

# Masterpiece

WEEKLY DEVOTIONALS

## Discovering My Unique Design through God's Word

BY TONIA STACEY GÜTTING

 **HERO**  
**SQUAD**  
JV EDITION

Masterpiece, Boys JV Edition, Summer Issue

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**WRITE THE NICKNAME YOUR FRIENDS & FAMILY CALL YOU:**

**WHAT IS ONE KIND THING SOMEONE DID FOR YOU LATELY?**

**WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE OUTDOOR ACTIVITY?**

## **Lost & Found**

**IF SOMEONE FINDS YOUR BOOK, DO YOU WANT THEM TO RETURN IT?**

☐

**YES, CALL THE  
NUMBER BELOW!**

☐

**NO, JUST KEEP IT.**

**WRITE A PARENT OR ANOTHER ADULT'S PHONE NUMBER ON THIS LINE:**



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# WHAT IS A MASTERPIECE?

Master  
Piece

A masterpiece is a work of outstanding artistry, craftsmanship, or skill. Different types of things can be considered masterpieces, like a painting, a house, or even a car! God is the greatest masterpiece maker of all time, because he made you—his greatest creation of all.

**WRITE FIVE THINGS ABOUT YOURSELF THAT YOU'RE GRATEFUL GOD DESIGNED:**

A feature that sets apart a masterpiece is its intentional, unique, or intricate design. This devotional series will help you discover, through God's Word, the purposeful and detailed ways God designed you to be his masterpiece.

**WHAT ARE THREE THINGS YOU WANT TO LEARN FROM GOD THIS SUMMER?**

*EXAMPLE: To understand God's love for me*

# How to Use this Book

This book is created especially for Military children, like you, who face unique battles in life. Follow these simple guidelines to get the most out of this book.

## 1. READ

Read the devotional each week to learn more about loving God, yourself, and other people.

## 2. REFLECT

Think about how the devotional applies to your life and what you are feeling right now.

## 3. EXPLORE

Complete the weekly “Spiritual Fitness Training” to explore how you can live out God’s Word each week.

## 4. LEARN

Look up each Bible verse in the “Keep it Going” section to learn more about God.

## 5. EXPRESS

Use the notes and doodles sections to write down any thoughts or questions you have about God or any ideas you have to live out God’s Word each week. Use these pages to express yourself in your own unique way, like the unique masterpiece you are!



# Tips & Ideas



Think about things you might want to change in your life.



Talk with your parents or siblings about what you learned and ask them to help you with live out God's Word each week.



If you don't understand something you read, don't be afraid to ask an adult to help you understand it.



Memorize the Scripture verse each week.



Have fun and mark up this book with your own thoughts and doodles!

Don't fear

WEEK FOURTEEN

## Facing My Fears



*I am the Lord, the one who encourages you. Why are you afraid of mere humans? They dry up and die like grass.*

Isaiah 51:12

If you can just get through the school hallway quickly, maybe you won't have to deal with them.

If you keep quiet in class, maybe you won't say something that makes them laugh at you.

If you post a cool enough video, maybe no will make any mean comments on it.

*Ugh. Bullies.* How many things in your day do you avoid so you won't have to deal with them? What things do you miss out on? If there is a bully in your life, fear can be a part of every, single day.

Hang in there. It won't last forever. People grow up. They move. They change. And you will move and change along the way, too.

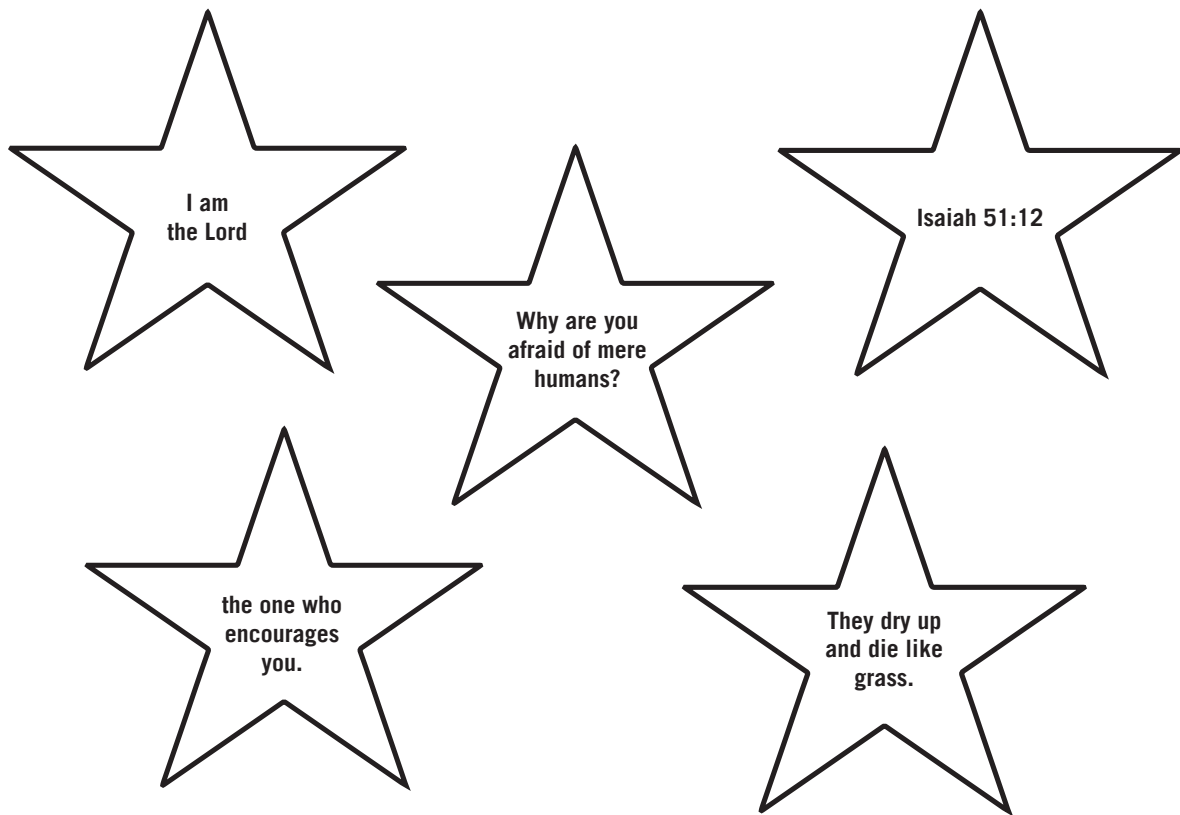
But mostly, lean on God. No matter where you are, God is with you. And today's Scripture reminds us that God is there to encourage you. To encourage means to give courage—to make brave! So tell God everything. Ask him for courage to face your bullies and do the right thing. Stand tall and strong, knowing that God is by your side. You are special in his eyes, and he loves you (and those bullies, too!).

Master  
Piece

***God is always with you and  
wants to encourage you.***

# Spiritual Fitness Training

Memorizing Bible verses hides them in your heart forever, so you can remember them and speak them out loud when you are afraid! To help you memorize this week's verse, start with the first part of the verse—"I am the Lord"—and then draw a line to connect to the next part of the verse. Continue connecting each part of the verse in order, until you reach the end. Bonus points: Read the verse out loud as you go!



