

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 Joshua 1:8.
What commands are in this verse? What promise is in the verse? How can we make sure God’s law does not depart from us?
- **MONDAY**—Read Psalm 1:1-3.
According to these verses, in what should we delight? What are the benefits of following God’s Word?
- **TUESDAY**—Read Psalm 19:7-11.
What phrases are used in these verses to describe God’s Word? Think of something you consider more precious than gold. Why is God’s Word more precious than gold?
- **WEDNESDAY**—Read Psalm 119:9-11.
What are some things we can do to hide God’s Word in our hearts? How can knowing God’s Word keep us from sin?
- **THURSDAY**—Read Matthew 4:1-11.
How did Jesus use Scripture to defend himself against Satan’s temptations? How can we do the same when we are tempted?
- **FRIDAY**—Read Ephesians 6:14-17.
Which pieces of the armor of God can be used to defend ourselves against the devil? How do you think God’s Word is like a sword?
- **SATURDAY**—Read Hebrews 4:12.
What adjectives are used in this verse to describe God’s Word? What actions of God’s Word are described? What does the Word judge?



POWER SURGE

Find this verse in the Bible. Together, memorize the verse.

2 John 6

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- **SUNDAY**—Read 1 Samuel 24:1-7.
Why did David say he had done wrong when he cut a corner from King Saul’s robe? What can we learn from David’s example about respecting those in authority today?
- **MONDAY**—Read Proverbs 5:11-14.
What might result from not obeying teachers or listening to instructions? What are some blessings we receive through discipline?
- **TUESDAY**—Read Acts 5:1-11.
How did Ananias and Sapphira show disrespect to Peter and the other leaders? How did they show disrespect to the Holy Spirit? What can we learn from their examples?
- **WEDNESDAY**—Read 1 Thessalonians 4:2, 7, 8.
Who are some of the people who teach us God’s Word? Who are we disrespecting if we do not listen to and put into practice their instructions?
- **THURSDAY**—Read Titus 2:1-8.
What was Titus to teach, and to whom? Why should we follow the examples of godly leaders and teachers?

- **FRIDAY**—Read Hebrews 13:17.
Who will be held accountable for us before God?
How can we make our leaders’ work a joy?
- **SATURDAY**—Read 1 Peter 5:5, 6.
How are we to respond to those who are older?
What will be the result of our living humble lives?

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○ **SUNDAY**—Read Exodus 20:12.

What promise is included with the command given in this verse? How can we show honor to parents or guardians today?

○ **MONDAY**—Read Leviticus 20:9.

What was the Old Testament penalty for cursing one’s parents? What might be the consequences of disobeying and disrespecting parents today?

○ **TUESDAY**—Read Proverbs 1:8, 9.

How might we be better people because we have followed our parents’ teachings? How can we show parents or guardians that we value their instruction?

○ **WEDNESDAY**—Read Proverbs 10:1.

When have you shown that you are a wise son or daughter? How did your wisdom bring joy to a parent?

○ **THURSDAY**—Read Proverbs 15:5.

What kind of people reject the discipline of parents? What might happen if we ignore something our parents have taught us?

○ **FRIDAY**—Read Proverbs 17:6.

How can grandchildren be “a crown” to their grandparents? In what ways are you proud of your parents? How can you make them proud of you?

○ **SATURDAY**—Read Ephesians 6:1-3.

What does the Lord promise to those who obey their parents? How do you feel when you see your friends disobeying their parents? How do you think God feels?



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- **SUNDAY**—Read Proverbs 8:12, 15, 16.
Who is the ultimate authority? From whom do earthly rulers get their power? How does knowing this help us to obey our leaders?
- **MONDAY**—Read Proverbs 12:1.
How do discipline and correction help us? What should be our attitude toward discipline or correction?
- **TUESDAY**—Read Proverbs 13:18.
Think of an example of someone you know who ignored discipline or correction. What happened? How does seeing such an example make a difference in the way you respond to correction?
- **WEDNESDAY**—Read Romans 13:1-5.
If you do not know, research and find names of some local authorities—the chief of police, a congressional representative or state senator, a civil court judge. How can we pray for these people?
- **THURSDAY**—Read Titus 3:1, 2.
How do our attitudes toward those in authority reflect our faith in God? In what situations can we try to be peacemakers?

- **FRIDAY**—Read Hebrews 13:7, 8.
Think of people who have shared God’s Word with us. How can we imitate their faith? What can we do to be the same kind of leader to other people?
- **SATURDAY**—Read 1 Peter 2:15-17.
How can our showing respect to those in authority be a good example to non-Christian friends? Why does the way we treat other Christians matter?



