

# faith & family

## Life Source

### Family Devotions

Hopefully your preteen is beginning to develop a habit of personal devotions. But there are still plenty of times when your input is needed—and valued. Encourage your child to read the daily Scriptures. Read the verses yourself. Use the questions to help your preteen understand the verses and apply them to life. Discover and learn from God’s Word—together!

- **SUNDAY**—Read Psalm 24:1.  
Who is the true owner of everything in the world? How can acknowledging God’s ownership affect the way you think about your possessions?
- **MONDAY**—Read 1 Timothy 6:6-8.  
With what two things does verse 8 say we are to be content? How might children in poorer countries of the world view us in light of all that we own?
- **TUESDAY**—Read Philippians 4:11-13.  
In verse 12, Paul, the writer of Philippians, says he learned the secret of being content. What is that secret? How can trusting in God’s strength (v. 13) help us be content in even the worst of circumstances?
- **WEDNESDAY**—Read Ecclesiastes 5:10, 19.  
Why do people who look for happiness in money never seem content with what they already have? How can sharing with others help us enjoy our possessions more?
- **THURSDAY**—Read Luke 12:15.  
What does the statement “Life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions” mean? What are the disadvantages of being a greedy person? Are greedy people more or less likely to have a lot of friends?
- **FRIDAY**—Read Hebrews 13:5, 6.  
Which brings greater peace and comfort: trusting in money or trusting in God? When was the last time you thanked God for taking care of you?
- **SATURDAY**—Read 1 Timothy 6:17.  
Why is wealth so “uncertain”? How can we show God that we are thankful for what we have?



**POWER SURGE**

Find these verses in the Bible. Together, memorize the verses.

**2 Corinthians 9:8, 11, 15**

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- **SUNDAY**—Read 2 Corinthians 9:10, 11.  
According to verse 11, for what purpose did God make the Corinthians Christians “enriched in every way”? How can our family generously use for others this week the “riches” God has given us?
- **MONDAY**—Read Deuteronomy 15:7, 8.  
Why are some people hardhearted and tightfisted about helping the poor? Do you remember a time when our family needed something? How can our experiences of being in need affect how we treat other people who are in need?
- **TUESDAY**—Read James 2:14-17.  
What does our giving (or lack of giving) to those in need say about our faith? Why isn’t it enough just to tell someone that we care about his needs?
- **WEDNESDAY**—Read Luke 12:32-34.  
Why do Christian ministries and missionaries need money to tell others about Jesus? How can we use what God has given us to help others?
- **THURSDAY**—Read Acts 4:32-35.  
How is the church like a family? Why should we share with other people in our congregation? What are some ways we can do this?
- **FRIDAY**—Read Romans 12:20; 5:8, 10.  
Why does God want us to share not only with our friends, but also with our enemies? How did Jesus treat us while we were still His enemies?
- **SATURDAY**—Read Acts 20:35.  
Would you rather receive a gift or give a gift? What is one way our family can give to someone in need?



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- **SUNDAY**—Read Ephesians 5:8-12.  
God wants us to live as “children of light.” How can we do that? What “deeds of darkness” do we need to avoid?
- **MONDAY**—Read 1 Chronicles 16:23-25.  
God longs to hear our praise. Where, besides in worship services, can we praise Him? How can we praise Him?
- **TUESDAY**—Read Luke 10:25-37.  
God wants us to love our neighbors. Who are some of our neighbors? How can we help a neighbor in need?
- **WEDNESDAY**—Read Matthew 5:14-16.  
God wants others to see our love for Him. Why might we hide our love for God? How can we let our love for God show to those around us?
- **THURSDAY**—Read Luke 6:46-49.  
God wants us to be wise and obey Christ’s teachings. What are some things we can do to find out how Christ said we should live our lives?
- **FRIDAY**—Read Psalm 91:14, 15.  
What does God promise to do if we call on Him? When and where can we pray to God?
- **SATURDAY**—Read Matthew 28:16-20.  
God wants us to tell others about Him. Who do we know that needs to hear about Christ? How can we share our faith with that person?