**Keep It Going This Week** *Find out more by reading these verses.*

☐ Joshua 1:9

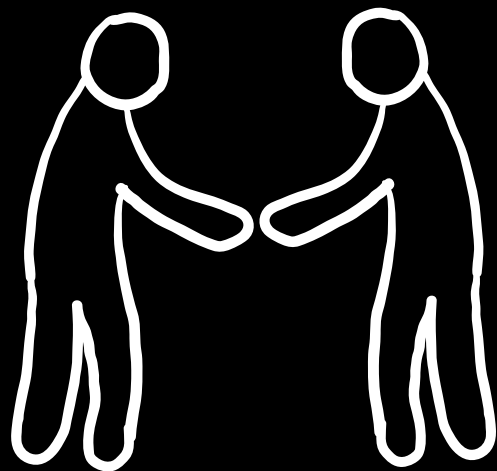
☐ 2 Timothy 1:7

☐ Proverbs 29:25

☐ 1 Peter 1:24–25

**Week  
Fourteen**

If you are being bullied, it can be hard to know what to do. You can talk to an adult you trust and share with them what is happening. Ask that adult to help you check the website [stopbullying.gov](http://stopbullying.gov), where you can find lots of videos to help you get through your difficult situation.



**Write Your Thoughts Here**



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**Lord, thank you for being with me always.  
Give me courage to stand tall and face my fears.**

**Week  
Fourteen**

# Higher Thoughts

WEEK FIFTEEN

## The All-Knowing God



*Who can measure the wealth and wisdom and knowledge of God?  
Who can understand his decisions or explain what he does? Has anyone  
known the thoughts of the Lord or given him advice?*

Romans 11:33–34

Suppose you went to the doctor with a broken arm. The doctor says, “We’ll have to put a cast on it.” But then you say, “Nah. It’s not really broken. You don’t know what you are talking about. I just need to rub some lotion on it.”

That would be ridiculous, right? Of course you would trust that the doctor knows if your arm is broken!

The truth is, we treat God like that sometimes. He says, “You should not lie,” and we say, “It’s okay to lie sometimes.”

Or he says, “Love your brother,” and we say, “No, he is too annoying.”

Or he says, “I will take care of you in your new town,” but we cry, “Nooooo! I’m going to hate it!”

But God is all-knowing. He knows everything that is best for us. Actually, he just knows everything! This week’s Scripture talks about the great wisdom of God. We may never understand why some things happen, but knowing that God knows everything will help you trust him and his plan.

Take a moment this week to thank God for being all-knowing. Ask him to help you trust him more and obey his words written for you in the Bible.

Master  
Piece

***God is all-knowing. He knows what is best for us.***

# Spiritual Fitness Training

Sometimes you know it's right to do something, but you still don't want to do it. God can help us do what's right. Write God a letter saying you will trust him. Nothing fancy; just write from your heart! We will check back on this page in a few weeks—you might see why God said to do it!

Write your  
letter here.



Dear God,

**Keep It Going This Week** *Find out more by reading these verses.*

☐ Psalm 139:6

☐ 1 Corinthians 1:25

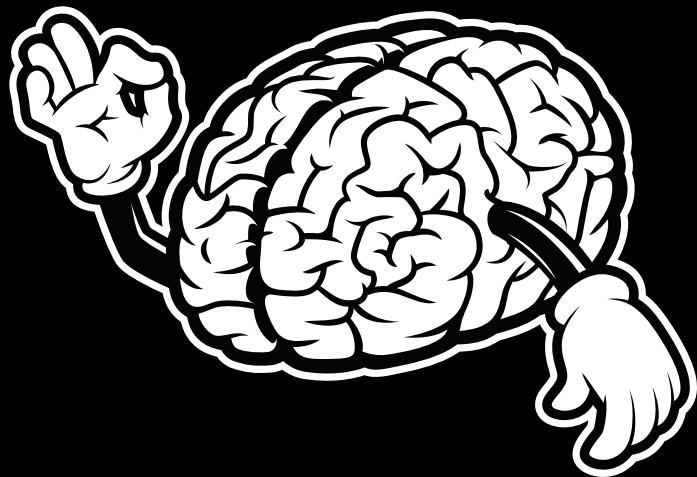
☐ Isaiah 40:13–14

☐ James 1:5

**Week  
Fifteen**

**Mind Blower**

William James Sidis is considered by many to be the smartest person to ever live. At age six, he could speak eight languages. And he graduated from Harvard University at age 16! The all-knowing God gives us brain power to learn things, too!





**Write Your Thoughts Here**



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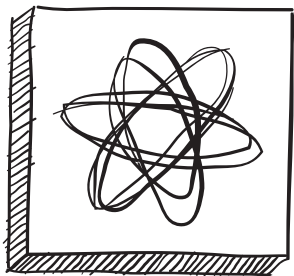
**Forgive me, God, for the times I told you no.  
You are wise enough to lead me!**

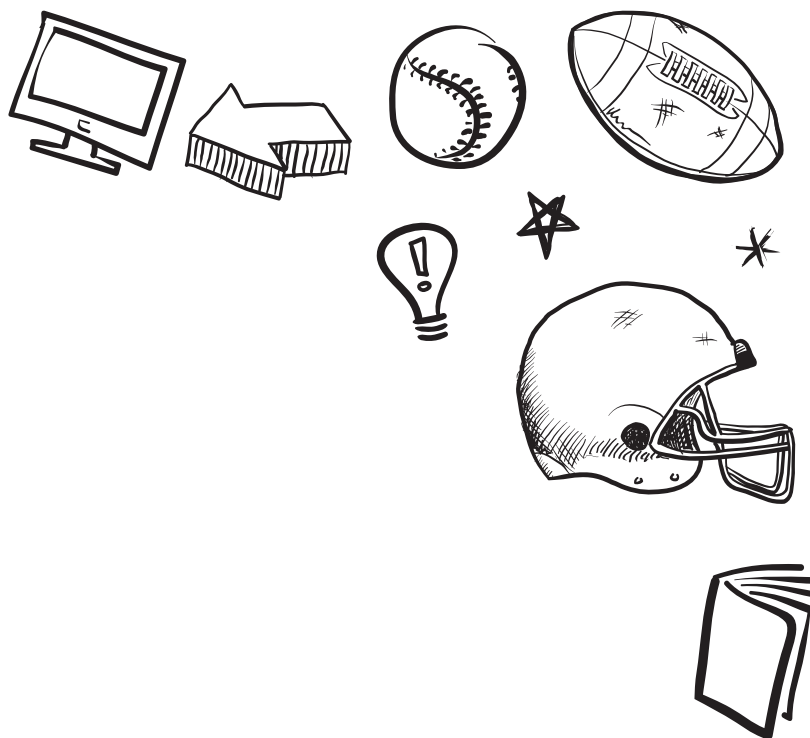
**Week  
Fifteen**

## Doodle Space



Did you know the Bible has a whole book of wisdom? It's called the book of Proverbs and it has good advice for every area of your life—even how to treat your mom and dad! Write a couple of Proverbs you find helpful here.





god forgives

WEEK SIXTEEN

## The Superpower of Forgiveness



*How far has the Lord taken our sins from us?*

*Farther than the distance from east to west!*

Psalm 103:12

You got mad and broke your sister's game on purpose. You called a kid on the bus a bad name. Dad said you only get one brownie, but you ate two more when he wasn't looking.

And on the other hand . . .

Mom just assumed you broke her mug and punished you. A bully at school made fun of you and pushed you down. Your friend lied to you about why he didn't hang out with you.

*Sin.* It's all the wrong choices we make. Those wrong choices hurt others, hurt us, and they make God sad, too.

So how can we make it better?

