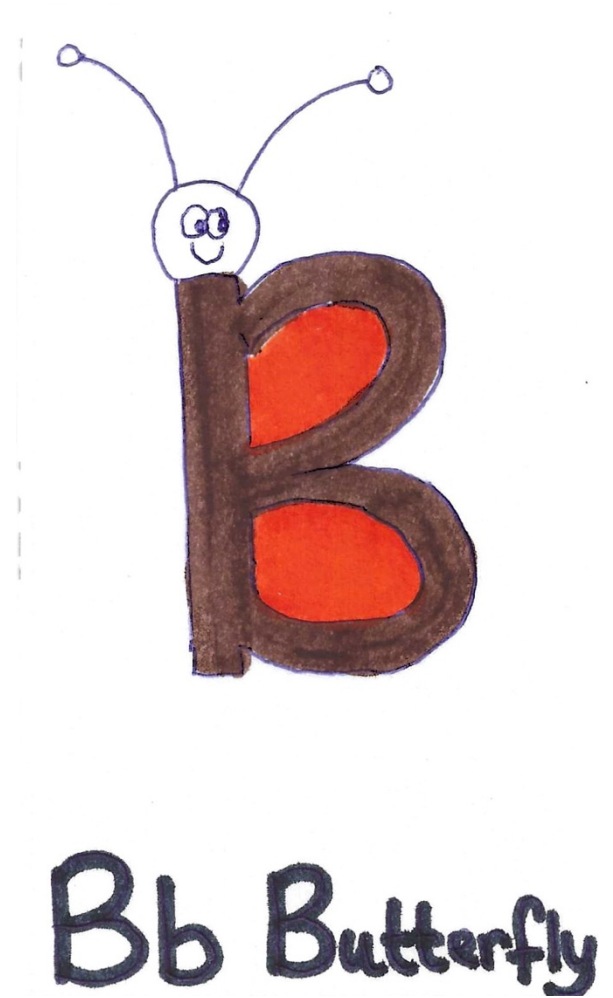




Aa Adam



Bb Butterfly

**“And be not conformed to this world:
but be ye transformed by the
renewing of your mind, that ye may
prove what is that good, and
acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”**

-Romans 12:2 (KJV)

Butterflies start out their lives as caterpillars. Then they go into a cocoon and undergo an amazing change, developing beautiful wings. In the same way, our lives are changed as we begin to follow JESUS’ teachings and commands and conduct our lives in the way that He tells us to, doing our best to love God and others.

Have you ever repented of your sin and asked JESUS to be your LORD and SAVIOR? After you decided to follow JESUS, in what ways did you change?

**So God created man [Adam and Eve] in his own image, in the image of
God created he him; male and female created he them.**

-Genesis 1:27 (KJV)

God created our Great-great-great-great-great-great Grandparents, Grandpa Adam and Grandma Eve, and placed them in a beautiful garden called the Garden of Eden. God made everything good, and there was no sickness, no sorrow, and no death on the earth. God loved Grandpa Adam and Grandma Eve very much. You are one of their great-great-grandchildren, and GOD loves you so much, too! You are His masterpiece! He has lots of good things for you to do in life. You have a wonderful purpose in life. What gifts, talents, and abilities has GOD given you? Ask GOD and your parents to help you find ways to use those gifts, talents, and abilities to love others and to expand the Kingdom of GOD! GOD wants you to bear much fruit. That means He wants you to do lots of good things for Him. When you use your gifts, talents, and abilities to love and serve others, you are bearing much fruit. GOD is honored and glorified through your life. It is important to learn, practice, work hard, and develop your gifts and talents as best as you can, so that you can bring GOD much glory. Someday, you will get to meet GOD the FATHER, the HOLY SPIRIT, and the LORD JESUS CHRIST, face-to-face! They will talk to you about the work you have done for them. If you have done a good job, bearing much fruit and completing jobs with *grit* (the ability to stick with a project until completion*), they will smile and JESUS will say, “Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord” (Matthew 25:21, KJV). And you will reply, “We are unworthy servants who have simply done our duty” (Luke 17:10, NLT). It is worth it to study hard, work hard, serve faithfully, finish tasks, and make the FATHER, SON, and HOLY SPIRIT happy. They reward people who diligently seek to please them. JESUS was obedient to FATHER GOD and worked very hard for GOD while He was on the earth. Let’s follow JESUS’ example and work very hard for FATHER GOD, too! In Revelation 2 and 3 JESUS tells us some of the rewards He wants us to win: a crown, a white robe, eternal life, close friendship with Him, lunch with Him, being well-known in GOD’s Heavenly Temple, and sitting with Him on His Throne! Work hard to use your talents for GOD’s Kingdom:

