

Masterpiece

WEEKLY DEVOTIONALS

Discovering My Unique Design through God's Word

BY TONIA STACEY GÜTTING

 **HERO
SQUAD**
JV EDITION

Masterpiece, Boys JV Edition, Winter Issue

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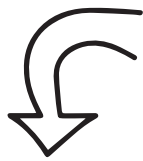
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Start Here



WRITE YOUR NAME ON THIS LINE:

WRITE THE NICKNAME YOUR FRIENDS & FAMILY CALL YOU:

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE CHRISTMAS TRADITION?

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE WINTER TREAT?

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:

CONTENTS

What is a Masterpiece?	6
How to Use this Book	8
Tips & Ideas	9
WEEK 40: The Eye of the Storm	10
WEEK 41: Traveling with God	14
WEEK 42: Watching Over Me	20
WEEK 43: No Longer Lonely	24
WEEK 44: When Time is Short	30
WEEK 45: Hope for the Bad Days	34
WEEK 46: A Lifetime of Learning	40
WEEK 47: Giving Love	44
WEEK 48: No Limits	50
WEEK 49: What I Don't Deserve	54
WEEK 50: Counting on God	60
WEEK 51: The True Know-It-All	64
WEEK 52: Running Back to God	70

WHAT IS A MASTERPIECE?

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 WINTER?

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!

My hiding place

WEEK FORTY

The Eye of the Storm



*You are my hiding place! You protect me from trouble,
and you put songs in my heart because you have saved me.*

Psalm 32:7

On certain days of the year, Dad gets angry and nothing is right. Sometimes Mom cries for hours. When loud fireworks go off, your dad's friend jumps and starts shaking.

They may be suffering from PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder), something that many veterans have to deal with. Like an injury to an arm or leg, PTSD is an injury to the emotions. The horrible events our courageous warriors go through can cause it.

And when someone in your family is hurting, it affects the entire family—including you.

In these hard times, God promises to protect us. This week's Scripture verse reminds us that God will always protect us and keep us safe. This doesn't mean nothing will ever go wrong. But it does mean God will help your family continue to be brave and strong through the heartache.

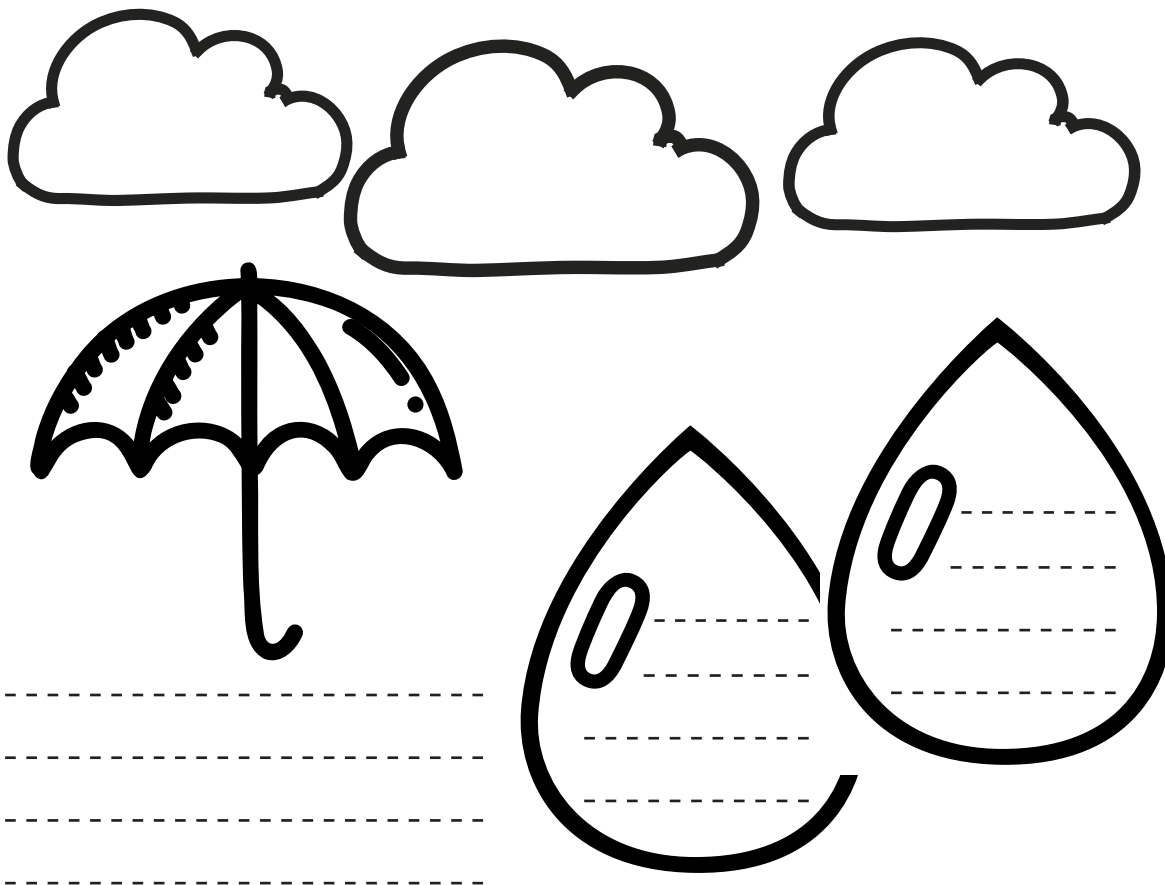
Similarly, in the center of a hurricane is a calm spot called the eye. The storm swirls and rages all around it, but the middle isn't as bad. God can be your eye in the hurricane. Bad things might be happening all around, but when you stay close to God, he brings you through.

Pray for your warrior parent and for your family. Thank God for being your safe place in the middle of hard times.

***When PTSD affects your family, hold close
to God and he will help you through.***

Spiritual Fitness Training

The stormy picture below represents when tough times come in your life, and the umbrella represents God protecting you! In each of the raindrops, write a difficult thing you faced or are facing. Then under the umbrella, write how God protects and comforts you through those hard times.



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

☐ Exodus 15:2

☐ Ephesians 6:16

☐ Jeremiah 23:23–24

☐ Colossians 3:3

**Week
Forty**

Mind Blower

In 1959, Lt. Colonel William Rankin fell through a storm cloud! The Marine was flying an F-8 Crusader over North Carolina when he had to eject above a storm. The parachute sailed for about 40 long minutes through hail, lightning, wind, and rain . . . but he made it through!



Write Your Thoughts Here



**Lord, there are some hard things in the Military.
Thank you for hiding us in your love and power.**

Our loving Father

WEEK FORTY-ONE

Traveling with God



Think how much the Father loves us. He loves us so much that he lets us be called his children, as we truly are.

1 John 3:1a

Have you read the novel *The Hobbit* by J. R. R. Tolkien? In it, the character Bilbo says, “We are plain, quiet folk and have no use for adventures. Nasty, disturbing, uncomfortable things! Make you late for dinner! I can’t think what anybody sees in them.”

Bilbo is definitely grumpy! But sometimes we agree with the little hobbit. PCS? No thank you. Those are nasty, uncomfortable things. They disrupt everything—all your stuff, all the things you like to do, all the places you are comfortable.