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- **SUNDAY**—Read John 3:16, 17.  
According to these verses, why did God give His Son? How does God’s love effect our lives?
- **MONDAY**—Read Ephesians 2:8-10.  
Why do you think being saved is a gift that can never be earned? What good works do you think God has prepared for us to do?
- **TUESDAY**—Read Colossians 1:13, 14 and John 12:46.  
How is living without Jesus like living in darkness? According to John 12:46, how can we be rescued from darkness?
- **WEDNESDAY**—Read Matthew 1:21-23.  
Why was Mary to name her son Jesus? What does Immanuel mean? How was the meaning behind these two names carried out in Jesus’ life and ministry?
- **THURSDAY**—Read Matthew 2:1, 2.  
When have you looked for something you really wanted but couldn’t find? If Jesus is God’s greatest gift, why do you think the world looks for happiness in all the wrong places?

- **FRIDAY**—Read Luke 2:8-12.  
How was the gift in Luke 2:12 wrapped? How can we tell others about Jesus—the greatest gift of all?
- **SATURDAY**—Read 2 Corinthians 9:15.  
Have you thanked God for Jesus? Have you told Jesus why you appreciate Him?



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- **SUNDAY**—Read Matthew 2:9-11  
What talents do you have that you could offer as a gift to Jesus? Why should we regularly give an offering to God?
- **MONDAY**—Read 1 Corinthians 16:1, 2.  
God is more pleased with offerings that are planned and saved for ahead of time rather than offerings that consist of our leftover change. How does our congregation use the money given in the collection?
- **TUESDAY**—Read Malachi 3:8-10.  
Israel was not giving true tithes and offerings to God. According to verse 10, what will happen when we give a proper tithe to God?
- **WEDNESDAY**—Read Psalm 37:21, 25, 26.  
Why do you think Christians can give generously and still have their own needs met?
- **THURSDAY**—Read Matthew 6:24 and 1 Timothy 6:10.  
Why is it impossible to serve both God and money? How can giving to God weekly help you keep a proper attitude?
- **FRIDAY**—Read 2 Corinthians 9:6-8.  
When giving to God, which is more important: the attitude with which we give or the amount we give?
- **SATURDAY**—Read 1 Corinthians 13:3.  
According to this verse, what attitude is essential for our giving to be acceptable to God?

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- **SUNDAY**—Read Matthew 5:13.  
Salt flavors and preserves. What can we do so that other people will hunger and thirst for Jesus? How can living by God’s commandments help preserve holiness in an evil world?
- **MONDAY**—Read Matthew 5:14-16.  
Would our family be embarrassed if there were a spotlight on our lives for all to see? Would people living in darkness be drawn to God because of the light they see in our lives?
- **TUESDAY**—Read Luke 6:32-36.  
How do people who treat you badly expect you to treat them in return? If you treat people kindly who don’t deserve it, do you think they might see Jesus in you?
- **WEDNESDAY**—Read Hebrews 12:14, 15.  
How is it possible to live in peace and still have disagreements? What can we do to keep disagreements from becoming distractions for those who need to see God’s love?
- **THURSDAY**—Read 1 Timothy 4:16.  
How does what we believe affect the way we live? Do you think people can see the difference Jesus makes in our lives?
- **FRIDAY**—Read Philippians 1:27, 28.  
When might it be frightening trying to live a life that proclaims Jesus to others? How can living for Jesus be a sign that helps others see their own need for God’s salvation?
- **SATURDAY**—Read Philemon 6.  
How can sharing our faith with others help us understand how much we have in Jesus? How can understanding the blessings we have in Jesus help us share our faith even more?



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**Matthew 28:19, 20**

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- **SUNDAY**—Read Matthew 4:18-20.  
How is telling others about Jesus similar to fishing? What kind of “bait” can we use to attract people to Jesus?
- **MONDAY**—Read Matthew 9:35-38.  
What happens to fruit that is not picked or crops that are not harvested? What can our family do to help with the harvest of souls?
- **TUESDAY**—Read 1 Corinthians 3:5-9.  
Why don’t we have to be able to explain everything about the Bible in order to share with others what we do know about God and Jesus? Where can we go to find answers to questions about the Bible?
- **WEDNESDAY**—Read 1 Peter 3:15.  
People are sometimes turned away from God because of Christians who share their faith in pushy or rude ways. When can we practice answering someone with gentleness and respect?
- **THURSDAY**—Read Isaiah 63:7.  
According to this verse, what can we tell others about God? How has God shown His kindness to our family? What good things has He done for us?