Talent [or God-given ability] x Effort = Skill.

Skill x Effort = Achievement.*

What gifts, talents, or abilities has GOD given you? What are you good at? How can you use those talents and abilities to love and serve others in the Kingdom of GOD, and help people repent of their sin and come into close fellowship with JESUS?

*From *Grit*, a book by Angela Duckworth



Cc Cow



Dd Dad

“Honor thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.”

-Exodus 20:12 (KJV)

It pleases the LORD when we do the good things that our Dad and Mom have taught us to do. If you want to live a long, blessed life, always honor your parents.

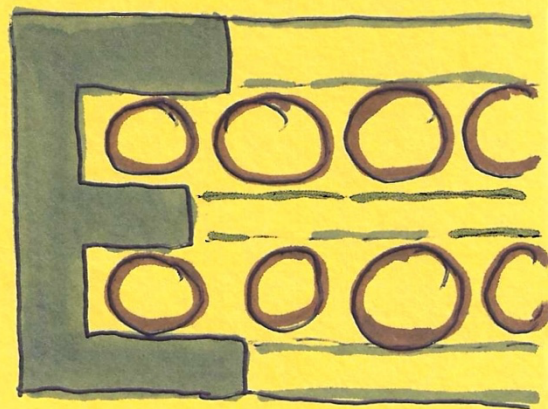
What could you do today to honor your Dad, Mom, Grandparents, or other person who takes care of you?

“And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.”

-Genesis 1:26 (KJV)

“Cattle” is the name for domesticated farm animals such as cows, bulls, steers, or oxen. God designed and created all of these animals on the sixth day of creation (Friday), just before He created Grandpa Adam and Grandma Eve. God put Grandpa Adam and Grandma Eve in charge of all the fish, birds, cows, and insects. Do you have a pet? You can be like Grandpa Adam and Grandma Eve and take good care of your pets by feeding them, petting them, and playing with them. When you are kind to animals, that pleases God!

What is your favorite animal? If you had that animal as a pet, how would you take care of it? What would it need?



Ee Eggs



Ff Friends

“A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.”

- Proverbs 18:24 (KJV)

Do you have a really close friend? Proverbs tells us that if you want to have friends, you must be friendly. What does that mean? Well, it means that you give small gifts of love to the people around you. You can start by smiling at people and speaking kindly to them. Say nice things about them even when they are not in the same room as you are. Be nice and do kind, loving things for them, like helping them with a chore, scratching their back, or getting a Band-aid for them if they get hurt. Hugs are nice gifts that are free. If you listen closely, you may discover other gifts that your friend would enjoy receiving. It's fun to spend time with a good friend. Whether you are working, playing, laughing, or crying, life is better when it includes a good friend who really cares about you and knows you. Try to be a good friend to the people around you today.

Do you know that JESUS tells us to love our enemies? That means that in addition to being friendly to those who love us, we should be kind and friendly to those who don't even like us. God is that way. He is kind and loving to lots of people who don't like Him. He gives the sun and the rain to mean people and nice people.

- Who will you be around today? When you are with someone or talking or texting with someone on the phone, ask yourself, “What gift of love can I give to this person? What is one way I can be a good friend to this person today?” Can I give them:
- A kind word?
- A small gift?
- Can I serve them in some way?
- Can I spend time with them?
- Can I give them a hug or a high-five?*

“...is there any taste in the white of an egg?”