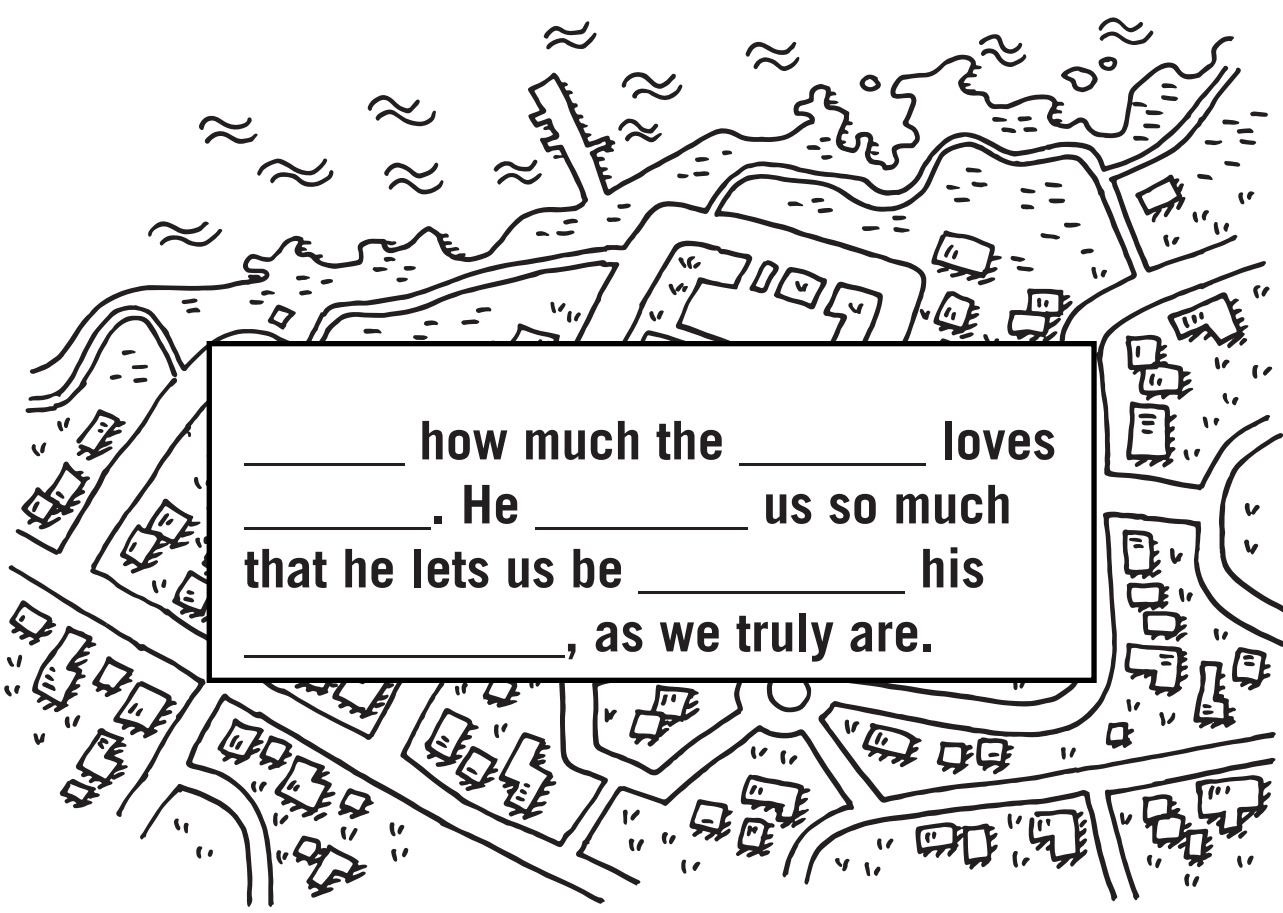
But what if God is inviting you on an adventure with a move? What if he is making you strong and brave through the hard times? What if he has wonderful gifts for you and your family at this new place—things you may never know about if you stay in one place?

You can believe God when he said he is your loving Father and will take care of you. Read this week’s Scripture passage again. Believing these words can turn fear into excitement to see what God’s going to do next! So, take God’s hand. Walk with him through the hard times and find the joy in being with him. His surprise gifts for his children are often better than we imagine.

***God is your loving, heavenly Father, so
he will take care of all your needs.***

Spiritual Fitness Training

Fill in the key words of this week's Bible verse



_____ how much the _____ loves
_____. He _____ us so much
that he lets us be _____ his
_____, as we truly are.

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

☐ Psalm 103:13

☐ John 1:12–13

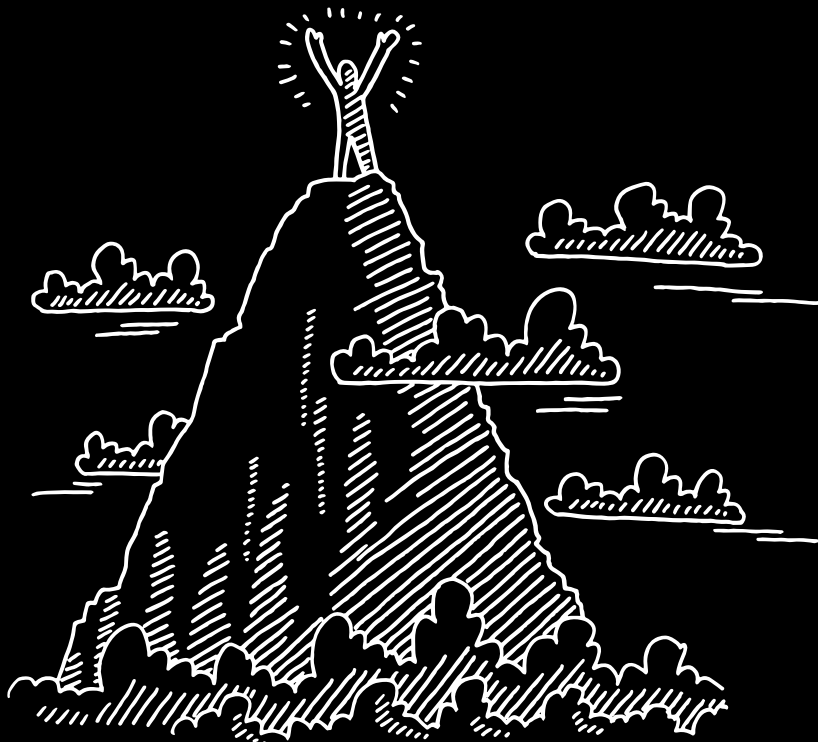
☐ Isaiah 64:8

☐ Galatians 3:26

**Week
Forty
One**

"The best view comes
after the hardest climb."

—Author Unknown



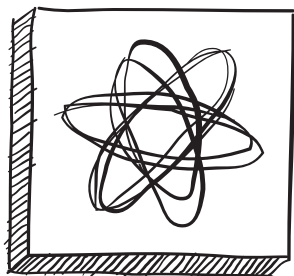
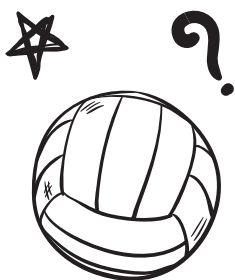
Write Your Thoughts Here

