



# God's Law of Love

**DAILY DEVOTIONAL 66** 



LET'S PRAY Dear God, thank you for Your great love. Help me show Your love to others today. In Jesus' name, Amen.

#### **MEMORY VERSE - 1 JOHN 4:16**

"And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him."

# THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

#### LET'S READ:

James 1:17; 1 Corinthians 13:4-8; Romans 1:20

**KEY TEXT:** Job 12:7,9

"But now ask the beasts, and they will teach you; and the birds of the air, and they will tell you... Who among all these does not know that the hand of the LORD has done this?"

Look at the world around you. Where did everything come from? There are many different ideas about how our world began. Many people believe the whole universe started by chance, with a giant explosion. This is called the Theory of Evolution. But the Bible tells us that God made everything. He made our world in six days (Genesis 1 & 2). There is so much evidence to show that the Bible is true, and that God is the Designer and Creator of nature. It makes sense to believe in God and the Bible.

What is God like? Why did He make everything? Our memory verse for this week tells us that "God is love". And love always wants to give! So, because God cannot help giving, He decided to create other beings, so He could share His love with them!

Like a treasure hunt, God has hidden messages of His love in the gifts He has made for us. God's word, the Bible, explains these messages. By studying nature and the Bible together, we can find out what God is like. When we search as hard as we can, we find the richest treasures.

#### **MESSAGES IN NATURE**

Look up the following verses. Write what part of creation each verse is about.

Psalm 19:1

Psalm 148:8

Psalm 104:10-12

Psalm 104:14

Matthew 6:26

Matthew 6:28-30

What do these verses tell you about God? \_\_\_\_\_





LET'S PRAY Dear God, thank You for showing me what You are like through Your law. Please help me to be like You.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

#### **MEMORY VERSE - 1 JOHN 4:16**

"And we have known and believed the love that \_\_\_\_ has for us. \_\_\_\_ is love, and he who abides in love abides in \_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_ in him."

# THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

#### LET'S READ:

John 17:1, 16:13,14; Psalm 90:2; 139:7,8; 147:5

**KEY TEXT:** Job 11:7

"Can you search out the deep things of God? Can you find out the limits of the Almighty?"

One of the most important messages we find about God in nature is the law of love, "taking to give". This tells us more about what God is like (His character). God is actually 3 Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Another name for the Son is Jesus. Father, Son, and Spirit are always sharing with each other. They all work together to care for everything They have created.

Nature and the Bible tell us many other things about God. They tell us His different names, what He does (His activities) and what He is like (His attributes). Some things about God are very special, and unique to Him, because He made everything out of nothing. For instance, God did not have a beginning; He is eternal. He knows everything. He is everywhere at once. These are called His non-communicable attributes. He has them because He is God and they can't be shared. But there are some ways in which God wants to make us like Him. God is loving, merciful, truthful, and patient. These are His communicable attributes, and by letting Him rule our lives, we can be those things, too.

#### WHAT IS GOD LIKE?

Let's find out more about God. Look up these Bible verses. Write what each verse tells you about God in the blank space.

•	ique to God nmunicable)	Ways we can copy God (Communicable)					
Isaiah 40:28		Leviticus 11:45					
James 1:17		Matthew 5:48					
Jeremiah 23:24		1 John 3:3,7					
Psalm 147:5		1 John 4:7,8					
Genesis 1:1		Ephesians 4:32					
Isaiah 46:9,10		Luke 6:36					





LET'S PRAY Dear Heavenly Father, Thank You for giving me everything I need. Help me to be kind and generous to others today. In Jesus' name I ask, Amen.

#### **MEMORY VERSE - 1 JOHN 4:16**

"And we have known and believed the \_\_\_\_\_ that \_\_\_\_has for us. \_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_, and he who abides in \_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_ in him."

# THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

#### LET'S READ:

Psalm 19:7-9; 119:89-91,142,160

**KEY TEXT:** Psalm 19:7

"The law of the Lord is perfect."

Because God made everything from nothing, He knows how to manage everything perfectly. God and His works are far too complex for us to understand, so God has given us **His plan**, or law. God's law tells us how to manage everything so it will last forever, by using a few simple rules.