-Job 6:6 (KJV)

Job was a man who loved God. The devil thought Job worshiped God only because God blessed Job. But God said, “No. Job would worship Me even if I didn't bless him.” The devil disagreed. So God said, “Let's test Job. I think he will come out as gold and will worship Me even if I don't bless him.” So, God gave the devil permission to take away all of Job's blessings: his children, his possessions, and his health. Job was sad, but he did not stop worshiping God. God was right! Job loved and worshiped God on the happy days AND on the sad days! After the test was over, God blessed Job again.

Are you having a sad day? Worship God even on this sad day! Sing a song to Him and tell Him thank you for as many things as you can: for your parents, your family, friends, clothes, a place to live, air to breathe, food to eat, and water to drink. If you have no food or drink or home or parents, you can still worship God and tell Him thank you for what you DO have. God is good ALL the time; even when we are going through hard times. He still loves us and is working things out for our good. Take some time right now to thank God for what He is doing in your life today, no matter how difficult things may be.

*General concepts taken from Gary Chapman's *The 5 Love Languages*



Gg God



Hh House

“In my Father’s house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.

Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way?

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”

-John 14:2-6 (KJV)

When you make JESUS your LORD and SAVIOR, He begins to build a mansion – a beautiful house -- for you in Heaven. Someday, He will come and get you and take you to your new house, and you will live with JESUS in Heaven forever. How do you get to Heaven? JESUS says that HE IS THE WAY TO HEAVEN. That means that your friendship with JESUS is what allows you to enter Heaven. How do you become JESUS’ friend? First, you repent of your sins – say you are sorry for all the bad things you have done. Then you ask JESUS to be your LORD and SAVIOR. Then you begin to read JESUS’ words in the Bible and do what He says to do. JESUS says, “Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you” (John 16:14). If you want to be JESUS’ friend, you should study His commands and do them. Your friendship with JESUS is your greatest treasure you possess because JESUS IS your way to Heaven. It takes time to develop a friendship and to stay friends forever. You have to spend time with your friend and talk to Him a lot.

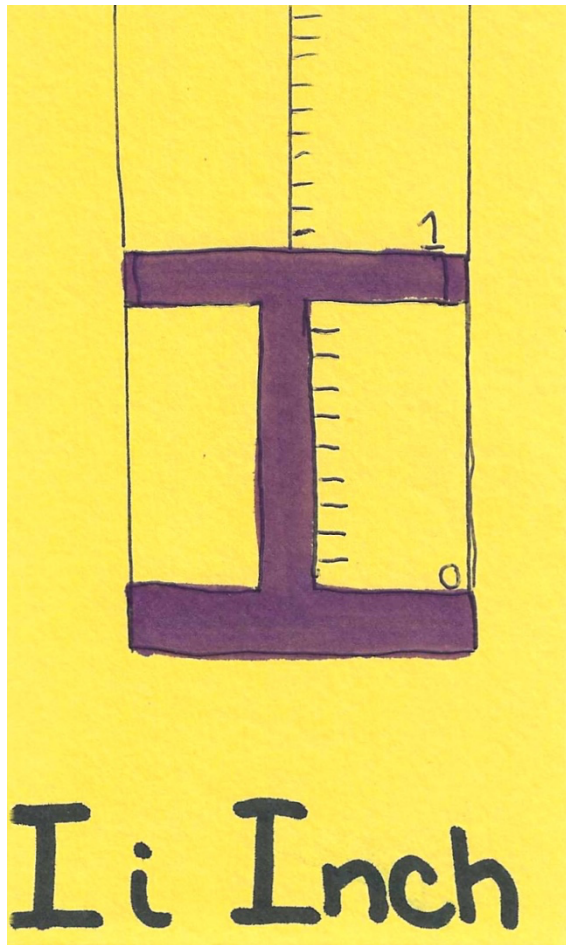
Why don’t you take some time right now to talk to your friend JESUS? You could go for a walk and talk to Him and tell Him about all of the things that are on your mind and heart today. JESUS loves to walk and talk with you. Grandpa Enoch walked with GOD (See Genesis 5:22-24). You can walk with GOD, too! Walk with JESUS and talk to Him every day and make your friendship with JESUS the most important thing in your life. Then, someday, He will come and get you – His dear friend-- and take you to your beautiful house in Heaven!