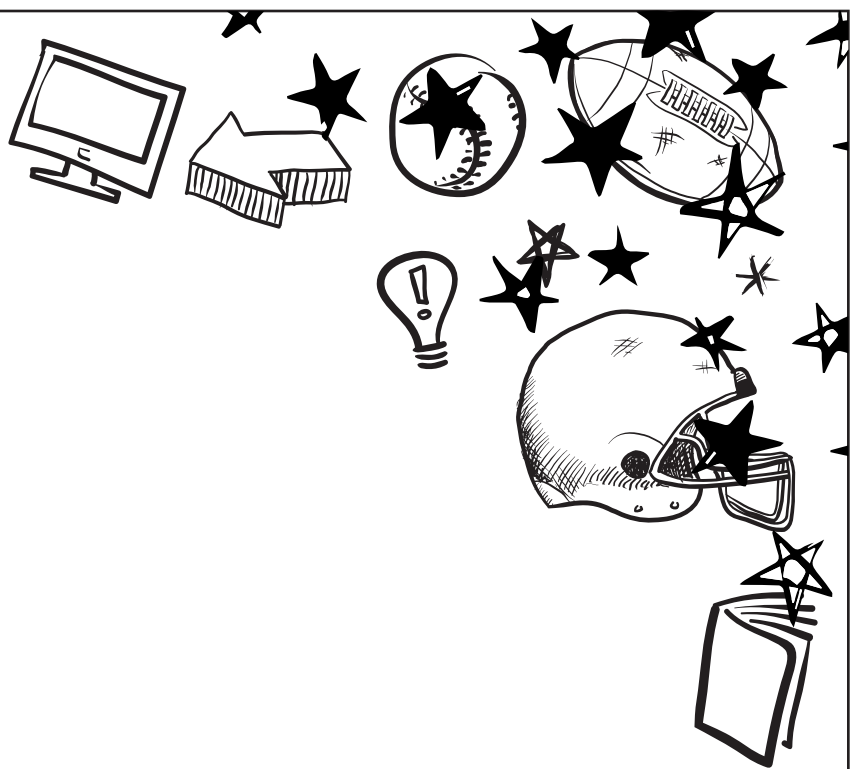


God, sometimes I don't want to move again. Thank you for being my Father and taking care of me.

Doodle Space

What if your next move
is a great adventure?
Write a story about it!





My Shepherd

WEEK FORTY-TWO

Watching Over Me



The Lord cares for his nation, just as shepherds care for their flocks. He carries the lambs in his arms, while gently leading the mother sheep.

Isaiah 40:11

No one coaches the team as well as your dad does.

Mom's the only one who really understands.

Dad knows how to handle that bully best.

No doubt about it: when your parent must deploy or leave for training, they leave a hole. Your parents are a gift from God, and when they're gone, you can feel alone, vulnerable, and kind of lost.

But God doesn't ever leave you. The Bible says he watches over you like a shepherd watches his sheep—feeding, protecting, and guiding every single day!

Sometimes God watches over you by helping your at-home parent or guardian. Sometimes he watches over you by providing a friend to play with, giving you a special opportunity like a fun trip, or giving you courage to face hard times and holding you close. At times it may not feel like he's there at all, but if you just hold on you will see how he brings you through.

He is your loving shepherd, and you are one of his precious sheep. When you feel alone, read this week's Scripture passage to remind yourself that God is close and always takes care of you.

Spiritual Fitness Training

Think about how a farmer cares for his sheep. He provides food, water, a safe place to sleep, and medical care. Then think about how God, your shepherd, cares for you. Write down some of the ways God cares for you below... and then thank him for it all!

Brainstorm here



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

☐ Psalm 23:1

☐ John 10:11

☐ Ezekiel 34:11-12

☐ Revelation 7:17

**Week
Forty
Two**



Sheep have rectangular pupils which allow them to see almost all the way behind them.



Write Your Thoughts Here



**Lord, thank you for all the special ways you
care for me. You are always near me.**

No Longer Lonely



*The sweet smell of incense can make you feel good,
but true friendship is better still.*

Proverbs 27:9

Do you really believe God will take care of you? Do you know he will give you everything you need? Sure, there are things we need like food, shelter, and clothing. Then there are other things you need to get through each day like strength, courage, and wisdom. All these are things the Lord will give.

But what about friends? Yes, friends are also gifts God gives. We need people, other than our family, in our lives, and God provides them. Sometimes, they might not look like you would expect. They might be older or younger, and they may not have a lot in common with you, but they are there for you.

A good friend will listen when you are sad. They will help you study when you are having trouble with a school subject. They will practice a sport with you when you want to make the team. They will pray for you when you are feeling sick.

Thank God for the good friends he has sent your way. And ask him to help you be a good friend to others. Certainly, there may be a lonely person who needs someone to talk to. Do what you can to make sure no one is left out of the fun. If someone is having a hard time, you can help cheer them up!

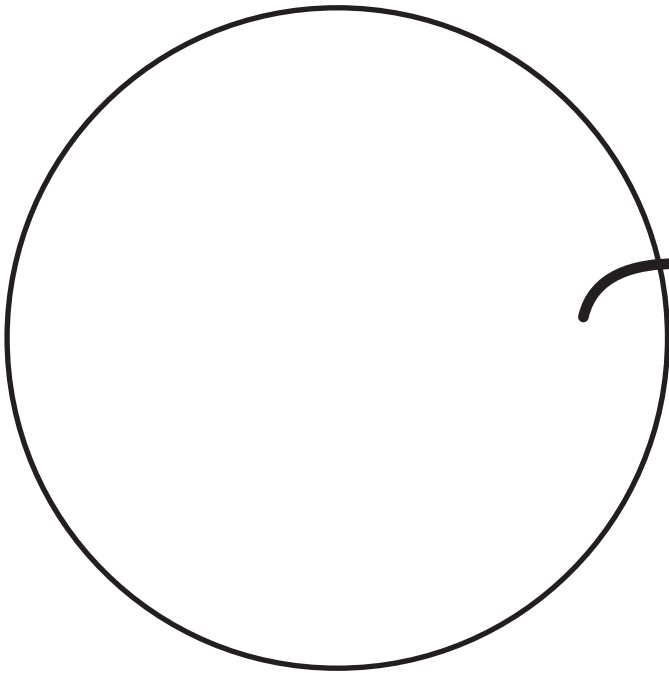
We all need someone in our life who cares about us. Thank God for your friends. And then commit to being a friend sent from God for someone who needs it this week.

***We need other people in our
lives and God provides them.***

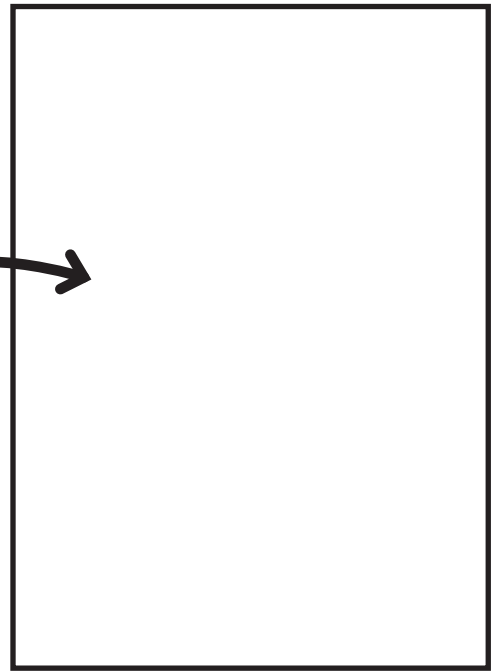
Spiritual Fitness Training

Look around at home, school, church, your sports events, or other places you go. Who do you see that is lonely? Even people in a big crowd can feel lonely if they have no one to really listen to them. Pray for God to show you who is lonely and how you can show them kindness.

Lonely People



Prayer for the Lonely



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

☐ Proverbs 17:17

☐ John 13:34

☐ Ecclesiastes 4:9–10

☐ John 17:20–21

**Week
Forty
Three**



"Do you know that nothing you do
in this life will ever matter, unless
it is about loving God and loving the
people he has made?"

