#### Same Cloak, Different Dude

Elisha picked up Elijah's cloak, which had fallen when he was taken up. Then Elisha returned to the bank of the Jordan River. { 2 Kings 2:13 }

ou might wonder, "What does today's Scripture verse have to do with Glow and Tell?" I'm glad you asked! Elijah was a mighty man of God who provided many powerful miracles through the strength of the Lord.

Elisha stuck by Elijah's side. (Did you catch how their names in English are almost exactly the same?) Elisha wanted to learn from Elijah and serve the Lord in the same powerful ways.

One day, the two men were walking along and suddenly a chariot of fire appeared, and a whirlwind took Elijah to heaven! AMAZING! Elisha saw it all happen, and when he noticed Elijah's cloak on the ground, he took it as his own. It was a symbol of Elijah's legacy being passed on to Elisha.

Did you know that's what Jesus-loving mamas do? They want to pass on their love for God to their girls so they can do great things for Him, too! That's powerful!

# ACTION POINT: Sit and think for a few minutes about how your mom passes on what she knows about the Lord and the Bible to you. Thank God for it.

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#### 'Grandma's Favorite Memory

But the Lord said to her, "My dear Martha, you are worried and upset over all these details! There is only one thing worth being concerned about. Mary has discovered it, and it will not be taken away from her." {Luke 10:41-42}

o you know anyone who has Alzheimer's? It's a disease that affects people's minds and memories. My grandma had it and slowly forgot who we were.

But one thing Grandma never failed to remember was her love for her Savior. She kept reading her Bible and singing her favorite hymns. As her memories faded, her relationship with Jesus kept growing.

Jesus' friends, Mary and Martha, had different ideas of what it meant to love Him. Martha served Him in practical ways, while Mary chose to spend time with Him. In today's verse, Jesus isn't telling Martha that serving doesn't matter. It does! But He IS saying that the relationship we build with Him is what lasts forever.

Both my grandma's and Mary's examples inspire me! Like them, I want to remember "the one thing worth being concerned about" (Luke 10:42)—growing in my relationship with Jesus!

ACTION POINT: Read Today's verses in Their full context in Luke 10:38-42. Then, learn more about Jesus' friendskip with Mary and Martha and how He raised Their brother from the dead by reading John 11:1-44.

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# Spiritual Solids

Solid food is for those who are mature, who through training have the skill to recognize the difference between right and wrong. {Hebrews 5:14}

have a picture of my daughter Lexi that I love. She's about one year old and sitting in her high chair. Lexi's slumped down with her head to the side because she had fallen asleep playing with her baby food.

When someone first gives their heart to Jesus, they probably aren't ready to dive right into the "meaty" things of the faith. It is wise for a "baby believer" to learn about prayer and studying the Bible.

On the other hand, those who have walked with Christ for a while shouldn't still be eating mushy baby food. The more you grow in Christ, the more you'll understand the "solid food" of the faith. That's why your mom probably reads books about her faith, and your pastor can define big words. They are "meat eaters." They've grown up and can digest deeper things of the faith.

ACTION POINT: Make it a goal to grow up in your faith and become a "meat eater." Learn something new about your faith today. Ask your mom or dad to help you learn a big word about your Christianity.

Today's encouragement is by DANNAH GRESH and is an adapted excerpt from The One Year Mother Daughter Devo by Dannah Gresh and Janet Mylin. Get a copy at mytruegirl.com.



# Back to the Future

Let this be recorded for future generations, so that a people not yet born will praise the LORD. { Psalm 102:18 }

t may be hard to imagine right now, but one day the words of your testimony will be spoken to the next generation. Hopefully, you will share it with MANY generations to come.

Throughout the Bible, God calls His people to record (that just means to write down) things. Why is this important?

Do you see the words "future generations" in today's verse? Just think, you may share your God story with your children or GRANDCHILDREN! God wants you to record your testimony so others can hear of His goodness and praise Him!

Talk to Mom and the older generations in your family to get started. You can all pass down Bible verses that have carried your family through tough times. You can also write about fun traditions and record the tasty recipes your family has celebrated for years.

Recount God's goodness together and document it for the generations to come!

ACTION POINT: Sit down with your mom and some other women in your family. Write down your favorite Scriptures and write each person's name nexito their Scripture. Keep it somewhere special so you can continue to pass them down.

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The Springiest Spring Break

For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline. { 2 Timothy 1:7 }

h, glorious spring break! Don't you love it? A few years ago, I watched my daughters jump on their new trampoline and cringed with every jump. Would they rocket off to a rooftop somewhere? Would they hit the side of the house? Would they fall off and break . . . everything!?!

But God reminded me of today's verse and that we are not to live in fear. He didn't want me to be thinking of all the "what if's" that could happen if things went wrong on the new trampoline.

Sharing our faith with others can feel like watching my girls jump. It can be scary! We're worried about what they will think, what they will say, and all the other "what ifs." But when you feel that paralyzing fear creeping up in your spirit, remind yourself what God says in 2 Timothy 1:7 and bounce on over to someone through the power of God!

#### ACTION POINT: Look for someone to share your faith with this week. Pray and ask God to help you with His spirit of power to speak to them. You got this!

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#### One Club

The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David! {Luke 2:11 }

y daughter Lucy's school used to have a Christian club, but it stopped meeting. God put it on Lucy's heart to start a club again with the help of her youth pastor. We chose to call it One Club because every ONE is important, God sent His ONE and only son, and there is ONE way to heaven. The good news we share is the same good news we celebrate when we remember the shepherds who heard that the Messiah had been born in Bethlehem.

Like those shepherds from long ago, you are not alone. You are loved by God. Although it's not Christmas and you probably don't have lights on your house anymore, you can glow in your neighborhood and school. You have a message of hope that others need to hear. One baby named Jesus came to bring hope into every heart. That is ONE very good reason to be thankful today!

ACTION POINT: Could you start a Christian club at your school? Or maybe there is a Christian group you could join. Make it a point to look for other Christ followers who are your age. Together you can glow for God brightly!

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# 1 Need Headlights

Jesus spoke to the people once more and said, "I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life." { John 8:12 }

riving at night is hard! I remember one of the first times that I pulled out of the driveway in the dark. I could barely see a thing and couldn't figure out why it was so hard to see. That's when I realized my mistake—I forgot to turn on the headlights! I quickly flipped them on, and their glow made it easier to see.

This idea of light helping us see doesn't just apply to driving at night. It applies to our choices, too. Sometimes it's hard to know right from wrong. But a little bit of light can go a long way.

When you are having trouble making the right decision, you can go to Jesus. He's "the light of the world" and will not leave you in darkness. He wants to help guide you to the truth and help you see clearly.

ACTION POINT: When you face the "Jarkness" of confusion, talk to God about it. It is important to see what He has to say first. You can also ask someone to show you Bible verses that might help.

ELAIYNA HOPE loves pink, sparkles, and learning about Jesus. Her favorite hobbies include singing, dancing, and playing instruments.