“In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void: and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.”

-Genesis 1:1-3 (KJV)

ALMIGHTY GOD is our CREATOR and our HEAVENLY FATHER. He made us, and He loves us very much. He watches over us from Heaven, but He also lives with us and in us through His HOLY SPIRIT. He wants us to have blessed and joyful lives. He wants us to have peace in our hearts. But most of all, He wants us to experience His love and to be in fellowship with Him. That means to have a friendship so close, so special, that you can tell each other everything that you are thinking, feeling, and planning. Abraham was called “a friend of GOD”. GOD wants you to be His friend, too! The way to become GOD’s friend is to first, believe in JESUS, the Special One GOD sent to earth to show us the way back to GOD. Tell JESUS that you are sorry for all of the bad things you have done and then ask Him to be your LORD and Savior and forgive all of your sins. Then, tell JESUS that you would like to follow Him and be His disciple. That means you become a student of JESUS and learn how to love GOD and people in the same way that JESUS does. As soon as you decide that you want to become JESUS’ disciple, it is very important to start meeting with JESUS every day, as soon as you get up; early in the morning; to talk to JESUS and to read the Bible -- especially the books of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John—so you can learn how to love others like JESUS does. Reading the Bible is very important if we want to be GOD’s friend.

Can you ask your Dad, Mom, or another big person to help you read the Bible every day? Soon, you will be a really good reader, and you will be able to read the Bible all by yourself!



“But while [Joseph] thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, BEHOLD, A VIRGIN SHALL BE WITH CHILD, AND SHALL BRING FORTH A SON, AND THEY SHALL CALL HIS NAME EMMANUEL, which being interpreted is, God with us.”
-Matthew 1:20-23 (KJV)

God created our Great-great-great-great-great-great grandparents, Grandpa Adam and Grandma Eve, and placed them in a beautiful garden called the Garden of Eden. There was no sin, shame, guilt, disease, or death in the world. Everything was good, and they were created to live forever. They actually didn't wear any clothes, but they felt no shame about it. God loved Grandpa Adam and Grandma Eve as a Father loves his children, and only gave them one rule: Do not eat the fruit from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. Grandpa Adam and Grandma Eve loved God and tried to obey Him. But a sneaky snake deceived Grandma Eve and made her think that she would be wise if she ate the fruit. True wisdom means obeying God's Words and commands. Anyone who tells us to disobey GOD is NOT our friend. The snake was not Grandma Eve's friend. If she had really wanted to be wise, she should have obeyed God's Rule and should not have eaten the fruit. Sadly, Grandpa Adam and Grandma Eve did not make a wise decision. Instead of trusting GOD, they trusted the snake. They disobeyed God and ate the fruit. Immediately, they realized that they were naked. As a result of their disobedience, sin, shame, and death had entered our world. It is always best to obey GOD. GOD has really good reasons for the commands He gives us. God's commands keep us from hurting ourselves and each other, and even from dying. We are wise to obey God's commands.

After Grandpa Adam and Grandma Eve disobeyed GOD, GOD told them the sad consequences of their sin. They would have to leave the garden, they would toil for their food, Grandma Eve would bring forth children in sorrow, and they would eventually die and return to the dust from which they were made. HOWEVER! – GOD promised to send them a SAVIOR who would save them from the consequences of their sin. The SAVIOR would come in the form of a grandchild. The Prophet Isaiah foretold that the SAVIOR would be born of a virgin. The Angel of the LORD told Joseph that the baby that his fiancée Mary was pregnant with was that special SAVIOR Baby. JESUS is our SAVIOR, our PROMISED MESSIAH! JESUS never ever sinned, and then He died on the cross in order to save us from having to be punished for our sins. The cross was a punishment for people who had done very bad things. JESUS never did anything bad, but we have. We deserved to die on the cross for the bad things we have done, but instead, JESUS took the punishment that we deserved, died on the cross, and was buried. But since He had never sinned, death could not hold him, so He rose from the dead on the third day! Now He is alive forever! JESUS wants us to repent of our sins and say that we are sorry for all the bad things we have done (Mark 1:15). He wants us to believe the Good News that He took the punishment for our sins and now we can have eternal life with Him forever! If we confess with our mouth that JESUS is our LORD and believe in our heart that GOD raised Him from the dead, we shall be saved from the awful punishment that our sins deserve! (Romans 10:9-10). Then, we should be baptized in water to show that we have died to our old, selfish, sinful ways of life, and now live a life of love with JESUS (Romans 6:4).