*Forgiveness.* Forgiving someone is letting go of any desire for them to be punished for the wrong thing they did to you. It's not easy to do! But God shows us how to do it because he forgives us whenever we ask him. This week's verse says he takes our sin and moves it far away . . . and never remembers it again!

Ask God to help you forgive others when they hurt you. He can also help you ask someone for forgiveness when you do something wrong. Doing these things helps bring back peace and brings God joy.

Master  
Piece

***Forgiving is not easy to do, but  
God shows us how to do it!***

# Spiritual Fitness Training

Get a bowl with at least an inch of water in it. Sprinkle pepper all over the water. Now drop a bead of dish soap into the center of the bowl. Look at what happens! Imagine that the pepper is your sin and the dish soap is God's forgiveness. God takes our sin away even faster and farther than that when we ask for his forgiveness.

**After you see what happens with the experiment, read this week's verse again and think about how God's forgiveness moves our sin far, far away!**



**Keep It Going This Week** *Find out more by reading these verses.*

☐ 2 Chronicles 7:14

☐ Luke 11:4

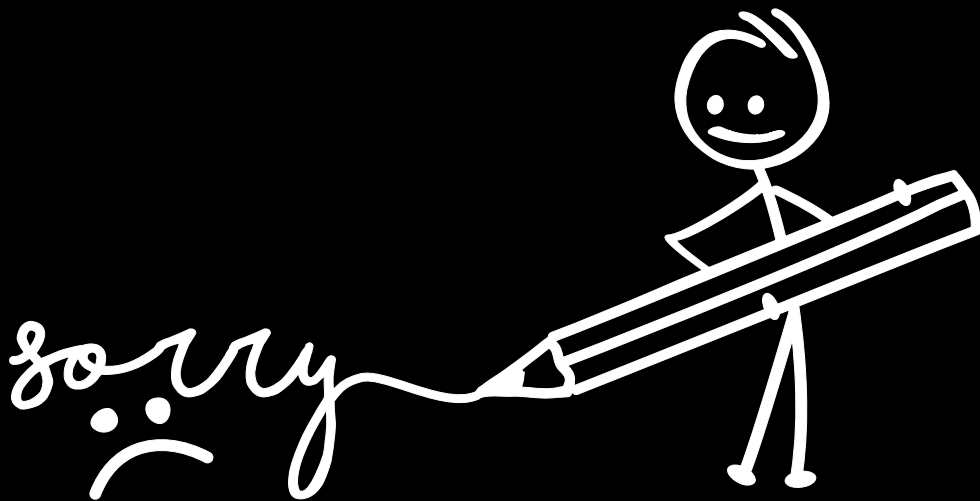
☐ Psalm 130:3–4

☐ Colossians 3:13

**Week  
Sixteen**

"Forgiveness says you are  
given another chance to make  
a new beginning."

—Desmond Tutu, a Christian leader in  
South Africa who fought against racism



**Write Your Thoughts Here**



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**God, thank you for taking away my sins.  
Help me to forgive others every day.**

**Week  
Sixteen**

# Trust

WEEK SEVENTEEN

## God = Strength



*You are my strong fortress,  
and you set me free.*

2 Samuel 22:33

When Navy Pilot Captain Gerald Coffee was shot down and captured in Vietnam, he was taken to a prison where he spent seven years in solitary confinement—in a small cell all by himself. Broken, tortured, starved, he endured terrible times in that tiny cell. But someone before him scratched into his cell wall the words: “God = Strength.”

Those words helped inspire him. He survived and spoke of the reason why.

“Faith was the key to my survival,” Coffee said. As he prayed to God constantly, God gave him the mental and physical toughness to survive. He even tried to use the time to grow as a person. He exercised in his small space. And he and his fellow prisoners created a special messaging system where they could talk to each other by tapping on the walls. Through it, they taught each other things, like poetry, science, and Bible verses.

In this week’s verse, a man named David talks about the strength God gave him to help him win battles. When a warrior puts their trust in God, they are never alone because God is always with them, helping them.

God will help your warrior Military parent, too, through good times and bad times. He will give your parent and your whole family the strength to get through.  
*Don’t forget: God = Strength!*

Master  
Piece

***God helps warriors do their jobs.  
He will help your Military parent, too.***



# Spiritual Fitness Training

Coffee and his fellow prisoners weren't allowed to talk, so they used a code to tap messages on the wall. Give it a try! In the below grid are letters from the alphabet in rows (left to right), and columns (top to bottom). To tap a letter, you tap one number for the letter's row, and the second for its column. So if you wanted to tap the letter "A," you would tap "1, 1" with a pause in between. The letter "Z" would be "5, 5" (row 5, column 5). Let's see if you can decode this message!

O
E
G

2,2
3,5
1,4
2,4
4,4

4,4
4,5
4,3
1,5
3,4
2,2
4,5
2,3

	Column 1 ↓	Column 2 ↓	Column 3 ↓	Column 4 ↓	Column 5 ↓
Row 1 →	A	B	C	D	E
Row 2 →	F	G	H	I	J
Row 3 →	K	L	M	N	O
Row 4 →	P	Q	R	S	T
Row 5 →	U	V	W	Y	Z

**Keep It Going This Week** *Find out more by reading these verses.*

☐ 2 Samuel 22:30–35

☐ 1 Corinthians 1:25

☐ Psalm 144:1

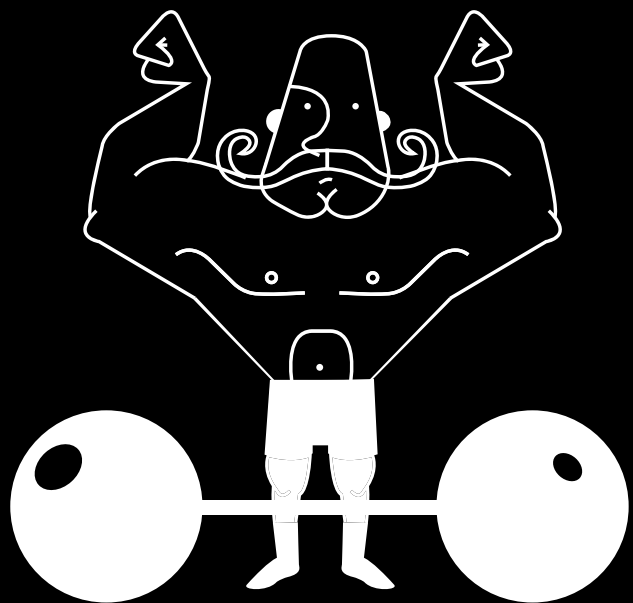
☐ 2 Thessalonians 2:16–17

**Week  
Seventeen**

**Mind Blower**

An English powerlifter named Andy Bolton is famous for being the first man to deadlift over a thousand pounds in a powerlifting competition.

That's as heavy as a grand piano! God can give you physical strength like Andy... but also mental and emotional strength to get through all of life's battles.