# Glow and Tell, Little Woman!

Mary Magdalene found the disciples and told them, "I have seen the Lord!" Then she gave them his message. { John 20:18 }

ave you read the book *Little Women*? It's the tale of the four March sisters—Meg, Jo, Beth, and Amy. I'm the oldest of four girls and a mom to four "little women."

So, I love stories with four sisters!

But what does *Little Women* have to do with today's verse? Whenever I read John 20, I remind my "little women" that the first person Jesus appeared to after His resurrection was a woman. Her name was Mary, and Jesus told her, ". . . go find my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God'" (John 20:17). Jesus could have talked to His other friends Himself, but instead He allowed Mary to share the good news!

Just as I encourage my girls to glow and tell, I bet your mom does the same for you—her "little woman."

ACTION POINT: Read John 20:1-18 and learn the full story of Mary meeting the resurrected Jesus. Use the events of the passage to create a fun comic strip that you can show your mom and share with friends!

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# Eternal Legacy

Tell your children about it in the years to come, and let your children tell their children. Pass the story down from generation to generation. { Joel 1:3 }

ne of my favorite days in elementary school was field day. I enjoyed the friendly competitions between the other classes. The activity I signed up for each year was the relay race. We had to run around the track and hand off the baton to a teammate.

This verse makes me think of those field days. But instead of the friendly competition, I think about passing the baton of faith to the next generation. The next generation means people who are born after you. How do we do that? By modeling our faith to those around us.

The next generation—or those younger than you—should be more powerful and stronger because of hearing about God's goodness, power, and mercy. They need us to tell and show them. As you are running the race, make sure you are passing something to your teammate that will be helpful AND eternal.

What are you passing on to the next generation?

ACTION POINT: Do you see God at work in your life? Make a list of Things you can start doing to be intentional about sharing your faith. If you have a hard time thinking of things, ask God to give you wisdom.

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### Tell Your Story

I could have no greater joy than to hear that my children are following the truth. { 3 John 1:4 }

an you remember the last time you told someone your God story? Do your friends know how you came to accept Jesus as your Savior? How often do you tell people about God's faithfulness in your life? Just like the generations before you should pass on their God stories, you should too.

I'm sure your mom and others (like your grandma or aunts) can't wait to hear about some of your favorite things, what you love about your family, and what God may be teaching you right now. The Bible says there's no greater joy than hearing that our children are following the truth.

Yep, you have a testimony! It's time for you to tell your story—to your family, friends, and anyone who will listen! Not only will it bring your family great joy, but your Father in heaven will love to hear you sharing your story, too.

ACTION POINT: Find today's verse in your Bible and circle the word "Truth." Talk to your mom about how following God's Truth has changed your life. I'm sure you two will have quite the joyful time together!

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#### the Best News Ever

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." {Acts 1:8}

ave you ever had something so wonderful happen to you that you just could NOT keep it to yourself? Maybe you got a new puppy, aced your math test, or scored the winning goal at your last soccer game. Whatever it was, we all like to tell others our good news. And, as followers of Jesus, we have the best news ever: the gospel!

God sent Jesus to live a perfect life, take our sins, and die in our place on the cross. Then, He was raised back to life on the third day, conquering sin and death forever. Now, all who turn from their sin and believe in Him can have eternal life. Talk about good news!

Take a look at today's verse. Jesus is talking to His disciples and telling them to spread this good news to the ends of the earth. Just like the disciples, we also are called to share this good news.

ACTION POINT: Who is someone you can share the gospel with this week? Write them a note telling them that Jesus loves them, alied for them, and was raised to life so that they can live with Him forever.

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# Unashamed of His Name

For I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ. It is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes—the Jew first and also the Gentile. { Romans 1:16 }

y first time at a youth group, my hands trembled and my stomach did flips. A room full of brand-new faces, all my age—talk about TERRIFYING. To my surprise, nobody laughed and pointed as I walked in. I was welcomed with open arms. People actually wanted to be my friend!

Romans 1:16 reminds us, "It is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes." The saving work of Jesus is available for everyone. These new friends were so kind because Christ was in their hearts. They unashamedly walked in the light of the gospel. To be unashamed means to be bold and confident in what you believe. My new friends were bold for Jesus, and I wanted what they had!

We should not be afraid to share the truth of Jesus with our friends and family, for the Word of God is more powerful than we know.

ACTION POINT: Do you want to be bold when sharing the love of Jesus? This week, show the love of Jesus to at least one person that the Lord places on your heart.

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# Learning from Correction

Discipline your children, and they will give you peace of mind and will make your heart glad. { Proverbs 29:17 }

rowing up, I was a spirited child. OK, I was a bit wild. I was always coming up with crazy schemes that were well-meant. But they usually resulted in me making poor choices and getting into trouble. These choices often ended with my parents having to correct me—and I often resented correction. I thought it was unfair and harsh.

Now, as an adult, I am so thankful that my parents chose to correct me. I had to learn that every action has a consequence to it. My parents' wisdom helped me learn to make good choices and be responsible.

Being disciplined can be hard, but throughout Scripture, we are taught that discipline makes us more like Jesus. This includes when your parents have to speak the truth to you in love. So don't resent discipline like I often did. Instead, be willing to learn from it.

ACTION POINT: The next time your parent's correct you, ask the Lord what He wants you to learn from it. Also, remember that your parents are correcting you because they love you and want you to be more like Jesus.

NIKKI ROBERTS is an elementary teacher who loves to tell others about the goodness of God. She lives in Michigan where she loves to horseback ride and play board games.



# Shining in the Dark

For God, who said, "Let there be light in the darkness," has made this light shine in our hearts so we could know the glory of God that is seen in the face of Jesus Christ. { 2 Corinthians 4:6 }

> ave you ever noticed a lit-up billboard on the side of the road? A few weeks ago, I was driving home at night and was surprised to see a big, bright light shining ahead.

It was a billboard! The advertisers succeeded in getting my attention. Why? Because it was shining in the dark when nothing else was.

Our faith in God can get people's attention just like the billboard got mine!

Sometimes we act as more of a billboard when we're sharing Jesus. We proudly declare the messages that God has put on our hearts. And, when we let God's light shine through us, it reaches people even in the darkest places. We might not be able to see that they noticed the message, but the lesson still touches their hearts.

When you let God's light shine through your words, thoughts, and actions, it reaches people you never expected. Isn't that amazing?

ACTION POINT: Ask Goal to open your eyes to those that need of His light. Who might be noticing His shine through you? If someboaly comes to mind, pray for them.

ELAIYNA HOPE loves pink, sparkles, and learning about Jesus. Her favorite hobbies include singing, dancing, and playing instruments.



#### Words Like Jewelry

My child, listen when your father corrects you. Don't neglect your mother's instruction. What you learn from them will crown you with grace and be a chain of honor around your neck. { Proverbs 1:8–9}

> id you know that your parent's words are like jewelry? They are! Really!

Don't believe me? Read Proverbs 1:8–9. It says that we should listen to our mom and dad because what we learn from them will crown us with grace and be a chain of honor around our necks.