—Francis Chan,
American pastor and author

Write Your Thoughts Here

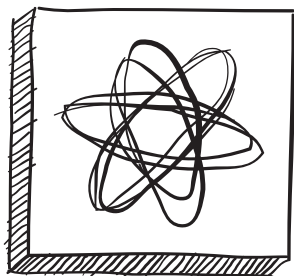


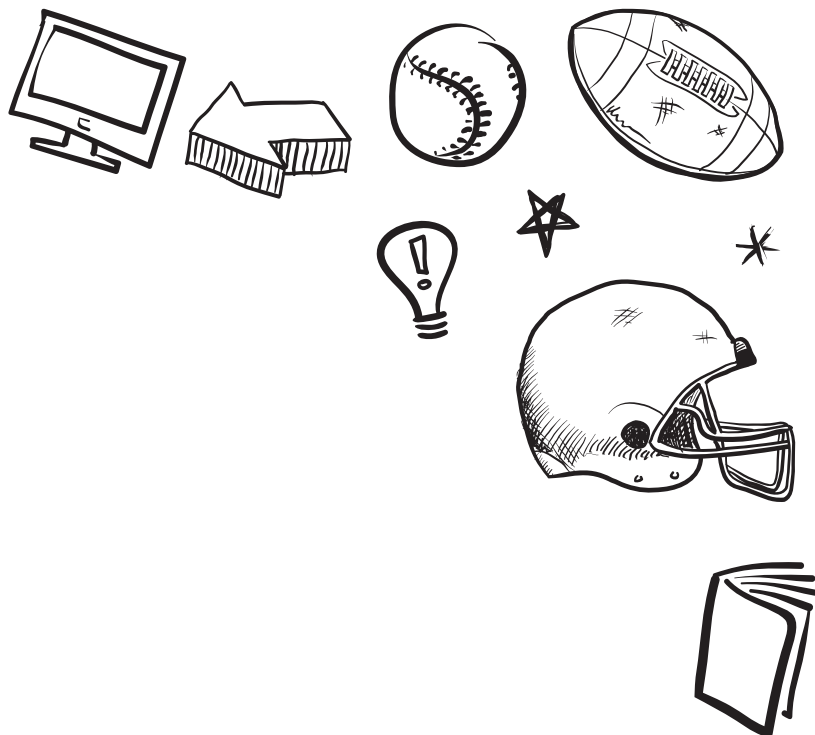
**Thank you, God, for friends. Please help
me and my friends be kind to others.**

Doodle Space



Draw a picture of
someone you know who
may be feeling lonely.
Then draw yourself next
to that person. Use this as
a reminder to reach out
and be kind to those who
feel alone. You can do it!





When Time is Short



God makes everything happen at the right time. Yet none of us can ever fully understand all he has done, and he puts questions in our minds about the past and the future.

Ecclesiastes 3:11

Sometimes it feels like you aren't going to be around long enough to make friends at a duty station.

Why bother if you are only going to know each other for a few months? Or why even practice with the team if you can't be there for the competition? Who cares about going on the youth group retreat when you're not going to see these kids again?

But God placed you here for this time. He is not surprised or held back by a short time. You will never know what God can do with that time unless you give him a shot. What does that mean? It means doing your very best in any opportunity God gives you. You can trust him to use it for his good plans.

So, choose to enjoy the new friend for a few months. Practice with the team, even if you will miss most of the season. Do what you can to improve the neighborhood, even if you don't get to see the results. Then trust God for good outcomes, even if you never get to see them. Wait on his timing and watch how he blesses you. You can trust his perfect timing!

***Give God your best and
trust him with the rest!***

Spiritual Fitness Training

Is there something or someone you admire? An awesome bridge or a piece of art? A great athlete or author? Research how long it took to build that bridge, write the book, or practice for the Olympics. Record the facts you learn below. And always remember that good things take time!

Interesting Facts

<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.*

☐ Psalm 31:15

☐ Matthew 24:42

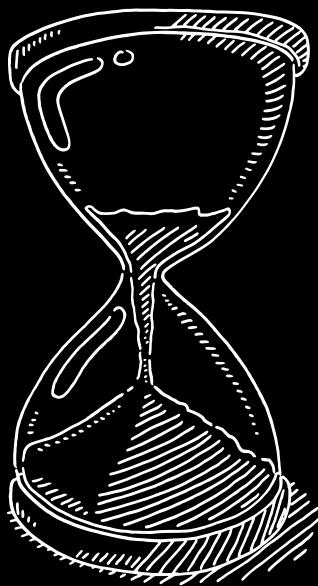
☐ Psalm 90:12

☐ John 9:4

**Week
Forty
Four**

"Time is your most precious gift, because you only have a set amount of it."

—Rick Warren,
American pastor and author



Write Your Thoughts Here



**Dear Lord, I choose to trust you. Help me make
the most of my time where I am now.**

Jesus our light

WEEK FORTY-FIVE

Hope for the Bad Days



*Once again Jesus spoke to the people. This time he said,
"I am the light for the world! Follow me, and you won't be walking in the
dark. You will have the light that gives life."*

John 8:12

Your best friend got mad at you and you don't even know why. One of your parents is gone again for work. You got a bad grade on a test. You fell and skinned your knee at recess. Some days are just bad!

And sometimes it feels like the bad days are just going to keep coming. Sometimes even days that are supposed to be happy, like when your parent returns home, don't turn out the way you expect.

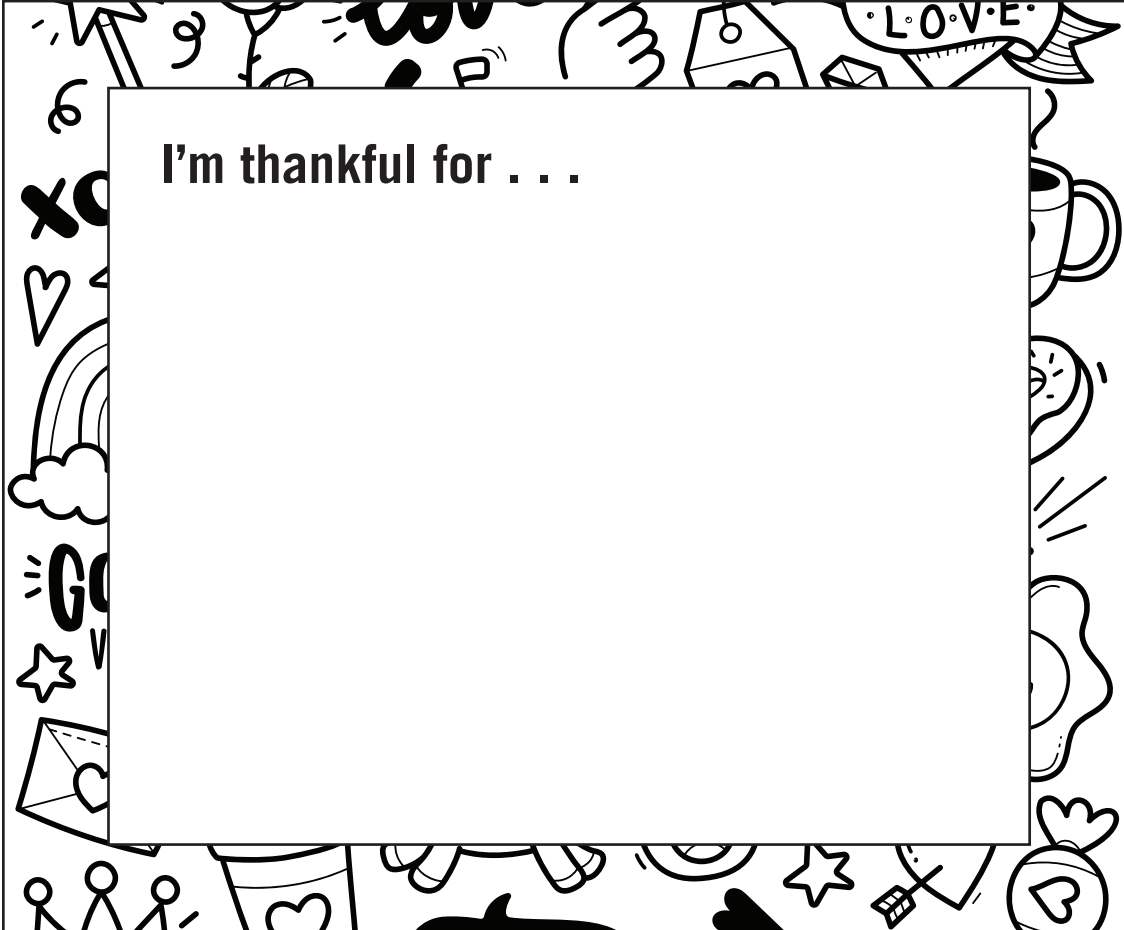
But with Jesus, we can have hope for better days to come. We can know the bad days won't last forever. We can know he will help us through. And even better, the best days will come when we are in heaven with him!

