

This week we learn about Jesus as a boy and young man, and a special visit He made to the temple.







"Youth is the sowing time. It determines the character of the harvest, for this life and for the life to come" – The Desire of Ages, p. 101.



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Visit to the Temple

DAILY DEVOTIONAL 75



LET'S PRAY Dear God, thank You for the example of Jesus as a child. Please help me to be like Him. In Jesus' name I ask, Amen.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

As a boy and young man, Jesus showed us how to live. Even when He was only young, He knew the work He needed to do. While He was young, He prepared for that work by praying, studying nature and the Bible, and working hard.

Have you ever planted seeds and watched them grow? The harvest depends on the seeds you plant. Life is like a garden. The time when you are young is the planting time. Each thought you think, and what you do, is like the seed you plant. If you learn self-control, patience, good thoughts, and kind words and acts, you will develop good habits that will make life easier and happier. And you will be ready to meet Jesus when He returns.

IT IS WRITTEN

MEMORY VERSE - ECCLESIASTES 12:1 "Remember now your Creator in the days of your youth."

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

LET'S READ:

Revelation 12:7,8; Galatians 4:4.

KEY TEXT: 1 Peter 2:21

"For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps." From the Bible, Jesus knew what He needed to do to obey God. Have you been learning the memory texts we have studied so far this season? Complete the verses below. What are your favourite Bible texts? Please write to us and tell us!

1 John 4:16: And we have known _____

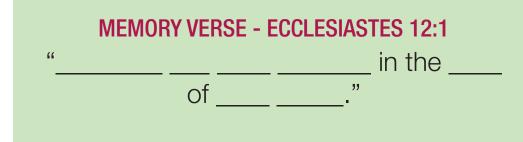
Genesis 12:2: I will make you _____

Philippians 2:5-7: Let this mind _____





LET'S PRAY My dear God, thank You for Your love. Please help me to make good choices today. I ask this in Jesus' name, Amen.



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

LET'S READ:

Proverbs 7:1-3; 22:5; Galatians 6:7.

KEY TEXT: Proverbs 7:2

"Keep my commands and live, and my law as the apple of your eye."

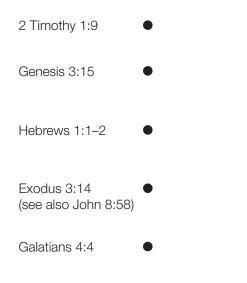
LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Right now, earth is a war zone. Satan and his evil angels are trying to show that we don't need God's law to be happy. But Jesus and His holy angels are working to show that we can't live *without* God's law. This massive war has been going on for about 6000 years. Jesus' life on Earth was THE most important part of this war. If Jesus failed in the tiniest thing, He would have lost the whole war, evil would never end, and we would die forever. But He didn't! He won and overcame all evil!

Jesus came to earth to do many things. We already know He came to take our penalty for sin, the second death (see Revelation 20:6). But Jesus came to do much more than that. Jesus did not come down to earth to just die, then go back to heaven. Jesus came to earth as a human baby, to live here and grow up as we do. He came to be our Example in everything. He came to show us that God can forgive our sins, AND change our wicked hearts. Then, we can love Him and obey His law, right here and now, as Adam and Eve did in the Garden of Eden before they disobeyed God.

JESUS' WORK TO SAVE US

As God, Jesus had been working to create and save this world before he became a baby in Bethlehem. Match the verses below with what He was doing.



- Jesus created the world.
- As the great "I AM", Jesus appeared to Moses in the burning bush.
- Jesus planned to save us, by His grace, before time began.
- Jesus, who was God, was born as a baby in Bethlehem.
- When Adam and Eve sinned Jesus told them of His plan to save them.





LET'S PRAY Dear Father, thank You that Jesus lived without sin, and died for me, so I could be saved. I am so grateful to You! In Jesus' name, Amen.

LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

After Jesus understood His special job as the Messiah, He returned home with His parents to Nazareth. Luke 2:51 says that He was "subject" to His parents. That means He honoured and obeyed them—just as the fifth commandment says. Although Jesus is God, He came to live on earth as a human being—part of His own creation. For another eighteen years, Jesus lived in Nazareth, and worked with His earthly father, Joseph, in his carpenter's shop. Jesus worked as a carpenter to show us that God wants us to live active, helpful lives. While working, Jesus waited patiently, until He would begin His public ministry—when He would heal and help thousands of people, telling them the Good News, then die to save us all from sin.

REMEMBER YOUR CREATOR

MEMORY VERSE - ECCLESIASTES 12:1

"Remember ____ your Creator in the ____ of your youth."

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

LET'S READ:

Matthew 2:19-23; John 1:46; 8:46.

KEY TEXT: Luke 2:40.

"And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him."

Revise today's verses about obedience by finding the words in the puzzle below. Use the left over letters (from left to right, top to bottom) to complete the blank spaces below. What do we need to give God to be able to keep His law?

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Proverbs 23:26.





LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Last week we learned that Joseph and Mary had to flee with Baby Jesus to Egypt, where they would be safe from wicked King Herod. After Herod died, Joseph and Mary went back to their hometown of Nazareth. By then, Jesus was a little boy. He grew up just like you are growing, and was tempted just like you are tempted. In fact, He was tempted even more than you are! If Satan could get Jesus to sin, just once, He would win the whole war with God. But Jesus did not sin—even once. He never spoke a rude or mean word, never swore, and was never lazy. He obeyed His parents and all of God's commandments, all day, every day.