**Write Your Thoughts Here**



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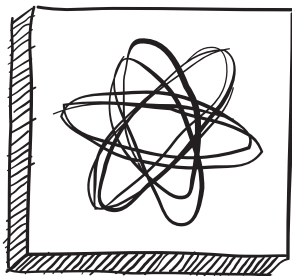
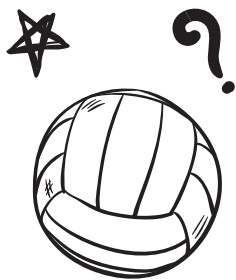
**Lord, it's hard to be a warrior, and I worry about my parent. Thank you for giving them strength.**

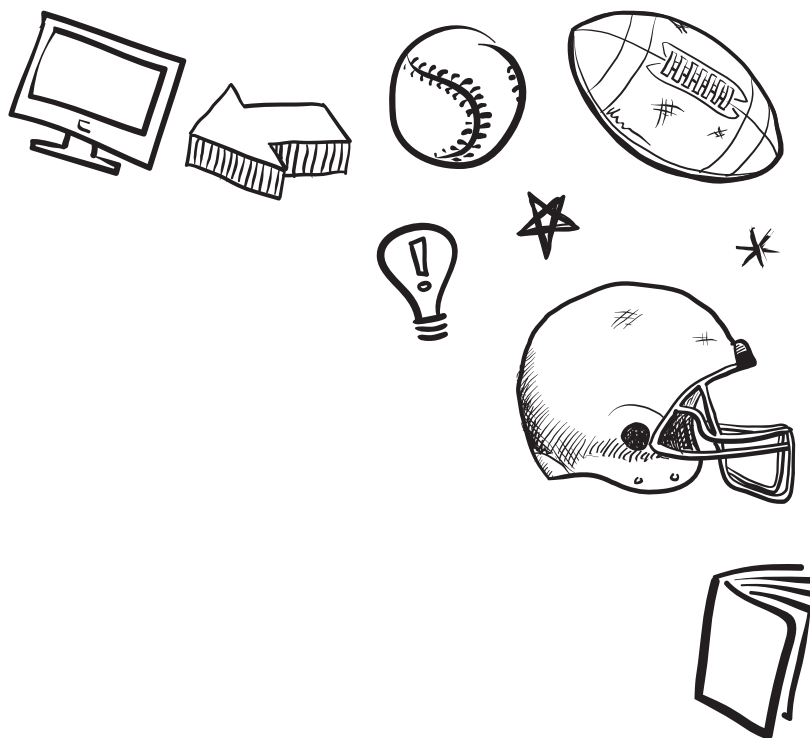
**Week  
Seventeen**

# Doodle Space



Think about things that  
make you feel strong.  
Draw pictures of those  
things below.





purpose

WEEK EIGHTEEN

## Caring for the Gift



*So God created humans to be like himself; he made men and women. God gave them his blessing and said: Have a lot of children! Fill the earth with people and bring it under your control. Rule over the fish in the ocean, the birds in the sky, and every animal on the earth.*

Genesis 1:27–28

Snake bites cause a lot of harm. But the cure also comes from snakes. Isn't that weird? We use snake venom to make many drugs that help with cancer, heart attacks, and even pain!

When God made this amazing world, he used incredible wisdom and perfect detail. The differences between an iguana and a polar bear show his creativity. Millions of years later, humans are constantly discovering things about this world that God made.

What's extra amazing is that God puts us in charge of it! He gave us all these creatures and plants and this land to care for. When you grow up, maybe you'll work on a way to clean up the oceans, take care of old people, protect others like our troops do, or grow beautiful flower gardens. All these things are ways to do the job God gave us.

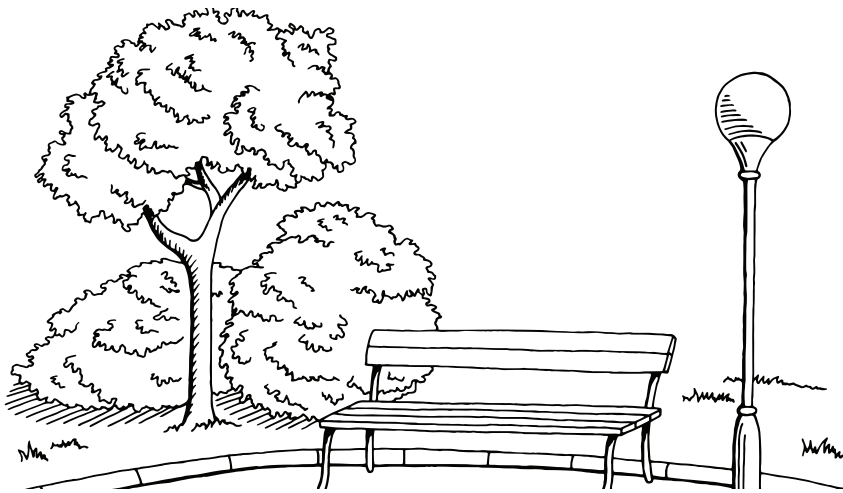
And you can do things now before you grow up, too! Picking up garbage, drawing a picture to make an elderly person smile, and growing vegetables are all great ways to start caring for the gift of this earth.

Master  
Piece

***God gave us this world as a gift, so let's work together to take care of it right now!***

# Spiritual Fitness Training

Kids can do big things, too. Think of a way to clean up and beautify your neighborhood. To make it even more fun, ask your friends to get involved! You can pull weeds out of the sidewalk, pick up litter, help an elderly person water their flowers, or offer to walk every dog in the neighborhood one weekend. As you color the picture below, jot down the ideas you want to talk to your friends about!



## Ways to Make My Neighborhood Beautiful

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**Keep It Going This Week** *Find out more by reading these verses.*

☐ Psalm 8:3–5

☐ Micah 6:8

☐ Psalm 8:6–9

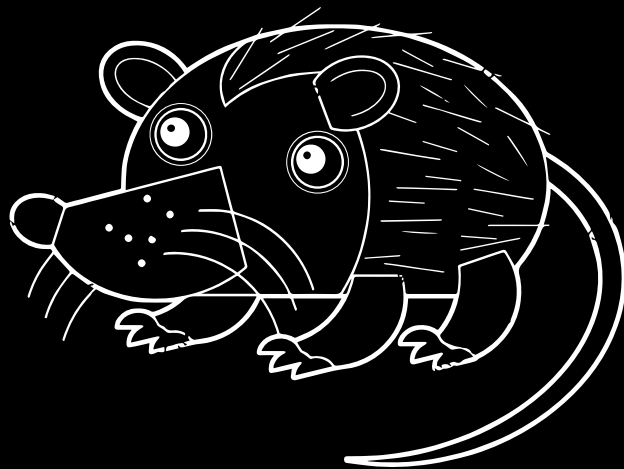
☐ Matthew 28:19–20

**Week  
Eighteen**

 **Mind Blower**

Nature has garbage workers,  
too. Animals like the opossum  
eat dead animals, which is  
called carrion. Without them,  
the world would be a lot more  
stinky!

Now that's a  
unique job!





**Write Your Thoughts Here**



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**Lord, thank you for your incredible  
creation! (Yes, even the snakes!)**

**Week  
Eighteen**

# Unchanging God

WEEK NINETEEN

## Semper Fi Deo



*Every good and perfect gift comes down from the Father who created all the lights in the heavens. He is always the same and never makes dark shadows by changing.*

James 1:17

You will often hear a Marine say to another Marine, “Semper fi!” The Latin words mean *always faithful*. Marines try their best to be that way. But they are humans. Sometimes, even a mighty Marine can’t keep a promise. Things change so often, sometimes they joke “Semper Gumby,” meaning *always flexible* (like the old, green Gumby toy that can be twisted and stretched).

Have you ever been frustrated by change? Orders to PCS just when you were making friends? Quarantines when you wanted to play sports? Deployment just when you and your parent signed up for a cool activity together?

Military kids have to be “Semper Gumby” a lot, being flexible through a lot of changes we cannot control. But the one thing you can hold on to is the God who will never change. He always loves the same, always is close, always is powerful, always is faithful. That’s what this week’s Scripture verse reminds us.