Jesus is the source of all life—everything that is good and fun and beautiful.

So, on both bad days and good days, spend time with Jesus. Ask him if you need to do something differently. Pray for other people who are having hard times. And pay attention to the good things God has already given you. When you remember how good he is, you are reminded he will always be good to you.

Spiritual Fitness Training

One of the best ways to break a bad mood is to be thankful! What are some great things God has given you today? Jot them down or draw them below. Then take a moment to thank God for each one!



I'm thankful for . . .

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

☐ Psalm 119:105

☐ John 1:3–5

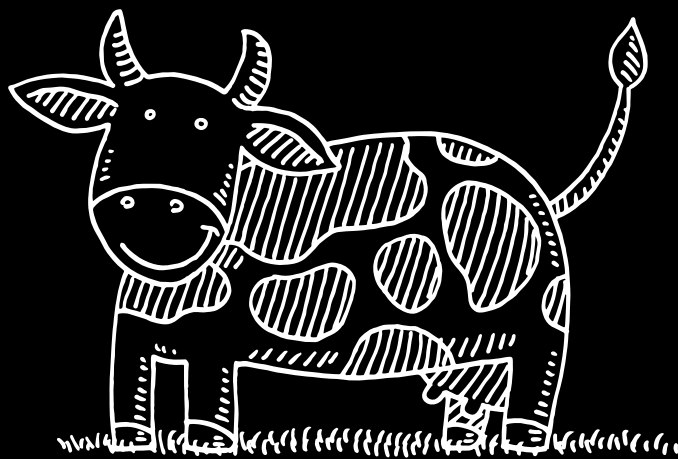
☐ Proverbs 4:18

☐ Revelation 22:5

**Week
Forty
Five**

 **Mind Blower**

Within just hours of being born,
baby calves will run and jump
and play. There is joy in life!



Write Your Thoughts Here

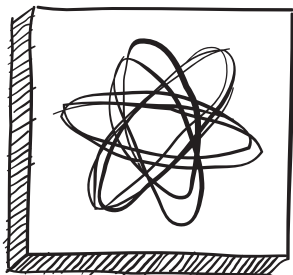


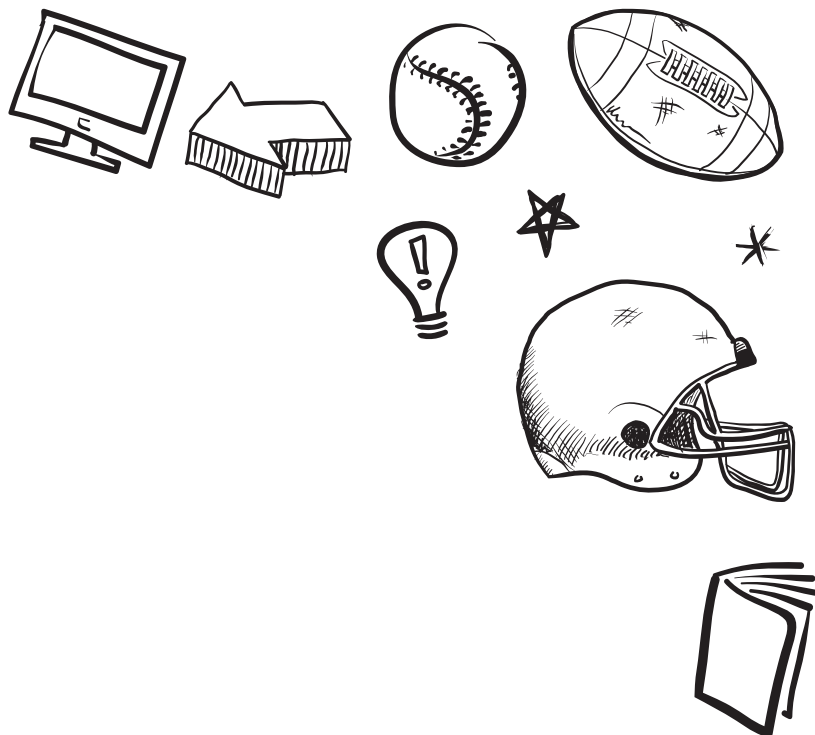
Lord Jesus, I need you on both good days and bad days. Remind me to look for you for true life!

Doodle Space



Draw a picture of
something you thought was
a bad thing that turned
out to be a good thing.
Then thank God for using
all things for good!





A Lifetime of Learning



Then he passed in front of Moses and called out, "I am the Lord God. I am merciful and very patient with my people. I show great love, and I can be trusted."

Exodus 34:6

What questions would you ask God if you were standing right beside him? What would you want to talk about? What do you want to know about him?

The amazing thing is we can know him! Our God loves us, wants to be with us, and wants us to know him. God is so big, so wise, so complex—there are things that take time for us to learn. We can spend our whole life learning more about him.

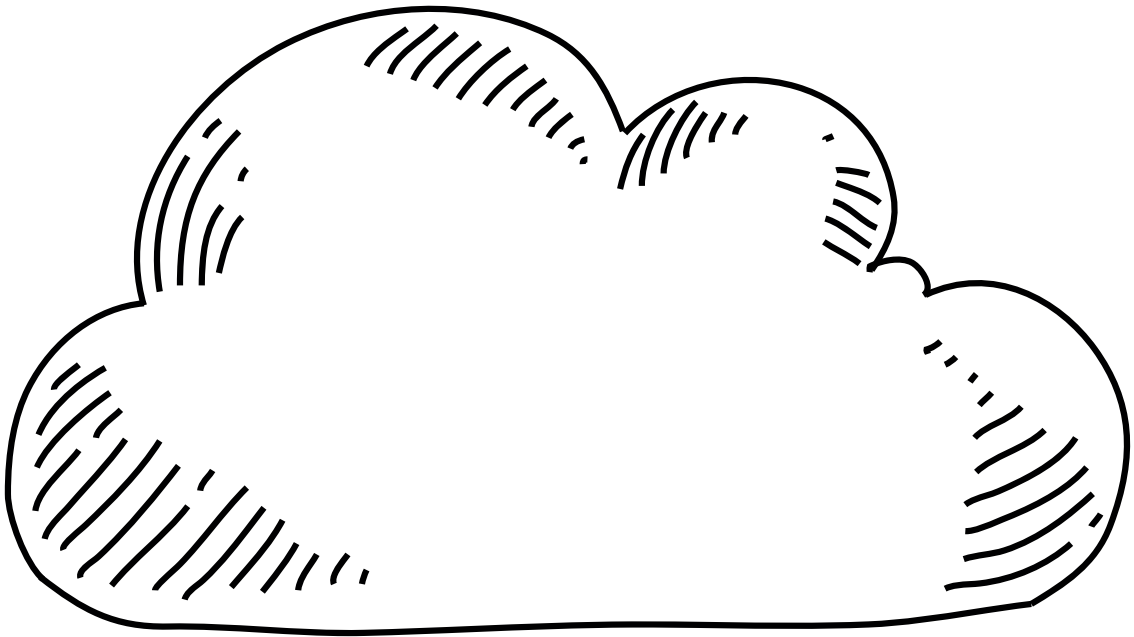
Sometimes we think we can't be close to God because we do the wrong thing. But God still loves us and wants to be close to us. That's why he forgives us, over and over again, and gives us more time to get to know him better!