This means that by listening to your parents and other adults who love Jesus, you will start to look more like Him! You will grow in grace—that's when you are willing to love others even when they don't deserve it—and live a life that honors God.

So, the next time you are tempted to ignore what your parents or the adults in your life are saying to you, remember that they are a gift from God. What they have to say will help you be more like Jesus so that you can help others love Jesus too.

ACTION POINT: Remember toolay's verse the next time you put on a piece of jewelry, whether it's your favorite pair of earrings or a special necklace. You'll be beautiful on the outside and the inside too!

KINDRA STANTON is passionate about helping women and girls study God's Word with confidence. She loves making music with her husband Caleb, drinking coffee, and reading good books! KindraStanton.wordpress.com



# The Perfect Age

Don't let anyone think less of you because you are young. Be an example to all believers in what you say, in the way you live, in your love, your faith, and your purity. { 1 Timothy 4:12 }

ave you ever felt like people weren't listening to you because of your age? I know I have. I'm the youngest sibling in my family, so I often would have to go along with what the older kids wanted to do. Sometimes they didn't think what I wanted to do was as important as what they wanted.

It doesn't feel good when you don't think you're being valued. That's why I love today's verse. The Apostle Paul is telling young Timothy not to let people look down on him because of his age. He told Timothy that he was supposed to be an example to other believers.

As you share your testimony, you are an example to others, no matter what age you are. God makes it very clear that being young does not make you any less important than anyone else. Others will follow you as you live for Christ and tell them about Him.

ACTION POINT: Are there people you've wanted to tell about Jesus but were afraid they'd think you were too young? Let 1 Timothy 4:12 give you the courage to share your God story with them.

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# Do Not. Be Afraid

Don't be afraid, for I am with you. Don't be discouraged, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will hold you up with my victorious right hand. { Isaiah 41:10 }



used to need a nightlight. The dark was scary, and there was no way I could peacefully fall asleep in a pitch-black room. What if something scary was hiding in the closet? Or under

the bed?

One summer, I made a BIG mistake on a family trip. As everyone got ready for bed, I realized I had forgotten to pack my NIGHTLIGHT! What was I going to do? Afraid and embarrassed, I let my mind wander to all the scary things waiting for me in the dark.

If I had known the truth of Isaiah 41:10 back then, I would not have been so scared. We do not have to be afraid, for God is with us! As believers in Christ, we will never be alone. No matter the circumstance, God's presence will always be near. Oh, what peace that brings!

ACTION POINT: If you haven't experienced this peace but want to, pray: "Lord. I need you. Forgive me for sinning against you. Jesus. I believe You are the Son of God. I accept you into my heart. In Jesus' name, Amen."

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# Following the "Good" List

Remember your leaders who taught you the word of God. Think of all the good that has come from their lives, and follow the example of their faith. { Hebrews 13:7 }

hen my dad was in Bible college, I listened to him practice the sermons he wrote for class. But I didn't stop there! I also memorized what I heard him say and later taught it to my little sister and stuffed animals.

I think of my dad *and* mom when I read today's verse. In it, the writer of Hebrews encourages readers to "remember your leaders who taught you the word of God. Think of all the good that has come from their lives, and follow the example of their faith" (Hebrews 13:7).

My parents taught me to read, listen to, and love Scripture. But they didn't stop there! In their attitudes and actions, I watched them faithfully live out the instructions and wisdom of God's Word. And, if I were to write down "all the good that has come from their lives," it would be a long list!

ACTION POINT: Does Hebrews 13:7 bring to mind any leaders in your life? Make a list of the good in their lives and share it with them. Encourage them with how Their example of faith has impacted you.

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#### From Old to New

Now that I am old and gray, do not abandon me, O God. Let me proclaim your power to this new generation, your mighty miracles to all who come after me. { Psalm 71:18 }

ur family friend Pam was a treasure. She is someone I am honored to have had in my life. Something I will never forget about Pam is her love for the Lord. She was constantly talking to my girls about Jesus! She desired to invest in them because—just like you—they are the new generation that God is raising up! By talking to them about God, she pointed them to the future and the kingdom of heaven. Pam is now in heaven with God, but she used her time on earth to invest in those around her. She knew God's Word and lived with faith, hope, and praise.

I want to encourage you to be like Pam. Be prepared to share your love for God and invest in the future at school, with your friends, at church, at the store, and even at birthday parties! Your reward in heaven will be great!

ACTION POINT: Who is speaking to you about Jesus? Surround yourself with those people so they can teach you to be a strong proclaimer of the power of God to those around you!

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# Redeemed

Has the LORD redeemed you? Then speak out! Tell others he has redeemed you from your enemies. { Psalm 107:2 }

ave you been redeemed? To *redeem* something means to buy it back. It means to rescue! Everyone in this world was, at some point, a slave. But

instead of being owned by another person, they were owned by sin. They were stuck living in disobedience to God and were separated from Him.

But God loved you and me so much that He decided to redeem us from slavery to sin. He sent His Son Jesus to die in our place and pay for our sins with His own life. Not only did He die for us, but He was raised back to life so we can live with Him forever.

Take a look at our verse for today. If you have been redeemed, tell someone about it! And if you haven't, talk to your mom, dad, or an adult in your life and ask them how you can be redeemed.

ACTION POINT: This may feel silly, but I want you to go outside and shout, "I am redeemed!" Say it multiple times! Then, think of someone you can tell about it. Ask them if they want God to redeem them too!

KINDRA STANTON is passionate about helping women and girls study God's Word with confidence. She loves making music with her husband Caleb, drinking coffee, and reading good books! KindraStanton.wordpress.com



#### he Pilot's Perspective

Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path. {Psalm 119:105}

y roommate Liza is studying to be a pilot! One time, she shared with me the difficulties of flying at night. Can you imagine being in charge of a giant plane full of people and trying to land it safely in the dark?

Thankfully, pilots have lots of lights to help them! At airports, hundreds of lights line the runway. White, green, and red. Flashing and normal. Tall and short. Every light has a job. Each light communicates something to the pilot, who relies on that information.

We're like those lights! However, our light can communicate different things. When we show God's love to other people, we are shining for Him. But we have a different light when we are angry or upset, and that light might not communicate kind things to others. So, let's always check our light to make sure we are shining for God and not for ourselves.

ACTION POINT: What do you think your light is communicating? Pray and ask God to help you see what your light is telling other people. Are you glowing for Him?

ELAIYNA HOPE loves pink, sparkles, and learning about Jesus. Her favorite hobbies include singing, dancing, and playing instruments.



#### Loosen Your Grip!

Let true justice prevail, so that you may live and occupy the land that the LORD your God is giving you. { Deuteronomy 16:20 }

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myself, it was mine. Plus, it still had the tags and everything!

Sometimes doing the right thing is the hardest choice. I knew the right thing to do was to let my sister wear my new dress. So why was it so hard to give in?

The Bible tells us that none of us are born without sin. It is no surprise that we do the wrong things, even though we know what is right. But, as today's verse says, there is a blessing for us when we obey what God tells us to do. And sometimes this victory in Christ looks like letting our little sister wear our brand-new, favorite dress!