So, hang on to God through the hard times. Trust him when things don’t go the way you want. Talk to him on good days and bad. Get to know God by reading his words to you (the Bible) and learning about him. *Semper fi Deo! Always be faithful to God.*

Master  
Piece

***When things around you change, you can hold on to the God who will never change.***

# Spiritual Fitness Training

One way to stay faithful to God is to remember to pray at regular times. Place a checkmark in the boxes below when you complete your morning and evening prayers this week. The prayers don't have to be fancy or long—just simple conversations with your friend, Jesus.

Daily Prayer Chart							
	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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**Keep It Going This Week** *Find out more by reading these verses.*

- ☐ Numbers 23:19
 ☐ 1 Thessalonians 5:23–24
- ☐ Malachi 3:6a
 ☐ 2 Timothy 2:11–13

**Week  
Nineteen**

 **Mind Blower**

Bald eagles mate for life, which means they stick with one partner (like husband and wife). This is often for 20 years, which is really long in the animal kingdom.

Semper Fi!



**Write Your Thoughts Here**



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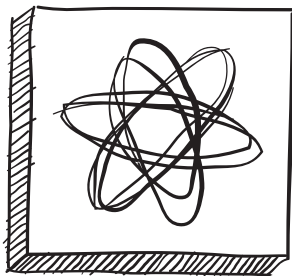
**Lord, it seems like things are always  
changing around me. Thank you for always  
staying faithful and true.**

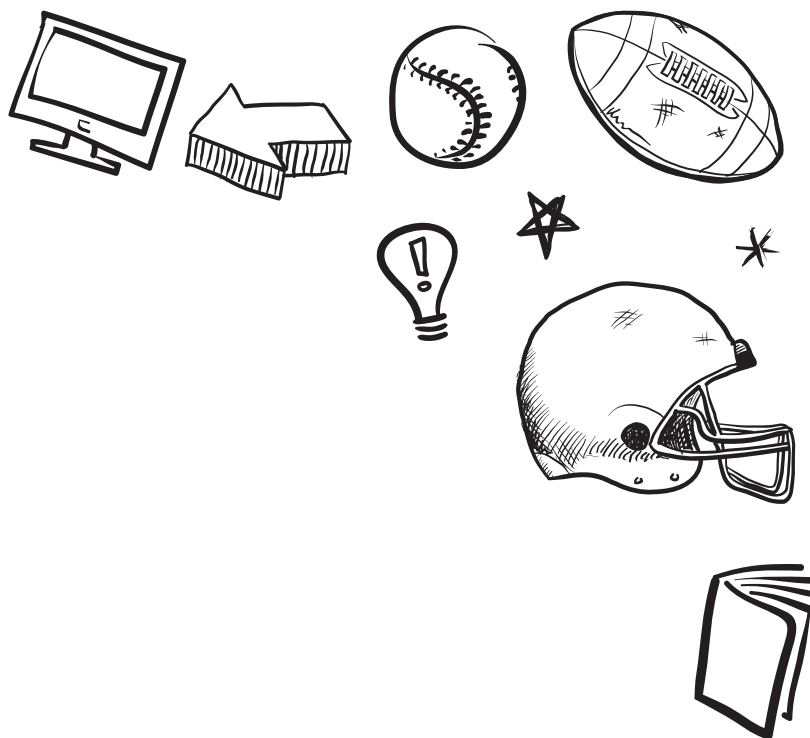
**Week  
Nineteen**

# Doodle Space



We can pray in all kinds of ways. You can even doodle your prayers and God will hear them. Try doodling a prayer below!





God's great wonders

WEEK TWENTY

## Amazing Wonders, Amazing God



*I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart and  
tell about the wonders you have worked.*

Psalm 9:1

If you go to Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming, you will see the Old Faithful geyser shoot boiling water into the air, hot spring pools in brilliant colors, and enormous bison, elk, and bears grazing by commanding mountains.

It leaves most people in awe and wonder. They look at the incredible sights and say things like, “Wow!” Some people are so amazed that it leaves them speechless.

But too many people stop there. They love the creation, but don’t stop to think about the God who created it all!

For some people, it’s just explainable science: the geyser blows because of built up hot water and air pressure, the bison evolved to be there, the mountains are just piles of rocks pushed up by tectonic plates shifting. While all of this is how it works, they miss the *why* and *who* behind it all.

God created all these things. He did it to teach us, to inspire us, to amaze us. There’s no scientific reason for the variety of animals or the many colors of flowers. Through God’s wonders, we see his creativity, his power, his beauty, and his love for us. These wonders should make us say, “Wow! Look at God!”

Master  
Piece

***God created all the wonderful things in this  
world to teach us, inspire us, and amaze us.***



# Spiritual Fitness Training

Spend some time enjoying one of God's wonders near you. It can be as big as a park or river, or as small as a ladybug crawling on a leaf. Tell a friend about it . . . and the God who made it! Sketch a picture of it here.

**God made this!**



**Keep It Going This Week** *Find out more by reading these verses.*

☐ Job 42:2

☐ Acts 17:24–25

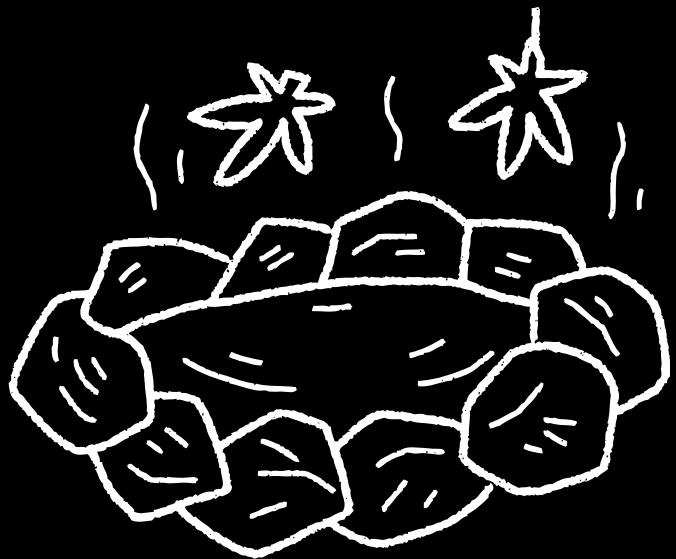
☐ Joel 2:30

☐ Romans 1:20

**Week  
Twenty**

 **Mind Blower**

The hot spring pools in  
Yellowstone can be over 400  
degrees Fahrenheit! Some of  
the colors come from trillions of  
microorganisms  
that live  
there called  
thermophiles.



**Write Your Thoughts Here**



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**JUST CHECKING IN!**

*A while ago, you learned about trusting God's wisdom for your life. He has good plans for you, so obeying him is always the right choice. Glance back at page 15 to re-read the letter you wrote to God. Reflect on any lessons you've learned since you started trying to trust him more!*

**God, thank you for the wonders in Yellowstone and in my own neighborhood. I praise you today!**

Week  
Twenty

## The Good Life



*Be completely faithful to the Lord your God, love him, and do whatever he tells you. The Lord is the only one who can give life, and he will let you live a long time in the land that he promised to your ancestors Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.*

Deuteronomy 30:20

What do you think would be a good life? All the money you want? A big house? Lots of toys and friends?

Or how about being healthy, having a happy family, staying safe?

God wants the best for each of us, but that doesn't always come in the ways we want. What God does promise is abundant life if we choose to obey him. What's abundant life? It's a life overflowing with love, joy, and peace, and it is also a life of hope in the middle of hard times. Through the good and the bad, we can still live life abundantly when we trust and obey God. Even after this life, we know we can have eternal life with God, and a home in heaven where there is no pain, sorrow, evil, death, or goodbyes.

