

(These devotionals can be shared at breakfast or dinner when the family is together.)

Daily Bread
Monday (Week 2)

Read Together

Proverbs 19:21 (NLT) - You can make many plans, but the LORD's purpose will prevail.

Devotional Thought

Have you ever made exciting plans for a special day? Maybe you plan to play with friends, go swimming, or build a giant blanket fort for it. Making plans is a good thing! It helps us prepare and look forward to fun adventures. But sometimes our plans change.

Have you ever woken up expecting one thing, only to find out something different was happening?

Imagine you plan to spend the whole day riding your bike with friends. You put on your helmet and riding gloves, then head to the garage to get your bike. Then Mom reminds you that today is the first day of soccer camp – a camp you've been excited about for months! Suddenly, your bike ride doesn't seem as important.

You quickly change clothes, grab your soccer gear, and get ready to go. Why? Because something better and more important has come along.

That's a little like what happens with God. We make our plans, but God sees the whole picture. He knows what is best for us today and in the future. Sometimes he changes our plans because he has something better in mind. When that happens, we can trust him, knowing that his plans are always wiser than ours.

Discussion Questions

1. Can you think of a time when your plans changed, but it turned out to be a good thing?
2. Why can we trust God's plans even when our plans don't work out?

Prayer

Father, please forgive us for making our own plans before considering your will and purpose for our lives. You know best in every circumstance and will always work things out for your will and our best.

Daily Bread
Tuesday (Week 2)

Read Together

Proverbs 3:5–6 (NLT) Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. ⁶Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.

Devotional Thought

What does it mean to trust someone? Trust means believing that someone will do what they say they will do. For example, if you lean against a strong wall, you trust that it will hold you up. If it didn't, you would fall! Sometimes people play a game called trust fall. One person closes their eyes and falls backward while another person stands behind them to catch them. That can be scary because you have to believe someone will be there when you need them.

We trust people every day. We trust our parents to provide food for us, take care of us, and be with us when we need them. We trust that they love us and want what is best for us, even when we don't always understand their decisions.

God is like a loving father, but even better. He loves us more than anyone else could. He knows everything about us and understands exactly what we need. God always keeps his promises.

Sometimes people forget a promise or are unable to do what they said they would do. But God never forgets, and nothing can stop him from doing what he promises. The Bible says it is impossible for God to lie. Everything he says is true.

Because God loves us, knows everything, and always keeps his promises, we can trust him completely. When you have a decision to make – whether it's something big or something small – talk to God about it. Ask him to guide you and to show you the right way to go. You can always trust God to lead you because he's always faithful.

Discussions Questions

1. What are some promises God has made us in the Bible?
2. Why is it hard at times to trust someone?
3. Can you think of a time when you trusted God, and He helped you?

Prayer,

Father, thank you for always being with us and for loving us more than anyone. Help us to trust you at all times and to know that you will always lead us to do what is best. Amen

Daily Bread
Wednesday (Week 2)

Read Together

Proverbs 3:27 (NLT) Do not withhold good from those who deserve it when it's in your power to help them.

Devotional Thought

Wisdom teaches us to be on the lookout for opportunities to help others who might need it. Since everyone is created in God's image and precious to God, we should care about the needs of those around us.

Doing good goes beyond just giving money. Sometimes, it means offering a helping hand to those who cannot do something on their own. Other times, it involves sharing an encouraging word, showing kindness, or using our knowledge to make life easier for someone else.

When we help others, we remember that everything we have – our abilities, time, resources, and opportunities – comes from God. Using these gifts to serve others is one way to faithfully steward the blessings God has given us.

We should never be willing to help someone only if we expect something in return. Yet God generously blesses those who are unselfish and willing to bless others with their time, abilities, and resources. Acts of kindness are like seeds planted in good soil. In time, they will produce good fruit in return, in ways you might never expect.

Always be ready to help others when you see a need and have the power to do so, even if you can't help everyone.

Discussion Questions

1. Share about a time when someone helped you when you really needed help.
2. How can you be on the lookout to help someone in need this week?

Prayer

Father, thank you for the grace and daily help you provide us. Please guide me to notice someone I can assist, as all your children deserve to be treated with love and dignity. Amen

Daily Bread
Thursday (Week 2)

Read Together

Proverbs 12:15 (NLT) Fools think their own way is right, but the wise listen to others.

Devotional Thought

Have you ever tried to put together a LEGO set without looking at the instructions, or a puzzle without looking at the picture? Sometimes we think it's easy and we know just how to do it. But when we keep trying, and it doesn't come together as we expected, we know something isn't right, and we can get frustrated. There could be pieces missing, or we've put something together backward, and we won't realize what we've done wrong unless someone else helps us see the right way.

Sometimes life can be like that. Even when we think we know exactly what to do, we may not be seeing everything we need to see. Yet we don't want anyone telling us we are wrong. But God says a wise person listens to advice. A foolish person says, "I'm right, and nobody can tell me what to do." But a wise person knows that we can't see everything and that we need others, like our parents, our teachers, and even our friends, to help us think carefully so that we can make the right decision.

God never intended for us to figure everything out on our own. He often uses other people to help and guide us toward the right decisions and to protect us from mistakes. When someone gives us advice, we should think about it, even if we don't always see things their way.

Being wise doesn't mean you always know what to do or have the right answer. Being wise means being humble enough to listen to others who may be trying to help us.

Discussion Questions

1. Can you think of a time when you thought you knew what to do, but things didn't work out as you expected?
2. Why do you think we have a hard time listening to the advice of others?

Prayer

Father, thank you for giving us people in our lives who love us and want us to make good choices. Help us to be humble and willing to listen to the advice of our parents and those who can show us the right thing to do. Amen

Daily Bread
Friday (Week 2)

Read Together

Proverbs 2:6-8 (NLT)

⁶For the LORD grants wisdom! From his mouth come knowledge and understanding. ⁷He grants a treasure of common sense to the honest. He is a shield to those who walk with integrity.

⁸He guards the paths of the just and protects those who are faithful to him.

Devotional Thought

We all need wisdom in our daily lives. We make decisions every day that may seem small but can reveal whether we are walking in wisdom.

For example, should I tell the truth when I make a mistake? Should I speak kindly to the boy or girl sitting alone at lunch? Should I wear my helmet when I ride my bike, even if I am only going a short distance?

Wisdom helps us recognize the right thing to do and gives us the courage to do it, even when the choice seems ordinary.

Imagine you're building a tower with toy blocks. If one block is a bit crooked, it's not a big deal at first. But if you keep stacking more blocks the wrong way, your tower will soon come crashing down. Our choices in life are a bit like that. Small choices, like always telling the truth, doing what your parents tell you, even when you don't feel like it, and being kind to others, help us build an honest life that honors God.

This proverb reminds us that God gives good judgment to those who are honest with themselves and with others. He protects those who live with integrity—those who are the same no matter where they are or who they are with. Many troubles can be avoided when we are humble and honest before God and learn to follow His Word in the simple matters of life.

Discussion Questions

1. What do you think it means to walk in integrity?
2. Why do you think telling the truth is important, even if you might not get in trouble?

Prayer

Father, help us to know how much we need your help in everyday life. Help us to be honest with everyone, always listen well, and take every opportunity to show kindness to others. Amen.