ACTION POINT: The next time someone asks you for something that you have a firm grip on, ask yourself. "How would Christ handle this situation?" Then respond how you think Jesus would.

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#### loyal Responsibility

But you are not like that, for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light. { 1 Peter 2:9 }

ou are chosen! God chose you to be His precious daughter. And He is the King of the universe so, that would make you . . . a princess!

Take a second and read our key verse for today. You are chosen, royal, holy, and God's very own possession. But being a chosen daughter of the King doesn't come without some royal responsibilities. (*Responsibilities* are stuff we need to do!)

As the daughter of the King, God wants you to tell others how good He is and be a light in the darkness of this world. How do you do that? Well, as we've been talking about this month, you can be a light in this world by "glowing" and "telling." You can glow by doing your best to become more like Jesus each day and loving others as He would. Then you can tell by sharing with others what Jesus has done for you!

Are you up for this royal task?

ACTION POINT: Think of one good thing God has done for you. Maybe He answered a prayer or gave you a beautiful day to enjoy. Perhaps it is that God has forgiven your sins! Whatever it is, tell someone about it!

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MARCH 2

# How Dirty Counters

You yourselves are our letter, written on our hearts, known and read by everyone. { 2 Corinthians 3:2 NIV }

It was late, and I was working at my first job. I was tired and wanted to go home, but I noticed some dirty counters that needed wiping. I knew the Lord wanted me to clean

them instead of walking away and leaving them for someone else.

As I wiped them, a coworker told me to leave them dirty because I was delaying others from clocking out. I didn't know how to respond.

"You leave her alone," another coworker said. "Something is different about that girl." I was shocked by her words.

I didn't do anything special. I was wiping dirty counters others ignored. But because of that, someone noticed something different about me.

We have opportunities all around us to show we are different because of Jesus. Everyday tasks can be a testimony to others that allows us to tell them about the salvation God offers to all.

ACTION POINT: People are watching you. Today, embrace opportunities (no matter how small they seem) to point others to the goodness of God.

NIKKI ROBERTS is an elementary teacher who loves to tell others about the goodness of God. She lives in Michigan where she loves to horseback ride and play board games.



#### Be Prepared

Preach the word of God. Be prepared, whether the time is favorable or not. Patiently correct, rebuke, and encourage your people with good teaching. { 2 Timothy 4:2 }

ne summer, I was struggling to share God's truth with a close friend of mine. She was living in a way that was not glorifying God and would ultimately hurt her and

those around her. After praying about it, I decided to talk to her.

I explained to my friend that following the Lord's commands would bless her more than living for the world. As much as I would like to say this fixed everything, my friend still decided to live her way instead of God's way. Even though I am no longer close to her, I know that I made the right decision in sharing the truth of Jesus.

Second Timothy reminds us, "Be prepared." As believers in Christ, we must not shy away from the truth that God has given us. We prepare to share it by reading the Word of God and spending time with Him.

ACTION POINT: As you read the Bible this month, take notes on what stands out to you. Perhaps God will have you share what you read with someone else.

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#### Share Your Jesus Story

But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them? {Romans 10:14}

Id you know everyone who follows Jesus has a Jesus Story? It is the story of how they came to believe in Jesus and made Him King of their heart. Did you know that your

Jesus Story can be a powerful tool to help others come to know Jesus too?

Romans 10:14 tells us that our actions alone are not enough to tell someone about Jesus. We need to use our words! For people to believe in Jesus, they need to hear about Him. And, for people to hear about Jesus, it is up to you and me to tell people about Him!

How did you come to believe in Jesus? Who told you that Jesus died for you, raised to life on the third day, and wants you to live for Him? Share that story with someone who doesn't know Jesus today. You might just help them have a Jesus Story of their own!

ACTION POINT: Write out your Jesus Story and share it with someone. Write about what you were like before you knew Jesus. who told you about Him. and what changed after you believed in Him.

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First-Century Family Tre

. . . and Mary was the mother of Jesus who is called the Messiah. { Matthew 1:16 }

ave you sat down and read Jesus' family history? It's recorded in the first chapter of Matthew. There are some names in it that I can't pronounce, like Amminadab and Jehoiachin! But four other names make me smile: Rahab, Ruth, Bathsheba, and the woman mentioned in today's verse—Mary.

These are all women in Jesus' family tree. What's interesting is that the book of Matthew was written in the first century when society didn't value women as much as men. So why does Matthew mention these mothers?

The main reason is that all Scripture is "God-breathed" (2 Timothy 3:16, NIV). The Holy Spirit inspired Matthew to include these women. God wanted their names, stories, and faithfulness to Him remembered. But I'd also guess it's because Matthew hung out with Jesus—and Jesus values women! Matthew watched Jesus love, invite, rescue, and honor females. Jesus went against the culture, and Matthew did too!

ACTION POINT: Ask your mom about your family free. See if there are any stories that she can tell you about a woman of God in your family history.

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#### Crowned with Glory

Then God said, "Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us. They will reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the wild animals on the earth, and the small animals that scurry along the ground. " So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. {Genesis 1:26–27}

> fter God created the world, He made two more things! A man. And a woman. Adam and Eve were the first humans.

God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit had a conversation and decided to make them "in the image of God." That means humans are like God in special ways. Nothing else God made is quite as important because of this stamp of God's image we carry. One Bible verse (that we'll look at tomorrow) says humans are "crowned" with glory. God's glory.

Because we are made so unique, we can glorify God. We can point to Him and remind people about Him.

Many things about us are like God, but in this verse, only two things are mentioned: maleness and femaleness. There's something pretty special about being a girl (or being a boy) that helps us remind people that we are created in God's image.

ACTION POINT: Celebrate being a girl today. Write "It's great to be a girl!" somewhere special. Maybe the inside of your Bible or on a sticky note you put on your bedroom wall!

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# Crushing Unworthiness

When I look at the night sky and see the work of your fingers the moon and the stars you set in place what are mere mortals that you should think about them, human beings that you should care for them? Yet you made them only a little lower than God and crowned them with glory and honor. {Psalm 8:3–5}

ircle the word "glory" in the verses above! Today I want you to remember that you carry the glory of God all over you and in you. (Read yesterday's devo if that doesn't make any sense to you!)

Even so, I bet you've had no-good, very-bad days when you feel awful about yourself. (I had a whole bunch of them late last year. I was just sad and felt insecure in a lot of ways.) We all have days like that!

I hope you're not having one like that today, but if you are, remember that God thinks you're incredibly valuable! In fact, He made you just a little less important than Himself. You have great worth because God says you do.

Think about that and be set free from any insecurity you may be having!

ACTION POINT: Use the words of Psalm 8:3-5 to write a prayer. Just use what's there as a guide. I'll get you started: "Dear God. Sometimes I look at the sky and remember that your fingers made those stars and that moon!" (Keep going!)

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# Hats by Lucy

You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother's womb. { Psalm 139:13 }

am not good at crafts. When I was twelve, I sewed a shirt in a home economics class. It was so small that it didn't even fit over my head. But my daughter Lucy is really good at

crafts. She knits the cutest hats!