So, how can you start the process of getting to know God more? The Bible tells us a lot about God. In this week's Scripture verse, we find out he is merciful, patient, loving, and trustworthy. Reading the Bible teaches you all about God and his character. You can also learn more by going to church and talking to your parents, your pastors, or other Christians.

Don't stress about how much you don't know. Just spend a few minutes each day learning more by spending time with God. He will show you!

Spiritual Fitness Training

Most of our prayers tend to be about what we want or need. Write a prayer inside the cloud that praises God for all of his amazing characteristics. (Hint: some of them are listed in this week's Bible verse.)



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

☐ Nehemiah 9:16–18

☐ Romans 2:4

☐ Psalm 86:15

☐ 1 John 1:9

**Week
Forty
Six**



In this week's verse, God came to Moses in a cloud on a mountain. The cloudiest place in the world is thought to be the Faroe Islands which are north of Scotland. They only get an average of 2.4 hours of sunshine each day.



Write Your Thoughts Here



**God, it is awesome to have a relationship
with you! Help me learn more about you.**

Giving Love



Christ died for us at a time when we were helpless and sinful. No one is really willing to die for an honest person, though someone might be willing to die for a truly good person. But God showed how much he loved us by having Christ die for us, even though we were sinful.

Romans 5:6–8

We talk about sacrifice a lot in the Military. Our Service Members give up many things to be in the Armed Forces. And ultimately, they are offering their lives to do the work. Sadly, some even lose their lives in the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

They do it because they love America and the freedom we have in this country. But more so, they love their sisters- and brothers-in-arms, and they love their families. They do the hard things so we don't have to.

Military families sacrifice, too. You make sacrifices as a Military kid when you must move or must cope with your parent being away. While you don't have much choice in the matter, you do get to choose how you handle it. Are you going to sacrifice with a grudge, or do it out of love for your parent, your family, and your country?

God understands sacrifice. He loves us so much that he sent his Son Jesus as a sacrifice to pay for our sins. Jesus died on the cross willingly, so that we wouldn't have to face being separated from God forever. Now that's sacrificial love!

***Jesus sacrificed his life for us because
he loves us, and we can show love by making
sacrifices for others.***

Spiritual Fitness Training

Have you thanked your Military parent for all they do? How about making them a card, writing a letter, or even sending a text today? Simple words of thanks will go a long way to help them feel appreciated and loved.

Write here



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

☐ Proverbs 17:17

☐ John 15:13

☐ Proverbs 27:10

☐ 1 Peter 3:18

**Week
Forty
Seven**

"Those who give much
without sacrifice are
reckoned as having given
little."

—Erwin Luther, evangelical pastor,
author, and radio broadcaster



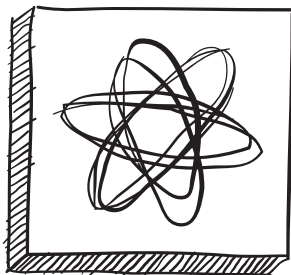
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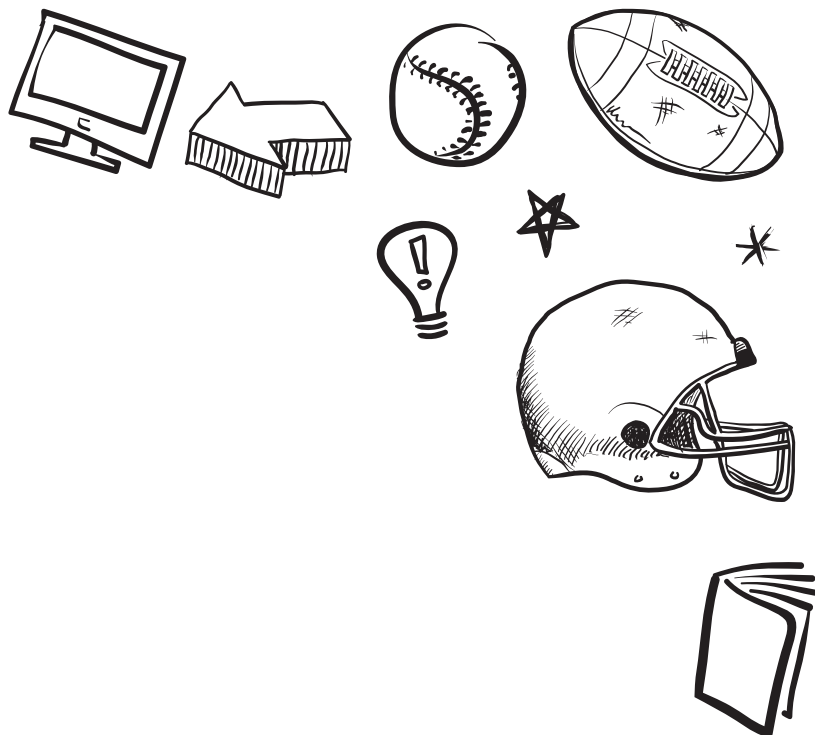


**Lord Jesus, thank you for dying for me. Help me
to love others enough to sacrifice for them.**

Doodle Space

Draw a picture of a cross
and write "Jesus" inside
it. Let it be a reminder
of the sacrifice Jesus
made for you when he
forgave your sins!





No Limits



*We may make a lot of plans, but the
Lord will do what he has decided.*

Proverbs 19:21

When I grow up, I'm going to _____. Do you have a list of things you are looking forward to doing when you get to decide for yourself? Do you want to pick where you live, choose to skip school, or go out to eat all the time? You will be in control!

But when we get older, we realize we still have boundaries. Maybe you won't have parents or teachers telling you what to do, but you will have bosses, relationships, money, time, and all kinds of other things setting your limits.

Through various life experiences, we figure out that God has control over our lives.

This isn't bad news, though. It's actually the best news ever! It is good that God is in control because he is a good, good God! He has absolute power and he loves us endlessly. He has no limits.

So never doubt that God's ways are best. Walk in his plans and you'll find a joyful life. You can trust that he will make good things happen for you now and in the future.

Spiritual Fitness Training

Think it over! Fill in the blanks for the verse, and then think about what you want and what you know God wants. Ask him to help you understand his plan for your life.

_____ may make a lot of _____, but the _____
will _____ what he has _____.

My Plans

God's Plans

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

☐ Psalm 33:11

☐ John 6:38–40

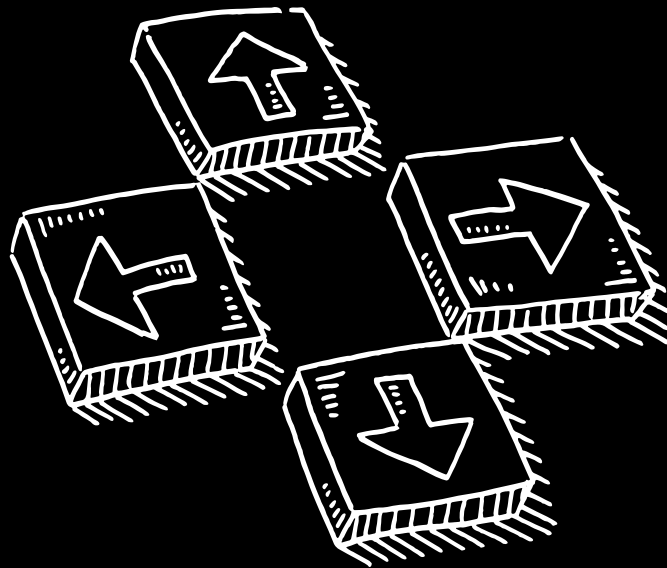
☐ Isaiah 14:27

☐ Acts 2:23

**Week
Forty
Eight**

"Anything under
God's control is never
out of control."