- **FRIDAY**—Read Romans 1:16.  
What does the gospel message have the power to do? What can we do to feel more confident in our abilities to tell people about Jesus?
- **SATURDAY**—Read Romans 10:14, 15.  
Some of our family members and friends will never know Jesus unless we tell them. What can we do or say to help a friend or family member meet Jesus?

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- **SUNDAY**—Read Luke 6:22, 23.  
Have you ever been excluded, insulted, or laughed at for going to church services, reading your Bible, or praying before you eat? What does Jesus say about a person who is treated like this?
- **MONDAY**—Read 2 Timothy 3:12-14.  
What are we to do when people give us a hard time because of our faith in Jesus? Are you convinced that faith in Jesus is the only way to be saved from sin? How did you learn this?
- **TUESDAY**—Read Acts 5:40-42.  
How did the apostles respond when they were flogged and beaten for telling about Jesus? How would you have responded to such treatment?
- **WEDNESDAY**—Read Romans 8:18.  
Do you think the suffering that sometimes come as a result of being a Christian is worth it compared to how awesome Heaven will be?
- **THURSDAY**—Read 1 Peter 2:19-23.  
What’s the difference between being punished for doing wrong and suffering for doing good? Which kind of suffering does God bless?
- **FRIDAY**—Read 1 Peter 4:12-16.  
As Christians, if we never face any kind of ridicule or rejection, what might that say about how well we are living out our faith?
- **SATURDAY**—Read Revelation 21:1-4.  
What negative experiences will not occur in Heaven? Is it worth experiencing hardships now because of our faith if it means taking others to Heaven with us?



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- **SUNDAY**—Read Proverbs 3:5, 6.  
What does it mean to submit to God in all our ways? Why should we include God in all areas of our lives and not just the ones in which we feel we really need Him?
- **MONDAY**—Read Matthew 6:31-33.  
According to these verses, how are our needs met? How does seeking God’s kingdom first influence the decisions we make?
- **TUESDAY**—Read Proverbs 23:22.  
Do you think your parents ever faced problems and decisions similar to those you face? What does God say about listening to parents?
- **WEDNESDAY**—Read Luke 6:12-16.  
Jesus spent an entire night praying before choosing His 12 apostles the next day. Why is it smart to seek God’s wisdom and guidance before making important decisions?
- **THURSDAY**—Read 2 Chronicles 1:7, 12.  
Solomon requested wisdom and knowledge from God. What are some sources we can go to when we have decisions to make?
- **FRIDAY**—Read Proverbs 13:20.  
How might our choice of friends affect our ability to make wise decisions? Do your friends help you grow closer to God, or do they lead you away from God? What kind of influence are you on your friends?
- **SATURDAY**—Read Hebrews 5:11-14.  
How can learning more about Jesus and maturing in our faith affect our ability to make wise choices?



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**Psalm 119:9, 11**

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○ **SUNDAY**—Read 1 Corinthians 6:19, 20.

As Christians, our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit. How should we care for our bodies?

○ **MONDAY**—Read Psalm 63:1-5.

How many body parts are listed in this passage?  
How is each part being used to bring glory to God?  
Which body parts can we use to serve God today?

○ **TUESDAY**—Read 1 Corinthians 12:14-20, 27.

In what ways is the body like a picture of Christ’s church? How can the way we treat our bodies influence the way non-Christians see Christ and the church?

○ **WEDNESDAY**—Read Romans 6:12, 13.

What can we do to avoid giving in to temptations to sin with our bodies? How can we use our bodies as instruments of righteousness?

○ **THURSDAY**—Read Psalm 139:13-16.

God make each person unique and each person special. In what ways are you unique? In what ways are you special? Have you thanked God for the way He made you?

○ **FRIDAY**—Read Matthew 10:28.

Which should we spend more time making beautiful: our bodies or our souls? What “grooming tips” or “beauty secrets” would you recommend to someone who wants to have a beautiful soul?