She's made a navy-blue beanie for Grandpa and a burgundy one for her aunt. Lucy takes her time, carefully counting the stitches to follow a pattern.

The Bible says that you were knit together in your mother's womb. Now that's much more complicated than Lucy's hats! God had a design for exactly how tall you would be, the color of your hair, your personality, and so much more. You are not an accident. You are designed by God, and every cell in your body has a purpose.

Remember today that you are wonderfully made. You have been perfectly crafted by a loving and creative God!

ACTION POINT: When you look in the mirror, smile and remember God made you. You are a work of art! If you don't feel good about yourself, say out loud, "God knit me together in my mother's womb. He doesn't make mistakes."

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# Majestic You

For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago. { Ephesians 2:10 }

y favorite discovery on a trip to Colorado was how beautiful the mountains were both far away and up close. I saw the towering peaks covered in pine trees and fog from a distance. And, when I studied the closer details, I saw the little things that made the mountains unique, like the bubbling freshwater springs and delicate wildflowers. God designed every little nook and cranny of the mountains to bring Him glory.

God made you the same way. He designed every part of you and chose the key traits of your identity. All of you brings glory back to Him.

The world wants you to change who you are and how you act to be beautiful, but that's not God's plan for you. As today's verse says, you are His masterpiece! You are His beautiful, chosen daughter. He loves you just as you are.

ACTION POINT: Go on a walk and take pictures of some beautiful things in nature. Maybe it is a pretty flower, a unique leaf, or even a little critter? Remember that the same God who made those beautiful things made you?

ELAIYNA HOPE loves pink, sparkles, and learning about Jesus. Her favorite hobbies include singing, dancing, and playing instruments.



# who Knows if Perhaps..

"If you keep quiet at a time like this, deliverance and relief for the Jews will arise from some other place, but you and your relatives will die. Who knows if perhaps you were made queen for just such a time as this?" { Esther 4:14 }



f you read the book of Esther in the Bible, you will see Esther's a total rockstar. Not the "screaming into a microphone" kind of rockstar, but a crazy for God kind

#### of rockstar!

She went from being an orphan raised by her uncle to marrying the king and becoming a QUEEN! The problem was the Jewish people, her people, were in great danger, and she had to make a choice: Stay safe and keep quiet or speak up and use her position to try and save many people.

Her uncle looked at her and said, "Who knows if perhaps you were made queen for just such a time as this?" And Queen Esther decided that she had been created to be a mighty woman of God and would not stay silent—no matter what happened.

Queen Esther's actions saved an entire nation! She was born at just the right time . . . and so were you!

ACTION POINT: You can decide, like Queen Esther, to be a mighty girl for God! Take some time and talk to God about that. Tell Him you want to obey Him no matter what, and ask for His strength to do that!

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Ves-ti-gi-uho?

The LORD has made everything for its purpose... { Proverbs 16:4 ESV }

id you know that when a scientist can't find the purpose of something, like the appendix, they call it *vestigial* (pronounced *ves-tih-gee-al*)? That's a mouthful, right?!

And if scientists don't recognize parts of DNA, they call them *junk* segments.

But we now know that the appendix is considered a "safe house" for good bacteria that can help our bodies after a sickness. And "junk" DNA plays a huge role in our genetics.

God made everything for a purpose!

Have you ever wondered why you were created? You were made for a very special purpose—to bring glory to God. That means that everything you do, every talent and gift you have, should be used to honor and praise Him.

So on those days when you're questioning your purpose, or you're not quite sure what you're supposed to do . . . remember that you were made to glorify God. That IS your purpose!

ACTION POINT: Ask your mom to help you look up a picture of an appendix. Can you believe something that size can have such a big purpose? Only God could think of that!

SHANI MCKENZIE is a lead teacher for True Girl! She loves to share Jesus and make people laugh. She lives in Pennsylvania with her husband and three splendiferous children. mytruegirl.com



# Just Do It

So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God. {1 Corinthians 10:31 }

y worship leader had just asked me to sing for our upcoming Christmas Eve service. It had been many years since I had sung a solo, and my pride kept me from quickly saying yes.

I thought: What if I mess up and my friends judge me? People will compare me to other better soloists at church! But this thought came too: Nikki, are you going to do this for your glory, or are you going to do this so that the Lord can have the glory?

I knew that if I were to make an excuse not to sing because I was too proud of potentially sounding terrible. I would be doing it because I wanted the glory of sounding amazing. But, if I were to say yes to bringing the Lord glory through the song's words, then it would really be about Him and not me. So, I said yes!

ACTION POINT: The next time you have to choose between doing something that makes you look good or doing what you know will bring the Lord alory, choose Him. You won't rearet it, and the Loral will bless you!

NIKKI ROBERTS is an elementary teacher who loves to tell others about the goodness of God. She lives in Michigan where she loves to horseback ride and play board games.



In the Name of Jesus Christ

Come, let us worship and bow down. Let us kneel before the LORD our maker, for he is our God. { Psalm 95:6–7 }

woman once found an old ring in a drawer she hardly ever used. She said, "O' that old thing! I think I'll get it appraised."

She took it to a jeweler. He examined how the stones' colors, texture, and clarity presented themselves. After several minutes, he recognized it was a style of jewelry art that was no longer done. This was an ancient and priceless piece. It was worth more than any he'd ever had. Shaking, he told the woman, who was astounded.

Imagine, she'd kept this thing in a drawer, not knowing its value. But now, she fell to her knees when she understood what it was worth.

The psalmist asks us to do what the jeweler did. What the woman did. To really experience the value of our God and to worship Him. The word *worship* comes from an Old English word: worthship. It literally means to appraise something and respond to its value.

ACTION POINT: Appraise the worth of God today. What have you seen Him do in your life? Ask your mom how He has shown up in her life. Then, worship Him.

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### A New Nature

Put on your new nature, and be renewed as you learn to know your Creator and become like him. { Colossians 3:10 }

ave you ever thought about the fact that you were created to be like your Creator? Colossians 3:10 says that if you believe that Jesus is the Son of God and make Him your Savior, you are a new creation! You are a completely new person inside and out! And because you are a new creation, you also have a new nature that helps you stop disobeying God and start living in a way that brings Him glory.

This verse tells you to put on your new nature like clothes and to be renewed as you learn to know God and be like Him. How do you do those things? By reading God's Word! The Bible teaches about God so that you can know Him better, and it also teaches you how to become more like Him. That's why it is so important for you to make time to read the Bible every day!

ACTION POINT: If you aren't reading the Bible each day. pick a time and start! Maybe you can read in the morning or nght before bed. If you don't know what to read first, try the book of John or Colossians.

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### God is Good

The LORD is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made. { Psalm 145:9 NIV }

et mom!" I shouted to my sister. A mama bird had made a nest inside the wreath on our door. And as I left for school, I noticed a tiny baby bird

lying on our porch.

My mom brought tiny towels and a shoe box to make a temporary nest. We called the vet, and they gave us instructions. After we had fed the baby a couple of times, the mama returned.