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- **SUNDAY**—Read Proverbs 15:1, 2.
When has a harsh word made you angry? When has a gentle answer prevented a confrontation? How can our words cause or prevent trouble?
- **MONDAY**—Read Proverbs 22:24, 25.
Do you know someone who has a quick temper or is easily angered? How do you feel when you are around this person? How can our tempers affect our friends?
- **TUESDAY**—Read Proverbs 29:11, 22.
We are not to give “full vent” to anger, but we shouldn’t bottle up our feelings either. How can we express our anger while still remaining in control?
- **WEDNESDAY**—Read Matthew 5:21-24.
How can being angry with someone come between us and God? What does calling someone a bad name indicate about the condition of our hearts?
- **THURSDAY**—Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-7.
Are you holding a grudge against anyone? Are you jealous of anyone? Are you ever tempted to boast or brag? What is the solution to these problems?
- **FRIDAY**—Read Ephesians 4:26, 27.
Think of the last time you were angry. Did you sin in your anger? How can the devil use our anger to trip us up?
- **SATURDAY**—Read James 1:19, 20.
How do you feel when you are around someone who is quick to listen and slow to speak? How do you feel about someone who is quick to speak and slow to listen? How can we become the people God wants us to be?



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Romans 12:18, 21

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- **SUNDAY**—Read Proverbs 12:20.
What kind of people plot evil? How can we promote peace?
- **MONDAY**—Read Matthew 5:9.
Have you ever been called a peacemaker? How are we like God when we promote peace?
- **TUESDAY**—Read Romans 12:17-21.
How are we to respond to the needs of our enemies? What will be the outcome when we do this?
- **WEDNESDAY**—Read 2 Corinthians 13:11 and 1 Thessalonians 5:13.
Why is it important to encourage and live in peace with other Christians?
- **THURSDAY**—Read Hebrews 12:14.
What do you do when peace is not possible? What can you do to live in peace with someone you do not like or who does not like you?
- **FRIDAY**—Read James 3:17, 18.
According to these verses, what do peacemakers produce? What kind of harvest is our family producing by our actions?
- **SATURDAY**—Read 1 Peter 3:8-12.
What benefits do we receive from living in peace with others? When might we need to pursue peace this week?



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- **SUNDAY**—Read Matthew 6:12-15.
Is there someone you need to forgive? Is there someone you need to ask to forgive you?
- **MONDAY**—Read Mark 11:25.
When we do not forgive others, who is hurting more? How can an unwillingness to forgive others come between God and us?
- **TUESDAY**—Read Luke 17:3, 4.
How many times are we to forgive someone who has sinned against us repeatedly? Can remembering how many times God has forgiven us help us to forgive others?
- **WEDNESDAY**—Read Luke 23:32-34.
What did Jesus pray for those who were responsible for His death? How can remembering Jesus’ example help us forgive people who have hurt us?
- **THURSDAY**—Read 2 Corinthians 2:5-11.
What can happen to the impact and outreach of the church when there are disagreements among the believers? How is the cause of Christ hurt by an unwillingness to offer forgiveness?
- **FRIDAY**—Read Ephesians 4:32–5:2.
What did it cost God to offer forgiveness to us? How can we “walk in the way of love”?
- **SATURDAY**—Read Colossians 3:12-14.
How can knowing that we are God’s chosen people help us forgive others? What should we do if we are having a hard time forgiving someone?

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- **SUNDAY**—Read Genesis 39:2, 20, 21.
What comfort did Joseph have in spite of his hard circumstances? How can we remember that God is with us when we go through bad times?
- **MONDAY**—Read Joshua 1:6-9.
What promise did God give to Joshua after the death of Moses? What did God tell Joshua to do? How can reading God’s Word help us remember that God is with us when we feel alone?
- **TUESDAY**—Read Psalm 23:1-6.
How is God like a good shepherd? How has God met the needs of our family this week?
- **WEDNESDAY**—Read Psalm 34:15-18.
How has God comforted someone in our family when he or she felt brokenhearted? How do we know we can depend on God to comfort us during hard times in the future?
- **THURSDAY**—Read Psalm 139:5-10.
According to this passage, where is God? What do the verses tell us about God’s love and care for us?
- **FRIDAY**—Read Isaiah 49:14-16.
Will God ever forget us? How does it make you feel to know that God has you engraved on the palms of His hand?
- **SATURDAY**—Read Psalm 139:1-4.
How well does God know us? How can knowing this help us when we feel lonely or afraid?

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Jeremiah 29:11, 12

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- **SUNDAY**—Read Psalm 42:1-3.
The writer of this psalm uses a word picture of a thirsty deer to describe the way he longs for God. What word picture describes how you long for God’s presence?
- **MONDAY**—Read Psalm 56:3, 4.
How do we know God is trustworthy? What are some other Scriptures that can comfort us when we are afraid?
- **TUESDAY**—Read Proverbs 3:5, 6.
How can trusting in our own understanding get us into trouble? What does worrying accomplish? How can God help us when we are worried?
- **WEDNESDAY**—Read Nahum 1:7.
How does it feel to find shelter when we need it? How is God a refuge, or shelter, for us in times of trouble?
- **THURSDAY**—Read Matthew 6:25-34.
Is there anything you are worrying about today? What is it? What should we seek first to help us overcome our worries?
- **FRIDAY**—Read Philippians 4:4-7, 19.
When should we rejoice? What should we do instead of worrying about things? Are there any specific requests we need to take to God today?
- **SATURDAY**—Read 1 Peter 5:7.
Which worries should we give to God? Why should we give our worries to God? How has God taken care of us this week?