Doing things our own way leads to a life of selfishness, loneliness, hate, greed—all the bad stuff. God gives us the choice: do we want to love him and obey him or live life all on our own? What kind of a god would give us a choice? A truly loving one!

Will you choose the good life today? Tell God about your decision. He's waiting and will be so thrilled to hear from you!

***God promises us abundant life  
if we choose to obey him.***

# Spiritual Fitness Training

Check with the experts: Find two or three Christian adults in your life—maybe a parent, grandparent, and youth pastor. Ask them the interview question below and write their answers in the space provided. Do you see signs of the good life God promises?

**QUESTION: IN WHAT WAYS HAS GOD GIVEN YOU A GOOD, ABUNDANT LIFE?**

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**Keep It Going This Week** *Find out more by reading these verses.*

☐ Psalm 16:11

☐ Matthew 10:39

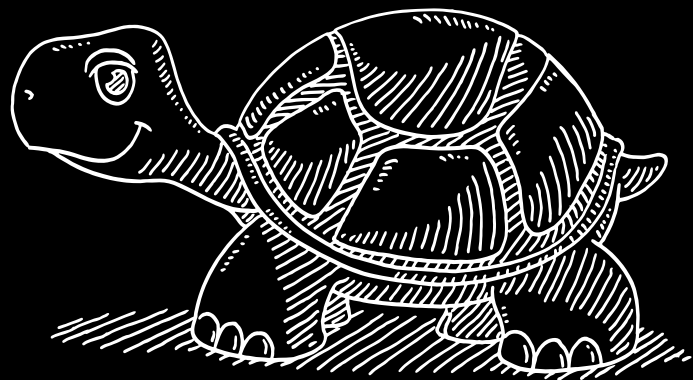
☐ Proverbs 8:35–36

☐ John 10:10

**Week  
Twenty  
One**

 **Mind Blower**

A giant tortoise named Jonathan may be one of the oldest living land animals. Jonathan lives on the island of Saint Helena and is at least 189 years old. Now that's a long, abundant life!



**Write Your Thoughts Here**



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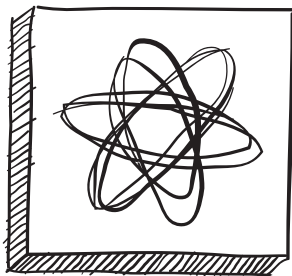
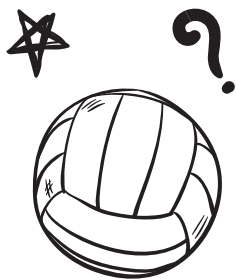
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**Lord, help me give my life to you—the one who created me. Thank you for the best life ever!**

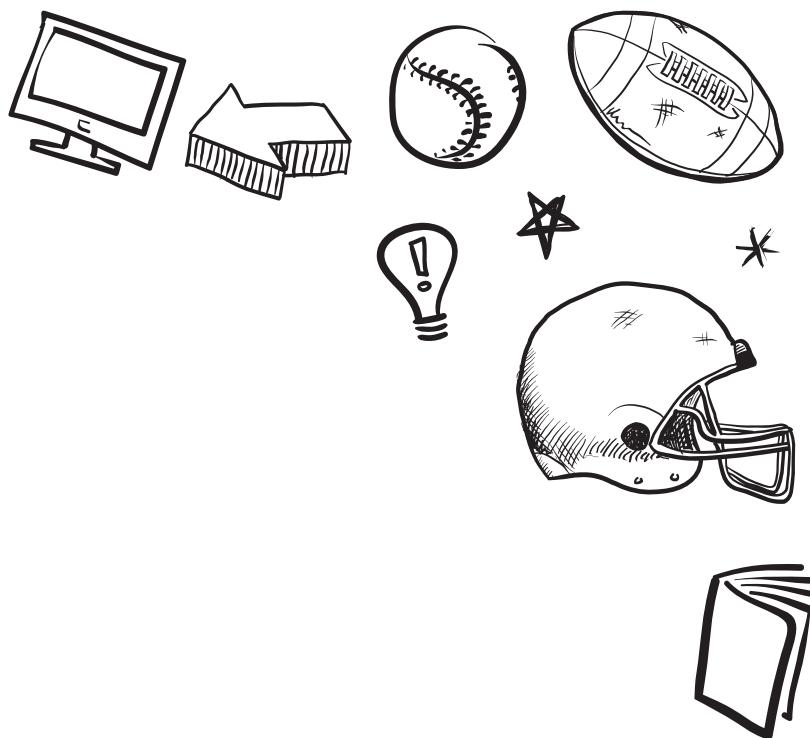
**Week  
Twenty  
One**

# Doodle Space

Draw a picture of  
what a good, abundant  
life means to you!







# God does the impossible

## WEEK TWENTY-TWO

### A Warmed-Up Heart



*Jesus replied, "There are some things that people cannot do, but God can do anything."*

Luke 18:27

Sometimes when people have bad days, they take it out on others. Maybe your brother gets back from school and won't play with you. Maybe you know something is wrong with your best friend, but they don't want to talk about it. Maybe your parent is angry after work and yells at everybody.

It may seem their hearts have gotten a little cold.

And sometimes we are the ones with the chilly hearts! We can let our anger hurt other people when we yell or throw things or talk before we think.

But there's good news: God can change even the angriest, cold heart. When God changes someone's heart, they change from the inside. And the inside change starts to change what they do on the outside, too—like how they serve God and treat other people. This is what the power of God can do!

Whenever you are feeling angry, pray for God to bring you peace and change your heart.

And if someone in your life seems angry most of the time, pray for them, too. Read this week's Bible verse and remember that Jesus can do anything—even warm up the coldest heart.

# Spiritual Fitness Training

Who in your life is hard to get along with? You'll be amazed what prayer can do! Write out a prayer for them below.



**Keep It Going This Week** *Find out more by reading these verses.*

☐ Isaiah 59:1

☐ Ephesians 2:8–9

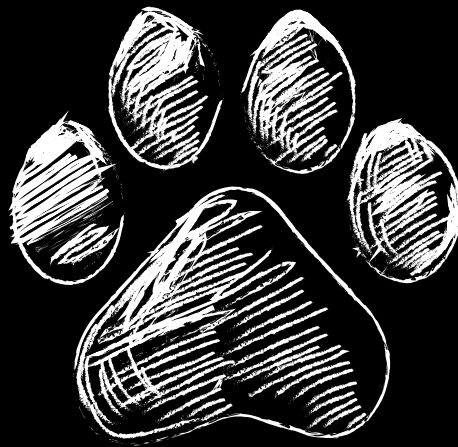
☐ Jeremiah 32:27

☐ Hebrews 12:1

**Week  
Twenty  
Two**

 **Mind Blower**

Fighting dogs are trained to be mean, but some have been rescued and rehabilitated. It takes a lot of work, but even some of the toughest dogs have turned into sweet, huggable pets.



**Write Your Thoughts Here**



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**Lord, I'm sorry for letting anger into my heart.  
Help me show your peace and love instead.**

**Week  
Twenty  
Two**

# powerful God

WEEK TWENTY-THREE

## The Mightiest Warrior



*If you have to go to war, you may find yourselves facing an enemy army that is bigger than yours and that has horses and chariots. But don't be afraid! The Lord your God rescued you from Egypt, and he will help you fight.*

Deuteronomy 20:1

Have you noticed that in every good story or movie there's a point where all hope seems lost? The bad guy is winning and the good guy is about to lose it all!