"Don't worry. The mama bird will take care of it," said my mom. "But what if she doesn't?" I asked. My mom smiled. "We serve a God full of compassion. Whatever happens, the Lord is still good."

That spring, I watched that baby bird grow up. Psalm 145:9 teaches us that God is good to all things. If He cares so deeply for a baby bird, why would He not care for you even more?

ACTION POINT: Take some time now to write down three ways that God has been good to you this month. Then, thank Him for His goodness!

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# The Perfect Picture

With all my heart I will praise you, O Lord my God. I will give glory to your name forever. { Psalm 86:12 }

ave you ever colored a picture and put it on the fridge or in a picture frame? It's a wonderful feeling to have other people see your hard work. There is a lot of effort that goes into creating something beautiful.

Did you know that you and that picture have a lot in common? Just like you carefully made your picture, God carefully created you. He chose your hair and eye color, height, talents, and everything about you! You are His masterpiece. God created you to show His love, mercy, and glory to the world. How amazing is that? God chose YOU to bring Him praise!

You are God's perfect picture. When life gets tough, remember that you have been hand-painted by the Creator of life. The other things of life will fall into line if you keep Him as your focus.

ACTION POINT: Spend time looking at how uniquely God designed the world. There are so many details! Try to find something beautiful you haven't noticed before-and remember that the God who created that is the same God who designed you!

ELAIYNA HOPE loves pink, sparkles, and learning about Jesus. Her favorite hobbies include singing, dancing, and playing instruments.



# Good Fruit

When you produce much fruit, you are my true disciples. This brings great glory to my Father. { John 15:8 }

hat's your favorite kind of fruit? I'd have to go with strawberries! They're so sweet and go perfectly with another one of my favorite foods: chocolate! Did you know that God talks about fruit in the Bible? In John 15:8.

Job you know that God talks about fruit in the Bible? In John 15:8, Jesus tells His followers that when they produce much fruit, they show that they are truly His disciples and bring glory to God!

Now, you may be thinking: What does growing fruit have to do with following Jesus? Well, the fruit that Jesus is talking about here is not the kind you eat. The fruit He is talking about is the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (see Galatians 5:23). These are the kinds of things that God wants to grow in our lives, and He wants us to show that fruit through our actions.

What kind of fruit do you see when you look at your life?

ACTION POINT: Draw a free with different kinds of fruit on it. For each piece. Think of one way you can glorify God by producing the good fruit of love. joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

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### Made to Be you

And the very hairs on your head are numbered. { Matthew 10:30 }

was a tall child. Way taller than the other girls my age. So much taller, my ballet teacher moved me to the next level ballet class because I looked so ridiculous in the class of girls my age. There was a small problem, though. I had zero skills in ballet. I remember being confused about a lot of the classes.

As much as I might wish I were a ballerina, that's not how God made me. He didn't give me good handwriting or great math skills. But God made me exactly the way He wanted me to be. He knew exactly what skills, gifts, and talents to give me to do what He called me to do.

The Bible tells us that God knows the number of hairs on our heads. He made you exactly like you are to be exactly who He has called you to be. And He thinks you are amazing!

 $\longrightarrow$  ACTION POINT: Make a list of the gifts and talents has God given you. How could you use those to bring God glory?

Amber Pike is the editor of KidzMatter Magazine, an author, children's minister, and a momma whose passion is to see kids loving the Word of God and walking with Him! AmberPike.org



#### Living With Awareness

For as the waters fill the sea, the earth will be filled with an awareness of the glory of the LORD. { Habakkuk 2:14 }

o you live with an awareness of God's glory? Maybe you aren't sure. To be *aware* of it means you live your life always remembering just how powerful and amazing our

God is. So, how can you tell if you're doing that?

When you and I live our lives aware of God's glory, it impacts everything we do!

For example, we will choose not to disrespect our parents with our words because God's Word says to respect them. We will love our siblings instead of fighting with them because it's what God wants us to do. We will treat others better than ourselves (letting them go first in line or picking out the biggest cookie in the cookie jar) because Scripture says we need to put others before ourselves.

So live aware today and seek to give God glory in every moment of your day!

ACTION POINT: How can you choose to do what gives God glory today? If might be tough because, deep down, we want the best for ourselves. Pick one Thing, and if you struggle, don't give up? Ask God to help you.

NIKKI ROBERTS is an elementary teacher who loves to tell others about the goodness of God. She lives in Michigan where she loves to horseback ride and play board games.



# Poetry Lessons

Your unfailing love is better than life itself; how I praise you! { Psalm 63:3 }

hen I was in first grade, I won a national poetry contest. I won first place out of more than a thousand entries. Here's the poem that still hangs on my mom's wall:

> The Woodpecker makes his nest in a tree He pecks all day no matter what we say, So I'd better go away Before he pecks me.

How did that win?

The book of Psalms is a whole book of songs and poems inspired by God. What a gift to have 150 to choose from when I'm looking for words to describe how I feel! Every now and then, I'll read a psalm out loud to God as if I wrote it myself because it's exactly what I feel like telling him in that moment. But you can also write your own. Have you ever tried to write your own psalm? You can! Just write down how you feel about God and his love for you. You can make it rhyme or not. It's totally up to you. If you play an instrument you could even set it to music and share it with your family.



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# God's Brown-Eyed Girl

You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed. { Psalm 139:16 }

hen Amy Carmichael was a little girl, she asked God to make her brown eyes blue. He didn't. But years later, Amy finally understood why.

She served as a Christian missionary in India for 55 years. In India, most people have brown eyes. So, Amy's eyes made it easier for her to be accepted there. But, even more importantly, her brown eyes helped her rescue children forced to work as slaves in Hindu temples. (Hinduism is the most common religion in India.) Amy often had to disguise herself as a local woman to save the kids, which she wouldn't have been able to do with blue eyes.

Before Amy was born, God had laid out every moment of her life just as today's verse says. And God knew that brown eyes were one physical characteristic that would help Amy bring Him glory! It just took Amy time to realize this too.

ACTION POINT: Like Amy, maybe you've asked God to change your appearance. But what if you changed your prayer instead? Ask Him to use your physical characteristic to bring Him glory-just like He did for Amy.

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# Becoming a Protégé

Come, let us tell of the LORD's greatness; let us exalt His name together { Psalm 34:3 }

s a teenager, I helped teach a girl's Bible study group. It's where my love for teaching God's Word exploded! Whenever I taught Scripture aloud to others, it seemed to go deeper into my soul and impact me more.

Psychologists call this the *protégé effect*. There is science behind it, but l'll just give you the basics. When you teach something to others, it sinks deeper into your brain, and you can develop more of a desire to want to learn.

So let me ask: Do you talk about the Lord's greatness and glory with others? Do you share your thoughts and ask questions about God's Word at Bible study, Sunday school, or with a trusted adult?

Don't let fear hold you back from sharing God's glory with others! The effects of sharing aloud will bless both you and others!

ACTION POINT: Grab a group of friends and a trusted adult and start a Bible study. You can share what you are learning about God through time in His Word and ask questions to understand God's glory better.