Do you want to spend eternity in Heaven with JESUS? Ask an adult or pastor to help you to repent of your sins, confess JESUS as your LORD, believe that He is your Savior who rose from the dead, and be baptized in water!

“The angel who talked to me held in his hand a gold measuring stick to measure the city, its gates, and its wall. When he measured it, he found it was a square, as wide as it was long. In fact, its length and width and height were each 1,400 miles. Then he measured the walls and found them to be 216 feet thick (according to the human standard used by the angel).”

-Revelation 21:15-17 (NLT)

GOD loves math. Math helps us count, organize, and plan things, and brings a feeling of peace and calm to our world. One math skill that GOD wants all of His servants to have is the ability to measure things using a ruler. Grandpa Noah used this skill when he built the Ark, and the angel used it to measure New Jerusalem.

Ask an adult if you may have a ruler, and then go measure things around your house, such as your table, sink, or a cup. How many inches high are these things? Then measure your hands. Do you have any part of your fingers that is approximately one inch long? If so, you can use your finger as a built-in ruler to measure things!



“But when you give to someone in need, don’t let your left hand know what your right hand is doing. Give your gifts in private, and your Father, who sees everything, will reward you.”

-Matthew 6:3-4 (NLT)

There are many poor and needy people around us. Some people do not have any food to eat or clothes to wear, and they will ask others to help them. This is called begging. JESUS wants us to have mercy on beggars and help them, because it hurts to be hungry and cold. If we were hungry and cold, we would want someone to help us, right?

Ask an adult to help you make Angelfood Bags and keep them in your car. Get 5-10 gallon-sized Zip-Lock Bags, and in each one, put:

- A pull-top can of soup
- Potato chips or crackers
- A cup of canned fruit
- Cookies
- A bottle of water
- A napkin and a plastic spoon

Whenever you see someone begging, you can quietly give them an Angelfood Bag!

“And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.”

-Revelation 19:16 (KJV)

JESUS is KING OF KINGS and LORD OF LORDS. That means that He is the ruler over all of the rulers on Earth. He is the most important ruler in Heaven and earth. GOD gave Him that honor because He died for us on the cross, which was a brutal, painful way to die. JESUS died on the cross to take the punishment for the sins that we have committed. We did bad things, but He took the punishment. It’s kind of like if you did something wrong, and your Dad was going to give you a spanking. JESUS came in and said, “Give me the spanking instead.” JESUS took our spanking! When we believe in JESUS, He becomes our KING, our Ruler, our Boss; and He gives us Eternal Life – a happy life in Heaven -- instead of the punishment that we deserve. That is Good News!

If you want to believe in JESUS and make Him your KING, you can talk to Him and say something like this:

LORD JESUS, I’m sorry for all the bad things I have done in life. I know that I deserve to get a spanking from GOD. But, would you please forgive me and make me clean? I believe that You died on the cross to pay the punishment for my sins. I believe that God raised You from the dead. I want to tell everyone that you are my LORD and KING. I am Your servant. I want to follow You and learn to love other people like You do. Please help me, LORD. I want to be like You, LORD JESUS. I trust You, I will follow You, and I will serve You forever. In Your Holy Name, LORD JESUS. Amen.

Now, tell everyone about your decision to follow JESUS, and ask an adult if you can get baptized!