This world can feel that way many times. You might think it's hopeless and there's nothing anyone can do to stop evil—to stop bad people from succeeding or terrible things from happening.

But God can defeat the evil . . . and he will. He has the power to do this! This is the God who can defeat whole armies. There's no escaping him. In this week's verse, God's people were told not to be afraid of any army coming against them. In the same way, we don't have to be afraid. Someday, God will wipe out everything wicked and wrong in the world.

So, when your parent has to deploy or you feel like the bad guys might win in your life, remember that life's movie isn't over yet. When you put your hope in the mightiest warrior, God, then you know in the end he will win. You can count on him to help you through all the battles until then.

Master  
Piece

***Evil doesn't stand a chance against God!  
Trust him to bring you through.***

# Spiritual Fitness Training

This week's devotional reminds you that God is your mighty warrior, and he will defeat all the evil in the world. He is the one who can do it. Just for fun, write your own movie script below. Without reading all of the sentences first, only look at the blank lines and then fill in the spaces as assigned. Once complete, read the entire story out loud. Did your movie have a happy ending? (And did it crack you up?!)

One day the magical land of \_\_\_\_\_ was invaded by  
(dessert)  
giant, scary \_\_\_\_\_. Oh no! The people tried to hold them  
(vegetable, plural)  
back, but they were doing the \_\_\_\_\_ around them.  
(dance move)  
The people shot \_\_\_\_\_ at the enemies, but the hot sun melted  
(candy)  
their sweet ammunition. Finally, a huge \_\_\_\_\_ came  
(animal)  
and happily ate the vegetables, one by one, until they were all gone. The  
magical land was saved, and the people cheered in celebration!



**Keep It Going This Week** *Find out more by reading these verses.*

☐ Job 42:1–2

☐ Matthew 24:29–31

☐ Isaiah 40:10

☐ Revelation 22:12–13

**Week  
Twenty  
Three**

*Mind Blower*

The world's strongest men can  
pick up over 900 pounds. But  
that's nothing compared to our  
warrior God!





**Write Your Thoughts Here**



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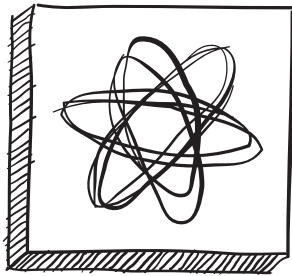
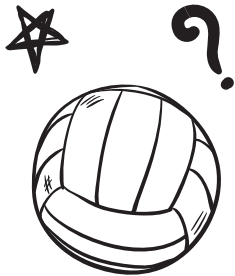
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**Lord, it can look pretty dark here some days.  
But I know you will win over evil. Thank you!**

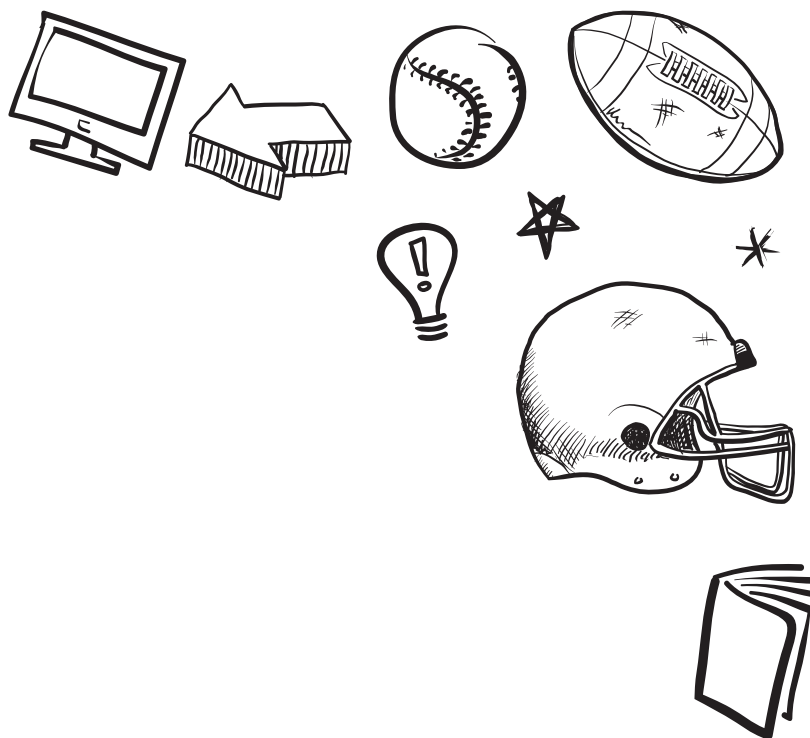
**Week  
Twenty  
Three**

# Doodle Space

Draw a picture of  
a mighty warrior!



Master  
Piece



Week  
Twenty  
Three

god's help

WEEK TWENTY-FOUR

## His Stength, My Weakness



*I am the Lord All-Powerful. So don't depend  
on your own power or strength, but on my Spirit.*

Zechariah 4:6b

So you didn't make the soccer team. You have no idea what the teacher is talking about in math class. You tried to fix your bike yourself, but you're not strong enough to turn the wrench.

We all have things we can't do. Sometimes, it might feel like you'll never be able to do anything great. But God has plans for you—big, impossible things that you could never do on your own. He wants to use you to build his kingdom, and he will help you.

In this book of the Bible, God calls the Israelites to rebuild a temple where they could meet with God. But rebuilding was not an easy task! They couldn't do it on their own. They weren't strong enough, smart enough or good enough. Still, God said he would do it by using them.

God will help you, too, when he gives you a job you can't do on your own. What do you think God wants you to work on? You can believe that if he tells you to do something, he will make it happen.

So, keep following God and trusting in his power. With him, you can and will accomplish great things!

Master  
Piece

***God helps us beat our  
weakness with his power.***

# Spiritual Fitness Training

Sometimes we are so afraid of failing we don't try new things. But God wants you to learn and grow! This week, talk with a parent, sibling, or friend about new things you want to try. Make a plan to do one of the things you are afraid of. Ask God to help you do it! Write out your plan in the boxes below and celebrate your success here!

Example: Try out for the school play	Example: Make a new friend	

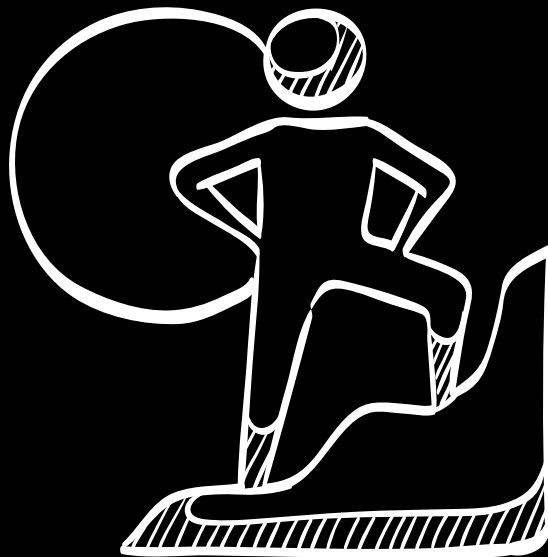
**Keep It Going This Week** *Find out more by reading these verses.*

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|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 8:26           | <input type="checkbox"/> Galatians 4:6–7   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Corinthians 12:9–10 | <input type="checkbox"/> Ephesians 1:19–20 |

**Week  
Twenty  
Four**

*"Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts."*

*—Winston Churchill, leader of Great Britain during World War II*



**Write Your Thoughts Here**



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**Lord, I need your power to help me. I trust  
that you will use me to do great things.**

**Week  
Twenty  
Four**

# Jesus sends me

WEEK TWENTY-FIVE

## When God Appears



*After Jesus had greeted them again, he said,  
“I am sending you, just as the Father has sent me.”*

John 20:21

Can you imagine what would happen if God—in all his glory and power—suddenly showed up on Earth so people could see him? The Bible says we would not be able to even handle seeing God in person. It might be like trying to look straight at the bright sun, which we can't do because it hurts our eyes! The sun is too strong.