—Author Unknown



Write Your Thoughts Here



God, I want to do a lot of things, but I know your plans are best. Please show me your way.

What I Don't Deserve



So whenever we are in need, we should come bravely before the throne of our merciful God. There we will be treated with undeserved grace, and we will find help.

Hebrews 4:16

What keeps you from praying? Too busy? Don't think God cares? Don't feel close enough to him to ask for things? Or do you just forget?

God wants a relationship with you. He wants to talk with you all the time. He wants to be with you in every part of your life. In fact, that's why he created you! He is your father and you are his child.

And this is all possible because of his incredible grace for us—which means getting what we don't deserve. Because of our sin or wrongdoing, we deserve to be separated from our perfect God. But he sent Jesus to pay that price through his death on the cross, making it possible for us to be close to God. It's because of this great sacrifice that we can talk to God every day.

So go to God! Tell him you are sorry for your temper, your selfishness, your stubbornness, and ask him to forgive you. Then start talking to him about all of it. He will help you with everything.

Jesus paid the punishment for our sins, so we can go to God and talk to him about everything.

Spiritual Fitness Training

Talking to God is so important that it is worth doing it daily. But remembering to pray takes practice, so below are some ideas to help you remember. Pick some things you will try this week!

☐

Give thanks at mealtimes

☐

Say “good morning” to Jesus when I wake up

☐

Pray right away when I face problems

☐

Set a phone alarm to pray at a certain time

☐

Write a sticky note that says “Pray!” and stick it to my bathroom mirror

☐

Ask a friend to pray with me

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

☐ Nehemiah 9:17

☐ 1 Thessalonians 5:16–18

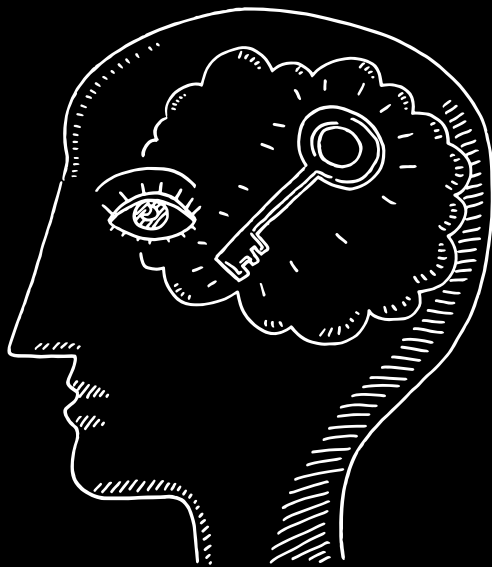
☐ Psalm 116:1–2

☐ Hebrews 10:19–22

**Week
Forty
Nine**

"Throughout the day, I am
in constant dialogue with the
Lord, praying in my head as I
step through each moment."

—Sydney Barber, US Naval Academy's first black
female brigade commander



Write Your Thoughts Here

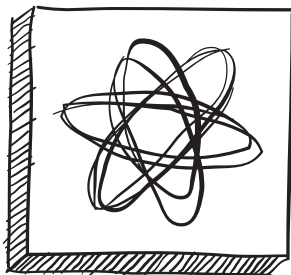


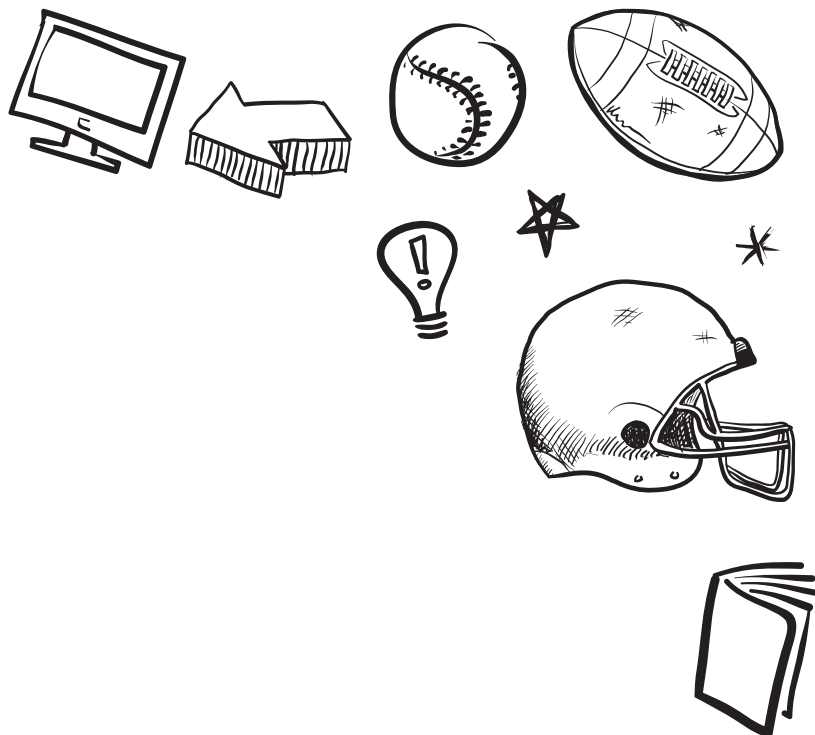
**Lord Jesus, thank you for forgiving my wrongdoing.
Thank you for hearing my prayers.**

**Week
Forty
Nine**

Doodle Space

We can pray in more ways than words! Use this space to draw a prayer to God.





Counting on God



Your love is faithful, Lord, and even the clouds in the sky can depend on you.

Psalm 36:5

Here's the sad truth: people are going to let you down.

Your best friend might not be there for you when you're going through a hard time. That cute girl at school might not like you back. Your favorite teacher and coach are going to have grumpy days and not say the right thing. Your parents are going to make mistakes. And you are going to fail other people, too. This is all bound to happen because we are imperfect humans.

But God will never fail you. Think about that! He is everywhere, and he will never leave you. He is all-powerful, so he will never be unable to help. He has time in his hands, so he will never be impatient. He made all people, so he will never pick someone instead of you. He doesn't have any sin, so he will never be selfish. He holds all wisdom, so he won't do anything by accident.

And God loves you so much, he will never be unfaithful. He is with you through everything. That's the good truth you can trust.

So, when people let you down with their failures, hold on to your faithful God!

Spiritual Fitness Training

We tend to doubt God's love on bad days. However, if we remember the truths in the Bible, and the ways he has been faithful in the past, it helps us depend on him through those tough times. List some of the times that God really came through for you below and thank him for his faithfulness.

Fantastically Faithful Father

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

☐ Exodus 34:6–7a

☐ 1 Thessalonians 5:24

☐ Psalm 145:13

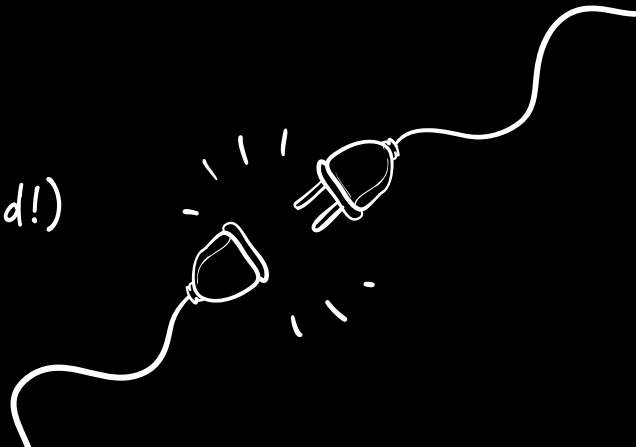
☐ 2 Timothy 2:13

**Week
Fifty**



In today's world, people depend on electricity for so much—light to see, refrigerators to keep food fresh, furnaces to heat houses in the winter, and chargers for our smartphones! But there are power outages every single day. Getting the electricity we want isn't always dependable!