○ **SATURDAY**—Read Luke 12:22-24.

People sometimes judge us by what we wear. How does remembering that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit affect the kind of clothing you choose to wear?



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- **SUNDAY**—Read Romans 8:5-8.  
We can’t always choose what thoughts come into our minds, but we can choose which thoughts we will continue to think about. What blessings come when we let the Spirit control our minds?
- **MONDAY**—Read 2 Peter 3:1, 2.  
What’s the different between a wholesome thought and an unwholesome thought? How can we avoid unwholesome thinking that can result from poor media choices?
- **TUESDAY**—Romans 12:2, 3.  
Peer pressure to listen to things we shouldn’t hear and view things we shouldn’t see is a struggle for many Christians. How can we avoid situations where we have to say no?
- **WEDNESDAY**—Read Philippians 4:8.  
Why does thinking happy thoughts tend to make people happier, while thinking negative thoughts tend to make them more depressed? Do our family’s favorite TV shows and music choices match up with the criteria given in this verse for healthy thinking?
- **THURSDAY**—Read Mark 12:28-30.  
What does it mean to love God with all your mind? What can we do to love God with all our minds?
- **FRIDAY**—Read Matthew 18:7-9.  
Jesus wants us to take sin seriously and to avoid it at all costs. How can we apply Christ’s teaching in this passage to the things we choose to think about?
- **SATURDAY**—Read 1 Peter 1:13-16.  
First Peter 1:13 says we are to have minds that are alert. When might alert actions be required to keep our thoughts holy?



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- **SUNDAY**—Read Hebrews 6:18.  
God never lies. Why would it be hard to put our faith in God if He didn’t always tell the truth? Can our family and friends always put their faith in what we say?
- **MONDAY**—Read Proverbs 12:19-22.  
Do lies generally remain hidden or does the truth tend to come out in the end? What are some examples of this that you have experienced?
- **TUESDAY**—Read Acts 5:1-5.  
Why do you think God struck Ananias dead? Why is it impossible to lie to God?
- **WEDNESDAY**—Read 2 Kings 12:13-15.  
The men building the temple had shown themselves to be trustworthy. What are some ways we can show members of our family that we are trustworthy?
- **THURSDAY**—Read Leviticus 19:35, 36.  
These verses warned business owners not to cheat their customers by using scales that weighed merchandise heavier than it really was. Why is telling a half-truth the same as telling a lie?
- **FRIDAY**—Read Revelation 21:8.  
Have you ever lied, and then had to keep telling lies to cover up the previous lies? What happened? Revelation 21:8 shows that those who try to deceive others will someday be held accountable for their sin.
- **SATURDAY**—Read Proverbs 24:26.  
It’s refreshing to find someone who is always honest. With God’s help, commit to always tell the truth, no matter the cost.

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**Psalm 19:14**

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○ **SUNDAY**—Read Psalm 119:30-32.

Living a life of truth doesn’t come naturally; it takes commitment. How can following the truth set our hearts free?

○ **MONDAY**—Read Ephesians 4:15.

It is possible to hurt someone when we say something true, but in an unkind way. According to Ephesians 4:15, how are we to speak the truth?

○ **TUESDAY**—Read John 1:14-17.

Jesus is the Word that was filled with grace and truth. What truth did Jesus speak about? How has the truth that Jesus taught and lived affected our lives?

○ **WEDNESDAY**—Read John 16:13.

Jesus told His disciples that the Holy Spirit would come and help them understand all truth. Have you ever asked the Holy Spirit to help you understand the Bible?

○ **THURSDAY**—Read Romans 1:25.

Why do you think some people choose to follow the lies of Satan instead of the truth of God? Christians are guaranteed that the truth will win out in the end. Let’s praise God for His truth.

○ **FRIDAY**—Read Psalm 25:4-6.

What do you think the psalmist meant when he asked God to “guide me in your truth”? In what situation can knowing God’s truth help our family?

○ **SATURDAY**—Read Psalm 86:11.

How were you taught to tell the truth as a young child? How can we help each other in our family learn to live honestly?



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**Psalm 19:14**

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