Looking straight at God would be hard, too. Actually, it would be impossible. He knew this. So, he became a human—Jesus. People could talk to him, and they knew he understood what it's like to be human.

Think about all the things Jesus did—healing, feeding, teaching people. He forgave people. He showed them how to love God.

God still uses people to show others about him. He uses people like you! This week's verse reminds us that Jesus sends those who believe in him to do the things he did, such as pray for people, help them, encourage them, and show them how to love God.

Will you let God shine through you this week? His power is something others will see and feel when you serve him every day.

***God still uses people to show others  
about him. He uses people like you!***

Master  
Piece



# Spiritual Fitness Training

People are watching you to see how to follow God. What are some things they should see you doing? Find some ideas in the puzzle below. When you find a word, circle it!

R	X	S	O	C	R	K	E	L	T	G
P	V	P	F	B	A	R	I	I	R	R
R	N	Q	O	V	I	R	G	S	G	A
S	H	A	R	E	M	E	I	T	D	C
N	E	L	G	E	S	A	E	E	T	I
H	L	V	I	D	L	L	A	N	G	O
A	P	R	V	E	A	S	T	Y	P	U
L	O	V	E	N	D	V	Y	D	R	S
U	H	E	N	T	Y	X	M	Z	A	I
L	B	D	I	F	J	O	P	D	Y	P
G	Y	N	E	D	O	U	S	X	Y	D

**LOVE**  
**FORGIVE**  
**SHARE**  
**HELP**  
**PRAY**  
**LISTEN**

**Keep It Going This Week** *Find out more by reading these verses.*

☐ Esther 4:14

☐ Matthew 9:38

☐ Isaiah 6:8

☐ Acts 1:8

**Week**  
**Twenty**  
**Five**

"Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love."

—Mother Teresa, a Catholic nun  
known for helping the poor in India



**Write Your Thoughts Here** 

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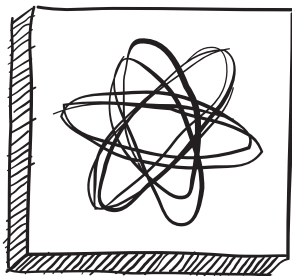
**Thank you, God, for sending Jesus.  
And thank you for sending me, too! Help me  
show others your love and goodness.**

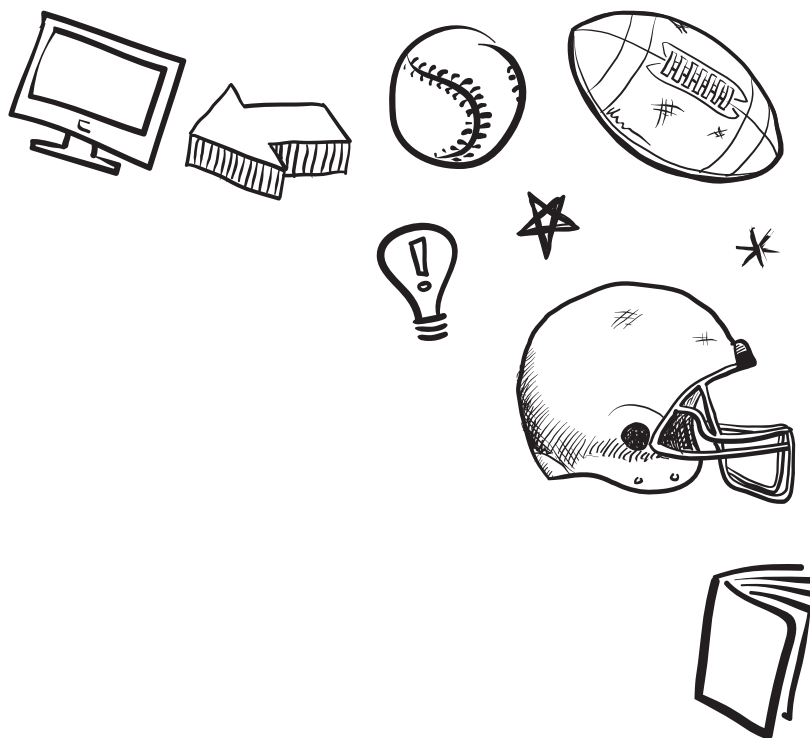
**Week  
Twenty  
Five**

# Doodle Space



What do you think  
God looks like?  
Draw a picture  
below of God in  
all his glory.





Week  
Twenty  
Five

## The Best Listener



*Ask me, and I will tell you things that  
you don't know and can't find out.*

Jeremiah 33:3

What do people mean when they say they talk to God and hear from him? Does the God of the whole universe really have time for conversations with all 8 billion people on the planet?

Yes, God does not have limits like people do. While you might have a hard time listening to two people talking to you at the same time, God doesn't experience that. He can talk and listen to everyone at the same time. *He can do anything.*

Prayer is talking with God, and he promises to hear your prayers. Sometimes you might hear him answer you as a thought in your head, or a voice, or you might read a Bible verse that gives you direction. Often, you will feel a warm love, peace, or joy when you know he is near you.

A lot of times in life when we need to talk to someone, we can't. Maybe your parents are deployed, or you are away from your friends. Maybe you are lonely or scared or tempted to do the wrong things. But here's the good news: you can pray to God anytime, anywhere, for any reason. Imagine! The God of everything and everyone can and will always make time for you!

And he wants to help you understand the things you might question. You just need to ask him!

***Prayer is talking with God, and he  
promises to hear your prayers.***

# Spiritual Fitness Training

It's important to practice praying. God wants to hear from you in the good times and the bad times. You don't need special words, and you don't have to bow your head or close your eyes (though sometimes that can help you concentrate). Some people like to write prayers. Some talk out loud. Some even sing their prayers. Try a new way to pray today! The important thing is to just keep praying.

## WAYS I PRAYED THIS WEEK

☐

*Writing it out*

☐

*With my eyes closed*

☐

*Speaking out loud*

☐

*With my eyes open*

☐

*Kneeling*

☐

*Drawing it out*

☐

*While on a walk*

☐

\_\_\_\_\_

☐

\_\_\_\_\_

☐

\_\_\_\_\_

## Keep It Going This Week *Find out more by reading these verses.*

☐ Proverbs 8:17

☐ Matthew 7:7-8

☐ Jeremiah 29:13

☐ 1 John 5:14

**Week  
Twenty  
Six**

**Mind Blower**

Researchers have studied people who pray and found it decreases anxiety, improves moods, calms the nervous system, and helps people tolerate pain for longer periods.

(These are all bonuses! The best part is you get to talk to God!)





**Write Your Thoughts Here**



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**Lord, thank you for always listening.  
Help me hear you today.**

**Week  
Twenty  
Six**

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**Keep It Going!** 

Your Fall Issue of Masterpiece will  
arrive in the mail soon, so you can  
continue discovering your unique  
design through God's Word!

(Check your mailbox!)