The Bible doesn't tell us much about Jesus' life as a boy, but we can know what He was like as a child by the way He behaved as an adult. He was always kind to others, obeyed God, was truthful and honest, and treated His mother kindly.

THE POWER OF HABIT

What we do when we are young makes a difference to what we do when we grow up. Use the code below to find out what Proverbs 22:6 tells us about that.

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LET'S PRAY My Father, thank You that Jesus came to show me how to live. Please help me to copy Him. I ask in Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - ECCLESIASTES 12:1 "Remember ______ in the _____ of ______."

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

LET'S READ:

Luke 2:51; Matthew 13:55; Exodus 20:12; Proverbs 3:1,2.

KEY TEXT: Luke 2:52

"And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and men."



LET'S PRAY Dear God, thank You for showing me how to live like Jesus. Please help me today. I ask in Jesus' name, Amen.

LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Jesus studied the Old Testament Scriptures while he was growing up. In them He would have read about the Messiah, who would bring freedom to those who were captives of sin. He must have read Isaiah 53. It tells how the Messiah would be killed like a lamb, not for His own sins, but because of the sins of others.

From Luke 2:49, we know that Jesus understood His mission in life when He was twelve years old. He knew that He was the promised Messiah, the Son of God. He realised that one day, He would be killed like that innocent lamb, to give every person in the world the chance to be saved from sin.

LIKE A LAMB

MEMORY VERSE - ECCLESIASTES 12:1 "Remember ____ your ____ in the _____ of your youth."

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

LET'S READ:

Proverbs 22:6; 2 Timothy 3:15.

KEY TEXT: Galatians 6:7

"Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap." Below, circle every fourth letter. Isaiah 53:7 tells us what the Messiah would do when He suffered. Write the *uncircled* letters in the first set of blank spaces. Write the *circled* letters in the spaces for Isaiah 53:5 to reveal why the Messiah suffered.

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Isaiah 53:5.





LET'S PRAY Dear God, thank You for the sacrifice of Jesus. I want to love Him in return. In Jesus' name, Amen.

LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

We know that Jesus was God in heaven before He came to earth. But when He did come, the Bible says He "increased in wisdom". That means He had to learn everything just like you have to. Many things Jesus said and did as an adult are recorded in the Bible. So, this can help us work out what He was like when He was growing up.

What did Jesus do when He was an adult? First, He was always quoting Scripture. That tells us He spent a lot of time studying Scripture. In Jesus' day, that meant the Old Testament. Second, Jesus prayed a lot. Third, Jesus told many stories about nature and useful work. That tells us He prayed, studied nature, and worked hard. He also used things in nature to heal people, even when He worked a miracle. That tells us He knew how to use nature to help with sickness. He was constantly working to help others, especially those who were poor.



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

LET'S READ:

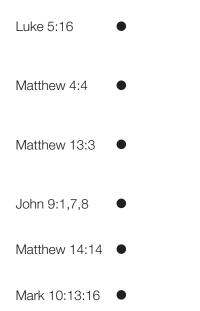
Luke 2:41-50.

KEY TEXT: Luke 2:49.

"And He said to them, "Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?"

WHAT DID JESUS DO?

Can you match the Bible references with what they tell you about Jesus?



- Jesus told stories about nature and work, called parables.
- Jesus always had compassion for others.
- Jesus used things from nature, like clay and water, to heal sickness.
- Jesus prayed.
- Jesus was kind to children.
- Jesus said, "It is written," which showed He knew the Scriptures.





LET'S PRAY Dear Father in heaven, thank You that Jesus came to free me from sin. I choose to love and obey You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

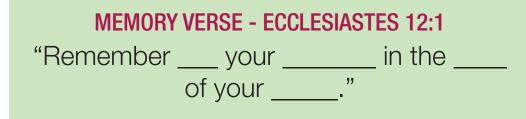
from sin. Then complete the word-search below.

In Jewish culture, when a male had his twelfth birthday, he became a man and began to take part in the sacred feasts held at the temple. So, Jesus attended His first *Passover* with Mary and Joseph when He was twelve.

In Exodus 12 we read about the first *Passover*. Each Israelite family had to wipe the blood of a perfect lamb on the doorposts of their house, so the destroying angel would 'pass over' them. The next day they left Egypt—and slavery. The annual Passover was a reminder that God delivered them that night. Like the lamb, one day the Messiah would die for us all, so we could escape from the slavery of sin.

FREEDOM FROM SIN

Revise what happened in each Passover, and what that teaches us about freedom



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

LET'S READ:

Exodus 12:1-8.

KEY TEXT: Exodus 12:13.

"And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt."

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1. "And when I see the blood, I will ____ over you." Exodus 12:13.

2. "Your _ _ _ shall be without blemish." Exodus 12:5.

3. "Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of ____." John 8:34.

4. "If the _ _ _ makes you free, you shall be free indeed." John 8:36.

5. "And when I see the _____, I will pass over you." Exodus 12:13.

6. "By this we know _ _ _ _ , because He laid down His life for us." 1 John 3:16

7. "John saw _ _ _ _ coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" John 1:29

8. "For indeed _____, our Passover, was sacrificed for us." 1 Corinthians 5:7.

