

DEVOTIONAL MAGAZINE SAMPLE

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VELOCITY

 D6 EveryDay | Young Teen

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Featured Articles: The Scientific Case for God | "There Has to Be More": An Interview with Justin Jackson | #neverthirstagain

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Intended for Middle School or junior high readers, this magazine offers daily devotions, feature articles, columns on apologetics, missions, and Christian growth, and a lot of fun!

Written for young teens and based on God's Word, these daily devotions zero in on the week's study theme.

Teens and adults study the same passage each day, though the devotional text is different, leading to natural conversations about Bible truths.

The Saturday/Sunday Study prepares teens for the week's lesson.

Theme: God Created Everything

SEPTEMBER 5-11

SATURDAY - SUNDAY

Read Genesis 1:1–2:3

Your view on Creation matters. First, it says whether you believe the Bible. If you don't believe what God's Word says about Creation, you can't trust it for anything else. Second, it says what you believe about God. Is He a personal God? Is He a powerful God? Does He have the wisdom and ability to design an orderly world? Third, your view on Creation affects what you believe about yourself. If you are merely a highly evolved animal, you have no moral obligations and no responsibility to trust God. You are merely "surviving" if you are one of the "fittest."

So when we start at the beginning, we determine the conclusion. If we believe that *in the beginning God created*, we accept Him as the divine authority. We owe Him our worship and praise.

If God is my Creator, what does that say about His purpose for my life? How does He view me?

Worship God as the all-powerful, all-knowing Creator. Memorize Genesis 1:1 and say it often this week.

MONDAY

Read Genesis 9:1–17

Pinky promise, scout's honor, 100-percent guarantee—we have all heard or given these symbols and proclamations of a promise. But how many times have we broken a promise, shared a secret, or not followed through on what we said we would do? How many times have we trusted in someone else's promise only to have our trust shattered?

God promised Noah and all future generations (including us) He would never again destroy the earth by flood. The rainbow served as God's symbolic reminder to Noah and continues to remind us today after a rain shower. Rainbows are not simply colors displayed through the sun's rays. Each and every rainbow is a sign from our Heavenly Father that He loves us, values us, and will keep His promise. You can count on His guarantee!

What do these verses tell you about God?

Check out other verses that reveal God's promises, such as Deuteronomy 31:6; Isaiah 41:10; Philippians 4:19; and 1 John 1:9.

TUESDAY

Read Exodus 20:8–11

School, extracurricular activities, chores, friends, church, homework—as a student, you might feel as though you have an exhaustive number of obligations. The Israelites made their own clothes, constructed their own dwellings, and completed everyday tasks with no modern conveniences, to say the least. Talk about backbreaking, wearisome responsibilities! Today, though, you read about a command from God that was a reprieve from all of their labor: *honor the Sabbath*.

Setting aside a day for the Lord is an opportunity, not an obligation. God created us. He knows we cannot run on empty. He intends for us to set aside a day each week to rest and to focus on worshiping our Father. The fourth commandment serves a purpose for both God and us.

How does this command affect your view of God? How does it change how you feel about work?

Honor the Sabbath like it's an opportunity. Worship gladly. Take a break from your daily routine.



Questions help teens make immediate application of God's Word, then are followed by a "next step" to take in living it out.

WEDNESDAY

Read Psalm 8:5-9

Imagine you are on snowcapped Pikes Peak looking out over the vast Rocky Mountains. God created that. Now, picture yourself in the Niagara River gazing up at the beauty and power of Niagara Falls. God created that too. From a breathtaking sunrise, to the planets spinning intricately, to the full moon shining in a cloudless night sky, God created it all.

Is your mind blown yet? If so, join the club! The psalmist David was one of the club's earlier members. In Psalm 8, he expressed his awe of God's creation in nature. He was humbled and amazed at God's care for humans. In David's mind, nothing more could be said but praise for the majesty and excellence of the Lord.

What do these verses tell you about your value to God?

Think about the magnificent scenes in creation you see every day. Let these images remind you of your worth to God.

THURSDAY

Psalm 136:3-9

You've probably sung some "camp songs," like "Michael, Row the Boat Ashore" or "Kumbaya," with a repeated phrase that may or may not have formed an earworm in your brain. Maybe Psalm 136 was a camp song! Imagine singing verses 3-9 around the campfire as you looked up at the stars. The repeated phrase certainly drilled home a vital truth for them (and us) to remember.

This psalm served as a history lesson for the children of Israel, beginning at Creation. God's design is evident in the wonders of the sun, moon, and stars. We continue to marvel at the expanse of the universe and rejoice in God's enduring mercy to us—as high as the heavens are above the earth (Psalm 103:11).

How did you feel the last time you got a good glimpse of the stars away from the city lights?

God is the Designer of the universe. What song would you sing or play to honor Him?

FRIDAY

Read Ephesians 4:17-32



Think back to your childhood, as far back as you can remember. Do you recall any favorite toys you had? Can you remember a movie or TV show you loved to watch? How many of these preferences have changed?

Just like our interests change as we grow older, we change when we become believers in Christ. Paul urged the Ephesians to put off their old selves and put on their new selves (verses 22-24). He even listed specific sins Christians should strive to avoid, including dishonesty, inappropriate language, and anger (verses 25-31). Putting on the new self means getting rid of these things and replacing them with Christlike attributes such as kindness, compassion, and forgiveness. After all, you're not just a child anymore. You're God's child.

Which Christlike attitude do you want (and need) more of right now?

Go out of your way to show kindness to at least one person who is sometimes neglected.

Journal

my prayer list

Young teens can jot memorable ideas or keep a weekly prayer list.