NIKKI ROBERTS is an elementary teacher who loves to tell others about the goodness of God. She lives in Michigan where she loves to horseback ride and play board games.



# Glorify God Together

Bring all who claim me as their God, for I have made them for my glory. It was I who created them. { Isaiah 43:7 }

> id you know that one day Jesus is coming back? The trumpets will soundand and you will see a great warrior king coming on the clouds with His angel armies

behind Him!

Isaiah 43 tells us about that day. He will gather His people from all over the world. People who love Jesus will come together from every corner of the earth to praise Him! Verse 7 of Isaiah 43 tells us that God created us for His glory. You and I have been made to tell God and others how awesome He is!

Many people don't glorify God because they have never heard that Jesus died for them. Our job is to point everyone to Jesus and tell them how awesome He is! Then, if they also decide to follow Jesus, they can join us in praising God so we can glorify Him together.

ACTION POINT: Glorify God by worshipping Him Through music. Listen to The song "Psalm 34 (Taste and See)" by Shane and Shane. Then, ask your mom or dad to help you share this song with a friend who doesn't know Jesus.

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raise Through a Thread

Let the whole earth sing to the LORD! Each day proclaim the good news that he saves. { 1 Chronicles 16:23 }

ave you ever seen a picture of a silkworm? Before the silkworm turns into a fluffy moth, it is creepy, crawly, and squishy. These creatures make the soft, shiny, strong material called silk. It is used for clothing, furniture, surgical material, and even bike tires!

You might laugh, but sometimes, I feel like a silkworm. I have days when I get tired. My hair gets fuzzy, my makeup smudges, and sometimes I even have on two different socks! However, God sees through it all. He knows what He created me for: to bring Him glory!

Just because you are having a rough day doesn't mean you can't praise God. Even on your worst days, God sees the child He created. He sees your beautiful heart, sunshine smile, and the soul of a daughter who loves Him. You don't need to look perfect to bring glory to God. You do that by being who He made you to be.

ACTION POINT: The nexitime you have a rough day, find one way to bring God glory that day. Maybe it is by encouraging someone, doing an extra chore to help your family, or listening when a friend needs to talk.

ELAIYNA HOPE loves pink, sparkles, and learning about Jesus. Her favorite hobbies include singing, dancing, and playing instruments.



Smile

The heavens proclaim the glory of God. The skies display his craftsmanship. { Psalm 19:1 }

n sixth grade, I lived in West Virginia. They call it wild and wonderful for a reason! Almost every morning, I saw turkeys, baby deer, bunnies, and other wild animals in our front yard.

But nothing could beat the sunrises.

One morning, I did not want to go to school. I felt lonely there, and the thought of walking through those halls made me cry. My dad comforted me and said it was time to go. As we pulled out of the driveway, the sun started to rise.

Deep orange and red beams of light lit up the mountains around us. Slowly, the earth began to come alive. "God is giving you a reason to smile with this sunrise," my dad said.

He was right. That sunrise reminded me of God's promise never to leave or forsake me. And this promise is the same for you!

ACTION POINT: God always finds ways to show us His glory and presence, no matter what we are facing. Keep your eyes open today. Look for all the ways that God is revealing Himself to you.

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# How to Bring Him Glory

Rather, you must grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. All glory to him, both now and forever! Amen. {2 Peter 3:18}

> aybe at this point in this devotional book, you are thinking: OK, I get it. I need to give God glory in my life. But how do I do that?

Great question! Here is the thing: you will not know how to give God glory if you don't know Him!

When you start a new friendship with someone, you don't really know that person (what they like or what makes them feel loved) until you spend time with them. Our relationship with God works the same way. We cannot know how to give Him glory in our lives if we don't know Him and what brings Him glory.

When we spend time in God's Word, we get to know His heart. He teaches us through His Word how He wants us to live. When we apply what God's Word teaches us to our everyday lives, we are bringing Him glory!

ACTION POINT: How's your time with God? Decide today to spend time every day reading your Bible. Ask God to show you how He wants you to apply it to your life so that you can glorify Him.

NIKKI ROBERTS is an elementary teacher who loves to tell others about the goodness of God. She lives in Michigan where she loves to horseback ride and play board games.



# Taming the Tongue

But no one can tame the tongue. It is restless and evil, full of deadly poison. Sometimes it praises our Lord and Father, and sometimes it curses those who have been made in the image of God. { James 3:8–9 }

> here is a part of your body that the Bible says is very powerful. Do you know what it is? (Hint: Look at today's key verse!)

It's your tongue! James 3:8–9 tells us that it is very hard to tame or control your tongue. The very same tongue we use to praise God can be used to hurt others. That's why it is so important to use our tongue in a way that glorifies God and shows others how awesome He is!

We were made to glorify God in everything, including our words. One thing that helps me to speak things that glorify God are three questions I try to ask myself before I say something: Is it true? Is it kind? Do I really need to say this?

I may not be perfect, but those three questions have kept me from saying things I would have regretted later. Maybe they can help you too!

ACTION POINT: White down these three questions: Is it in the point is it kind? Do I really need to say this? Put that paper somewhere you will see it every morning. Let it be a reminder to glorify God with your tongue.

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# Be Like Deborah

Deborah, the wife of Lappidoth, was a prophet who was judging Israel at that time. She would sit under the Palm of Deborah, between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim, and the Israelites would go to her for judgment. { Judges 4:4–5 }

ave you ever read about Deborah in the Old Testament? Her story is in Judges 4 and 5. Deborah was a judge in Israel. A judge was a leader God gave the job "to rescue the Israelites from their attackers" (Judges 2:16).

Deborah is the only female judge in Scripture. It was unusual for a woman to fill this particular role in that time and culture. Yet, Deborah wasn't afraid or unwilling to be different from the women around her and do what God called her to do—and she brought glory to God by obeying.

We live in a culture that says being a girl means looking and acting in specific ways. Maybe you don't fit that mold. If you're different, there's nothing wrong with you! God created you to be female AND to be uniquely you. So, like Deborah, courageously be the girl God made and obediently do what He calls you to do!

ACTION POINT: Read Judges 4 and 5. Draw a picture of what you think Deborah looked like silling under a free and serving as a judge for Israel.

ASHLEIGH SLATER is a wife, mom, author, and editor. She loves to take adventures and collect "Been There" Starbucks mugs from the places she travels. AshleighSlater.com



# his Love—His Glory

Not to us, O LORD, not to us, but to your name goes all the glory for your unfailing love and faithfulness. { Psalm 115:1 }

uring a really hard time, I remember being brave enough to ask a question I was too scared to even think about before: Does God really love me?

Asking that question started me on a journey. It is one thing to ask a question but another to find the answer. I began pouring through Scripture and was blown away by what I saw in God's Word. All over the Bible, I discovered how God deeply loves us despite our flaws. His love is mind-blowing!

When I became more aware of God's love for me and His faithfulness to me, I realized how much God deserves all the glory in my life. How can I not love Him by living in a way that gives Him glory?