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○ **SUNDAY**—Read Psalm 13.

Why did David continue to trust in God’s love? How does remembering what God has done for us help us have confidence in God’s care for us?

○ **MONDAY**—Read Psalm 18:1-6.

When has God given strength to our family? From what has He rescued us? How do we know God hears our prayers?

○ **TUESDAY**—Read Isaiah 40:28-31.

When was the last time someone in our family felt totally exhausted? What were the circumstances? Does God ever get tired? How can God give us strength that will last?

○ **WEDNESDAY**—Read Lamentations 3:22-27.

How are God’s gifts to us new each morning? How can we approach each day thankful that God will bless us, even if bad things happen?

○ **THURSDAY**—Read Matthew 11:28-30.

What invitation does Jesus offer in these verses? Why do we need the rest Jesus offers?

○ **FRIDAY**—Read Romans 8:28-39.

How should it make us feel to know that God works all things for our good if we love Him and keep His commands? Can anything come between God and us?

○ **SATURDAY**—Read Hebrews 4:14-16.

How does Jesus know how we are feeling? Why should we confidently approach God in prayer with all our needs?



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- **SUNDAY**—Read Genesis 41:39-43.
Pharaoh recognized the source of Joseph’s wisdom and insight. Who was obviously in control of Joseph’s life? How do we allow God to be in control of our lives?
- **MONDAY**—Read Joshua 24:14, 15.
What are some things that we might be tempted to put before God? How is this a form of idol worship? How can we be sure that our household is committed to serving God?
- **TUESDAY**—Read 1 Chronicles 15:22.
Why was Kenaniah put in charge of the singing? What special talent or ability do you have? How can you use your skills to serve God?
- **WEDNESDAY**—Read Esther 4:12-16.
How did Esther know what to do in order to save her people? How can we know what to do when we are faced with challenges?
- **THURSDAY**—Read Matthew 25:14-30.
The third servant didn’t steal, waste, or lose the money entrusted to him. How was he unfaithful to his master? Are there skills, gifts, or talents God has given members of our family that we are not using for Him? How can we change that?
- **FRIDAY**—Read Acts 9:36-42.
How did Tabitha use her talents to serve God? What do we want people to remember about the way our family serves God?
- **SATURDAY**—Read Romans 12:3-8.
What different gifts has God given to individual members of our family? How can we use our gifts to serve God’s church?

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Colossians 3:23, 24

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- **SUNDAY**—Read Matthew 4:18-22.
What did Peter, Andrew, James, and John give up in order to follow Jesus? Is there anything our family needs to give up so that we can follow Jesus?
- **MONDAY**—Read 2 Samuel 12:1-17.
David had to take responsibility for his sins. Why is it important to take responsibility for our actions? When God forgives us, does He always take away the consequences of our sins?
- **TUESDAY**—Read Ecclesiastes 12:13, 14.
What does it mean to fear God? When will our deeds be judged?
- **WEDNESDAY**—Read Daniel 6:10-24.
What do you think Daniel was doing while he was in the den of lions? What do you do when you are in trouble? Do you trust God to answer your prayers, as Daniel did?
- **THURSDAY**—Read Romans 6:1-7.
How are Christians dead to sin? What does it mean that we are freed from the penalty of our sins? As believers in Jesus, in whom are we alive?
- **FRIDAY**—Read Romans 12:1, 2.
What kind of sacrifices did God command in the Old Testament? How can Christians be “living sacrifices”? How can we renew our minds?
- **SATURDAY**—Read 1 Corinthians 15:33, 34.
How do our friends influence the choices we make? What are the benefits of having supportive Christian friends?

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- **SUNDAY**—Read Matthew 25:31-40.
When might we be serving Christ without knowing that we are serving Him? Besides physical needs, what other kinds of needs do people have? How can we help meet someone’s needs today?
- **MONDAY**—Read Mark 12:28-34.
What does it mean to love with not only all your heart but with all your soul, mind, and strength? What does loving others as we love ourselves require?
- **TUESDAY**—Read John 13:12-17.
In this passage, what did Jesus do for His disciples? What do you think Jesus was trying to teach us by the example that He set?
- **WEDNESDAY**—Read Romans 15:1-7.
Why should we seek to please our neighbors? How can Christians encourage each other in hard times? What is the difference between accepting someone’s weakness and tolerating his or her sin?
- **THURSDAY**—Read Galatians 6:9, 10.
It’s easy to get tired of doing good. How can other Christians encourage us to persevere? What will we enjoy if we do not give up?
- **FRIDAY**—Read Philippians 2:3-11.
What should be our motivation for doing good? What did Jesus give up in order to be our Savior? What did God give to Jesus?
- **SATURDAY**—Read Hebrews 10:23-25.
When might we need someone to encourage us to be faithful? How can we encourage other people? Why is meeting together with other Christians important?

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