(But we can always depend on God!)



Write Your Thoughts Here



**Lord, I'm going to trust in your unfailing love.
Thank you for your faithfulness!**

The True Know-It-All



I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.

Revelation 22:13

If you really want to learn something, the best person to teach you is the inventor and creator of that thing. Your grandmother could teach you how to make her secret recipe for the best chocolate chip cookies. Your gym teacher could teach you how to play that cool ball game he created. And your dad could teach you how to climb the ladder he built in the back yard.

Who is best to go to when you have hard questions about life? The inventor and creator of life—God! He is the beginning and the end. He designed every process in nature, from the earth's rotation to the sun's heat. He made every cell in your body and told them how to work together to make you think and breathe. He knows every answer to every single question!

Things in this world can seem out of control and leave your head spinning, looking for anything to hold to or belong to. How about grabbing a hold of the hand that created you?

God is reaching out, asking you to turn to him. He holds your life in his hands. So believe in God, trust him, obey him, love him. He will bring you safely through all the crazy changes of this life!

Spiritual Fitness Training

What do you think life will be like 100 years from now? Draw or write what these things might be like: phones, computers, clothes, schools, food. Then spend some time thinking about the God who will be here through it all!

Draw here



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

☐ Psalm 90:2

☐ 1 Timothy 1:17

☐ Isaiah 57:15

☐ Jude 24-25

**Week
Fifty
One**

Mind Blower

The average person in
America lives for about 77
years. Methuselah in the
Bible lived until he was 969
years old!



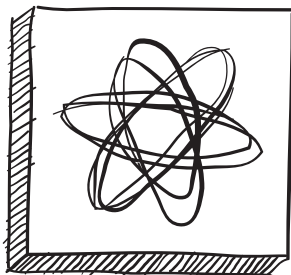
Write Your Thoughts Here

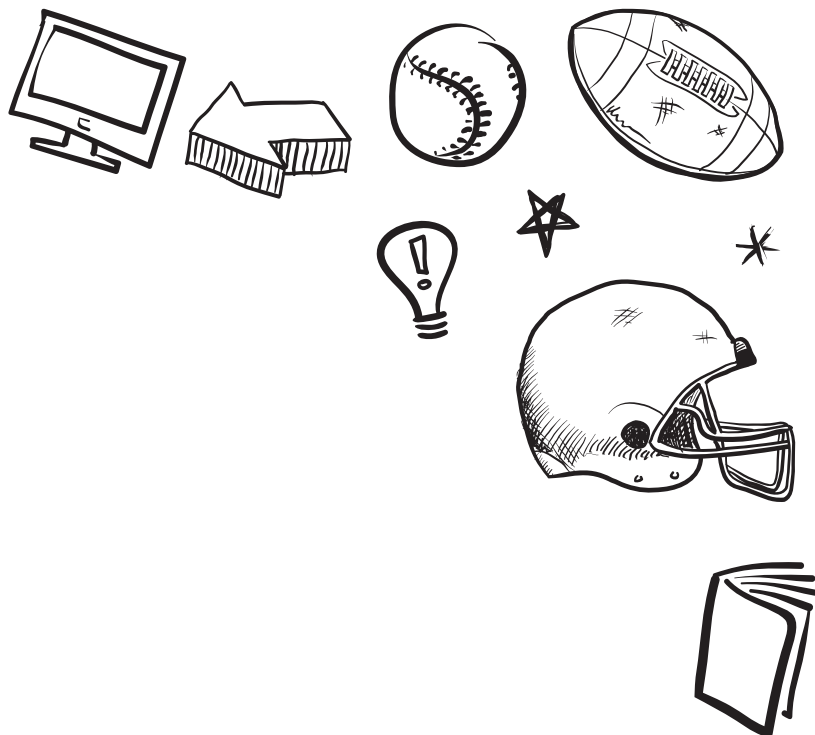


Lord, you are Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. Help me trust in your eternal knowledge and wisdom.

Doodle Space

What would you like your future to look like? Use this space to draw or write your dreams for your future. Then thank God for already knowing the plans he has for you!





Running Back to God



The Lord your God wins victory after victory and is always with you. He celebrates and sings, because of you, and he will refresh your life with his love.

Zephaniah 3:17

Sometimes we feel like we don't belong. Are you only the second-best friend? Does your coach give more playing time to your teammates? Do you feel like no one is really excited you are here?

Finding your place can be . . . awkward. But the good news is God always has a place for you with him. He gets so excited when his kids come to him by choosing to love him, he actually celebrates! It's like he's singing. And not just a sweet lullaby, but a roaring loud victory song—like when your favorite team scores and the crowd hollers out their mighty chant.

God is so sad when we run away from him. We do this by making wrong choices—sins. He hates to see us headed for punishment because of these things we do.

But no matter what we do, we can always return to God. He invites us back! We can ask for forgiveness. He quickly forgives and brings us back into a relationship with him. That is the whole reason Jesus died on the cross for us!

So come back to God today. He is waiting for you and he will sing a loud victory song when you choose to go to him! Pray to him right now. He is listening.

***The Lord gets so excited about us
coming to him, he celebrates!***

Spiritual Fitness Training

When we know God gets excited about us, we get excited about him, too!
Look up the lyrics of your favorite worship song and write them out here.
Then sing the words out loud to your great God!



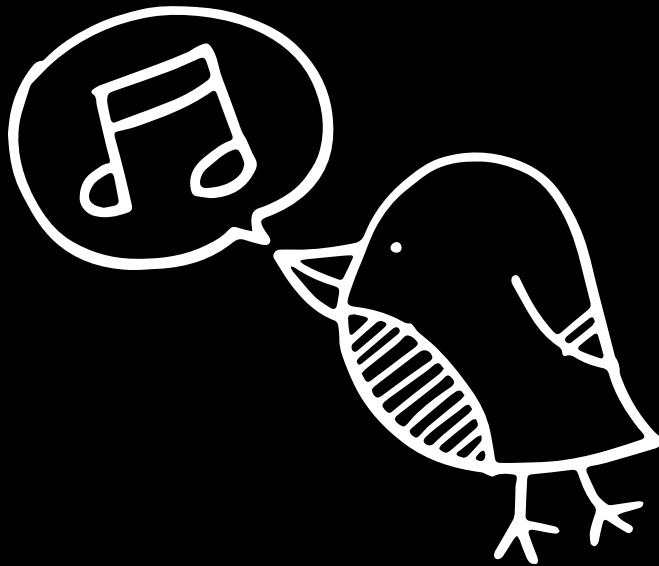
Keep It Going This Week *Find out more by reading these verses.*

- ☐ Psalm 149:4
 - ☐ Luke 15:7
 - ☐ Isaiah 63:1
 - ☐ Ephesians 5:25

Week Fifty Two

Mind Blower

Brown thrasher
birds sing as many
as 2,000 songs.



Write Your Thoughts Here



**God, I'm sorry for doing wrong things. Forgive me.
I am coming back to you today!**

**Week
Fifty
Two**

Handwriting practice lines consisting of 18 horizontal dashed lines.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of 18 horizontal dashed lines.

Keep It Going! ↘

Great job! You finished our
Masterpiece series. Get ready for
a brand new series called Brave,
where you'll learn to be strong and
brave with God's help!
(It's coming soon!)