When we spend time in Scripture and see how much He loves us, we cannot help but want to glorify Him!

ACTION POINT: Use the concordance in the back of your Bible to look up verses about God's love. Write down three of them to think about this week. Let God's love give you an even bigger desire to bring Him glory!

NIKKI ROBERTS is an elementary teacher who loves to tell others about the goodness of God. She lives in Michigan where she loves to horseback ride and play board games.



# God's Personal Symphony

Singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, and making music to the Lord in your hearts. { Ephesians 5:19 }

reating music is my all-time favorite activity. Sometimes I think of people as instruments or voices. On our own, we can bring praise to God through our beautiful, unique sound. However, when we work together, it can create a symphony.

It is so easy to get caught up in what we can do as individuals that we can forget about our fellow Christians. God loves the sound of our personal praise. But He also loves to hear our voices altogether. It is important that in the busy schedule of life, we do not ignore the importance of praising God with other believers.

God made us all to glorify Him—both on our own and together. You can pray, sing, or even dance! Be a part of the symphony that He has created. Make a joyful sound with those who love Him!

ACTION POINT: Are you involved in a group that you can sing or pray with? Maybe it's at church, a Bible club at school, or even a prayer group with your friends. Make it a goal to glorify God with other believers.

ELAIYNA HOPE loves pink, sparkles, and learning about Jesus. Her favorite hobbies include singing, dancing, and playing instruments.



# Do Not. Be Afraid

Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen. { 1 Timothy 1:17 }

toured with the True Girl team a couple of years ago. It changed my life! Never before have I seen the gospel at work right in front of my eyes over and over again.

One thing that Dannah taught us before going on the road was that we are all fearfully and wonderfully made. (This comes from Psalm 139:12–14). Not only did God create you and me with a purpose in mind, but also fearfully and wonderfully.

When God says "fearfully made," that means He made us full of honor, awe, and respect. Because God is worthy of respect, we are respectfully made. Because God is full of honor, we are honorably made. When God says "wonderfully made," that means He made us full of beauty, delight, and glory. Because God is beautiful, He beautifully made us. Because God is full of glory, He gloriously made us.

ACTION POINT: You are fearfully and wonderfully made. Do you believe this truth? Take a moment to pray. You can do it alone or with someone you trust. Ask God to help you see and believe it.

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# Christ Be Magnified

Make thankfulness your sacrifice to God and keep the vows you made to the Most High. Then call on me when you are in trouble, and I will rescue you, and you will give me glory. { Psalm 50:14–15 }

s I prepared a Sunday school lesson on glorifying God, I wrote the words "God is powerful" as tiny as I could in the middle of a piece of paper. I taped it up in the front of the classroom. The children had a hard time reading what it said from their seats. I brought a magnifying glass with me and called several of them to use it to read the sentence. Once they had the glass, it was easy to see what the paper said.

What was the point of doing this? It was to demonstrate what it means to glorify God. We take a truth about God through how we speak and live, and we magnify or make "bigger" that truth so that others can see it.

When we decide to live a life glorifying God, we can magnify what we learn about God so others will see Him more clearly!

ACTION POINT: Use a magnifying glass and look at things closely. As you do, you will see details that you wouldn't otherwise see. Pray and ask God to help you use your life to bring glory to His name.

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# Heart Check

LORD, we show our trust in you by obeying your laws; our heart's desire is to glorify your name. { Isaiah 26:8 }

as there ever been something in your life that you know you *should* do, but you just really don't want to do it? Maybe it's finishing your chores or doing your homework? Sometimes it's hard to want to do the right things.

Take a look at the key verse for today. When I first read this verse, I thought, "Wow, could I say that to God right now and mean it? Is my heart's desire to glorify God's name?" If I'm being honest, there are days when I don't want to glorify God. Instead, I want to do what I want!

It's on days like that when I have to check my heart. I ask God to change me so that I want to glorify Him and obey His Word. I ask Him to help me trust that His way is better than mine.

ACTION POINT: Pray this with me: "Lord, would You help me want to glorify You? Sometimes it's easy to do what I want instead of obeying You. Grow in my heart a desire to praise Your name through how I live. Amen."

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# he is worth it

If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and heal their land. { 2 Chronicles 7:14 NIV }

once went camping at Max Patch Mountain in North Carolina with my closest friends. I was so excited to get to the top of that mountain to set up our tent and watch the sunset! About two miles into our hike, I felt like I was going to fall over. I'd packed too much stuff! I needed help, but I didn't want to admit it. I looked to the sky and stopped in my tracks. What would Jesus have me do at this moment? I realized that my selfish thinking was keeping me from enjoying the incredible beauty of His creation.

So, I humbled myself and asked for help. A good friend of mine was happy to carry one of my bags up to the top. When we reached the top, it was so worth it! The pink and orange sunset stretched beautifully across the sky, proclaiming the glory of our Father in heaven.

ACTION POINT: Take some time today to 90 outside and enjoy God's beautiful creation. Notice the details in all that He has made. Our Father is a wonderful artist!

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# Created for his Glory

You are worthy, O Lord our God, to receive glory and honor and power. For you created all things, and they exist because you created what you pleased. {Revelation 4:11}

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love the outdoors! I love to be in the woods and horseback ride most of all. For the past few years, I have taught at a girl's ranch camp. During my first year speaking, we took a trail ride

up the side of a cliff to sightsee.

The view was breathtaking!

I couldn't help but be in awe and humbled by my Creator.

So often we forget how powerful and amazing our God is! If we truly understood that fact, then we would definitely be living our lives differently!

We so often behave in a way that points to us being in control and the center point of our lives, but that is a lie from the Enemy! Our Savior is so much bigger than us and our priorities!

This verse says that God created what pleased Him. You are part of that creation! God was pleased to create you! That should inspire us to live in a way that points others to Him and not to ourselves!

Because of this wonderful truth, we should be living our lives through the lens of giving Him glory in our words, actions, and decisions. He is worthy of *all* glory!

ACTION POINT: Do you live your life in light of this truth? Does the way you live your life  $bnn_g$  glory to the Lord or does it diskonor Him? Pay attention today to how you speak and act and ask yourself if it  $bnn_gs$  God glory or you glory. Purpose today to change how you live so that the Creator of the universe is glorified by your actions.

NIKKI ROBERTS is an elementary teacher who loves to tell others about the goodness of God. She lives in Michigan where she loves to horseback ride and play board games.  $\mathbf{O}$ 

# Glow Girl!

These True girl devotions were written to encourage you to glorify the Lord and share your God story. Each day you'll read one verse and some fun thoughts about it. At the end of each, you'll find an action point you can use to live out what you discover!

These devos are written by Dannah Gresh and other writers we want to introduce you to, including: Kasey Brown, Jennifer Daly, Elaiyna Hope, Shani McKenzie, Janet Mylin, Arlene Pellicane, Amber Pike, Nikki Roberts, Ashleigh Slater, Kindra Stanton, and Samantha Toledo.

Jesus said to the people who believed in Him, "You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teachings. And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." JOHN 8:31,32



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