God's law is based on love. Everything comes from God; we are constantly taking from Him. The first thing God asks us to do when we take His gifts is to give part of them back to Him. When we do that, we worship Him, and show that we believe He gave us everything. Next, God asks us to share what is left with other people. He also asks us to care for the animals and plants. "Taking to give" is God's law of love.

#### **GOD'S PERFECT PLAN**

God's law tells us the way He works, and has always worked. So God's law is as perfect, eternal and unchanging as He is. What do these verses say about God's law?

Psalm 119:138 (2 things)	
Psalm 119:151	
Romans 7:12 (3 things)	
Psalm 19:7	
Psalm 19:8	
Romans 13:10	
Look back at the description	of God from Monday's study. What do you notice
about God and His law?	





**LET'S PRAY** Dear Father in Heaven, thank You that I can become more like You through sharing with others. Help me do that today. In Jesus' name, Amen.

# MEMORY VERSE - 1 JOHN 4:16

"And have I	known and	believed	the	that
has for	is	, and _	who abid	des in
abic	les in,	, and	in him	."

# THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

#### LET'S READ:

Genesis 2:2,3; Exodus 20:1-11

**KEY TEXT:** Deuteronomy 6:5

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength."

The basic law of life for all creation is "taking to give". But how exactly do we as people do this? The Ten Commandments give us more details to show us just how to keep God's law.

We have seen already that God's law is as eternal as He is. So, when God made Adam and Eve, His law was already there, and they were to keep it. Our torchlight writings say, "Adam and Eve, at their creation, had a knowledge of the law of God" (Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 363). Can we find the Ten Commandments in the creation story? We can, if we remember that all the commandments are connected (James 2:10). For example, we know that God gave Adam and Eve the Sabbath at creation.

#### TO LOVE GOD AT CREATION

Let's see how the Sabbath is connected to the first 3 commandments. Below on the left is a list of some things the Sabbath tells us about God. These are jobs, roles, or purposes of the Sabbath. On the right are explanations of the first 3 commandments. Trace the threads to find how the Sabbath and the first 3 commandments are connected. Use different coloured pens for each line. Can you number the commandments in the correct order?

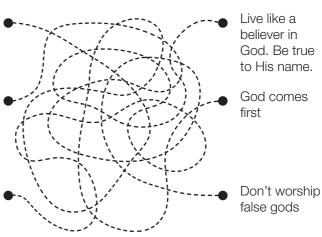
#### Sabbath Teachings

God is the ony true God (Ezekiel 20:20)

God is our Creator so He alone deserves our worship. (Exodus 20:11; Isaiah 66:23)

God changes us so we show others what He is like. (Ezekiel 20:12)

#### **Commandments: Love to God**





**LET'S PRAY** Dear God, Thank You for Your law of love. Please help me to realise how blessed I am when I keep it. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - 1 JOHN 4:16							
"And have and believed the that							
has fo	or	is	, and	_ who			
abides in	abides	in	, and	_ in him."			

# THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

#### LET'S READ:

Genesis 1:26-29; Exodus 20:12-17; Ezekiel 10:12

KEY TEXT: Leviticus 19:18, last part

"You shall love your neighbour as yourself."

The first four commandments teach us to love God with all our heart. When we see how much God loves us, this is easy to do. The Sabbath is a very special commandment, because it contains the seal of God's law: His name, title, and the place He governs. It connects all the commandments together.

One of the special roles of the Sabbath is to change us so that we reflect God's communicable attributes (review Monday's lesson): His love, mercy, goodness, and so on. This is part of *sanctification*. When we are *sanctified*, we show what God is like by the way we live our lives.

#### CARING FOR CREATION

If we love God, and let Him change our characters to be like His, we will want to keep His 10 commandments. Do you know the last 6? Write the words below in the correct places to find out what they are.

tather	anything	OX	murder				
donkey	covet	giving	servant				
long	steal	female	neighbor				
mother	covet	adultery	false				
"Honor your	and your	, that your days m	nay be				
upon the land which the Lord your God is you. You shall not							
You shall not commit You shall not You shall not bear							
witness a	gainst your	You shall not	your neighbor's				
nouse; you shall no	t your neighbo	or's wife, nor his mal	e, nor his				
servant, no	or his, nor his	, nor	that is your				
neighbor's " Exodus	20.12_17						





**LET'S PRAY** Dear Father, please help me to show my love for You by obeying You today. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - 1 JOHN 4:16							
"And have	_ and believed the that						
has for	is, and who						
in	_ in, and in him."						

# THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

#### LET'S READ:

Jeremiah 29:11; Deuteronomy 5:29

**KEY TEXT:** Proverbs 3:1

"My son, do not forget my law, but let your heart keep my commands."

By thinking carefully about the story of Creation, we can see that Adam and Eve kept God's law right from when they were first made.

Why is it so important that we keep God's law? We know that the highest angel in Heaven, Lucifer, told a lot of lies about God and His law. Lucifer tempted many other angels to join him, and to fight against God and against His law. They became so disruptive they couldn't stay in heaven any longer. Lucifer became God's enemy, Satan. He is still warring against God's law. That shows us just how important the 10 commandments really are.

God wanted to bless Adam and Eve. His plan was that they would never experience pain, sorrow or death. That is why He explained His law to them. By keeping His law, they would live forever in the beautiful garden-home He had made for them.

#### **BLESSINGS OF OBEDIENCE**

When we obey God, He promises to give blessings more precious than gold, silver, or jewels. Look up the Bible verses below. Write the number of each blessing of obedience, next to its Bible verse.

- 1. rain in its season, fruit/food
- 2. right to the tree of life/enter into the city
- 3. rain, bless what we do, plenty to lend to others, make us the head, not the tail
- 4. the Father and Jesus will love us and Jesus will show Himself to us
- 5. eat the good of the land
- 6. Great peace, nothing can make them stumble (in life)

Reve	elation 22:14	Isaiah 1:19	Leviticus 26:3-4
Johr	n 14:21	Psalm 119:165	Deuteronomy 28:12-13





**LET'S PRAY** Loving God, help me to love You as my Creator every day, and to enjoy the Sabbath as our special time together every week. In Jesus' name I thank you. Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - 1 JOHN 4:16								
"And have and the that								
has for	is, ar	nd who						
in	_ in, and	l in	"					

# THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

#### LET'S READ:

Genesis 2:8,9,16,17; Deuteronomy 30:15,16,19

**KEY TEXT:** Luke 20:35,36

"Those who are accounted worthy to attain that age... are equal to the angels."

#### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

God knew Adam and Eve would be happy if they kept His law. But He gave another evidence of His love by letting them choose whether or not they would obey Him. That is why He placed the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil in the Garden. It was a test of trust. Did they believe God's word?

By allowing Adam and Eve to choose, God made them moral beings, able to learn and develop. Without free choice, they would have just been like robots. God's plan was that the Garden of Eden, and eventually the whole world, would be a school where Adam, Eve, and all their children could learn about Him and His law of love. If they passed just one test, they would be forever safe from the danger of sin, and would live forever and ever.

Think about it: What claim would Lucifer (Satan) have made against God if Adam and Eve had not been tested in their faithfulness to God?

#### **GOD'S LAW OF LOVE**

Find the following words about God and His law in the puzzle. Write the remaining letters down to reveal what Jesus said about love and obedience. Which verse in John 14 is the answer from?

Choices	S	ı	F	F	Α	ı	Т	Н	Υ	Merciful
	Α	0	U	L	I	0	R	L	Е	Merchui
Creator	Ν	٧	Т	Е	N	М	U	Е	٧	Obov
	С	S	С	K	F	F	Т	Е	I	Obey
Faith	Т	Е	Е	Р	I	М	Н	Υ	G	Perfect
Forgiving	I	С	F	С	N	0	М	М	Α	Periect
rorgiving	F	0	R	G	I	٧	I	N	G	Canatify
Give	Υ	Е	Е	Ν	Т	0	В	Е	Υ	Sanctify
	М	D	Р	М	Е	Е	Н	Ν	Т	Truth
Infinite	С	R	Е	Α	Т	0	R	С	S	Truth





This week we will study God's law of life and love, "taking to give".



# Torchlight

"It was God's purpose to repopulate heaven with the human family, if they would show themselves obedient to His every word."
- Letter 91, 1900.



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