Mm Mom



Nn NAME

“Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; and every tongue should confess that JESUS Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

-Philippians 2:6-11 (KJV)

JESUS was humble and obedient, and GOD honored JESUS for this. JESUS became a servant to everyone by dying for us on the cross. His desire to obey GOD was so strong that He was willing to endure the suffering and pain on the cross because GOD told Him to. As JESUS' followers, we are supposed to be humble and obedient, too. God gave us the 10 Commandments in Exodus 20:1-17. He wants us to obey those: Thou shalt have no other gods before Him; Thou shalt not make idols and bow down to them; Thou shalt not take the Name of the LORD thy God in vain; Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy; Honor thy father and thy mother; Thou shalt not kill; Thou shalt not commit adultery; Thou shalt not steal; Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor; and Thou shalt not covet things that belong to thy neighbor. GOD also wants us to obey JESUS' Commands and Teachings in Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, which, in summary, are all ways to love GOD with all of your heart, soul, mind, and strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself. By reading the Bible, you can learn how to be humble and obey GOD and JESUS.

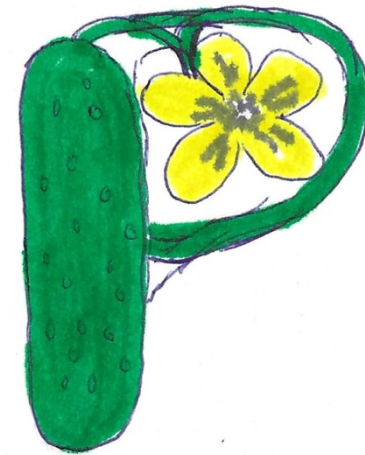
Obeying your parents helps us practice being obedient. What instructions have your parents told you to do? Clean your room? Take the dog for a walk? Do it now! GOD will honor you for being obedient and serving your parents, just like JESUS did.

“My child, listen when your father corrects you. Don't neglect your mother's instruction. What you learn from them will crown you with grace and be a chain of honor around your neck.”

-Proverbs 1:8-9 (NLT)

Your mom is a very wise person. She is trying to teach you a lot of things that you need to know in order to live a holy, good, loving, healthy, and successful life. Some of the things that your mom tells you to do, such as making your bed, brushing your teeth, and taking a bath, you may not want to do. Even so, you should do them. GOD tells us to honor our fathers and our mothers so that we will live long and blessed lives.

What has your mom told you to do today? You should quickly carry out her instructions! Also, if you are having a problem today, you should talk to your mom and ask her for advice and counsel. Then you should do what she advises you to do. When you take the advice of wise people like your mom, and do what they say, you are being wise.



Pp Pickle

“Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.”

-Galatians 6:7-10 (KJV)

Did you know that pickles are actually cucumbers that have been soaked in vinegar and salt? Cucumbers grow on cucumber vines, and in order to have a harvest of cucumbers, you have to plant a cucumber seed. If you want carrots, you must plant carrot seeds. And if you want to pick peaches from a peach tree, you must plant a peach seed. This is GOD’s Law of Sowing and Reaping: You will get a crop of whatever you plant. If you want a harvest, you must plant a seed. This law governs many things here on earth. For example, if you want GOD and other people to be kind, loving, and gentle to you, it is important that you are kind, loving, and gentle to others. JESUS says, “Do to others whatever you would like them to do to you” (Matthew 7:12). In other words, plant seeds of the harvest you want to reap. Other good seeds we can plant are generosity (“Give, and you will receive” [Luke 6:38]), forgiving (“Forgive others, and you will be forgiven” [Luke 6:37b]), not condemning or judging others (“Do not judge others, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn others, or it will all come back against you” [Luke 6:37a]), loving your enemies (“Love your enemies! Do good to them. Lend to them without expecting to be repaid. Then your reward from heaven will be very great, and you will truly be acting as children of the Most High, for he is kind to those who are unthankful and wicked” [Luke 6:35]), being compassionate (“You must be compassionate, just as your Father is compassionate” [Luke 6:36]), and being merciful (“God blesses those who are merciful, for they will be shown mercy” [Matthew 5:7]). When you plant these seeds of love and kindness in other peoples’ lives, you will be doing what is right, you will experience peace and joy, and you will be GOD’s son or daughter and friend. THAT is the Kingdom of GOD!

What nice thing, or Act of Random Kindness (ARK), could you do for someone else today?

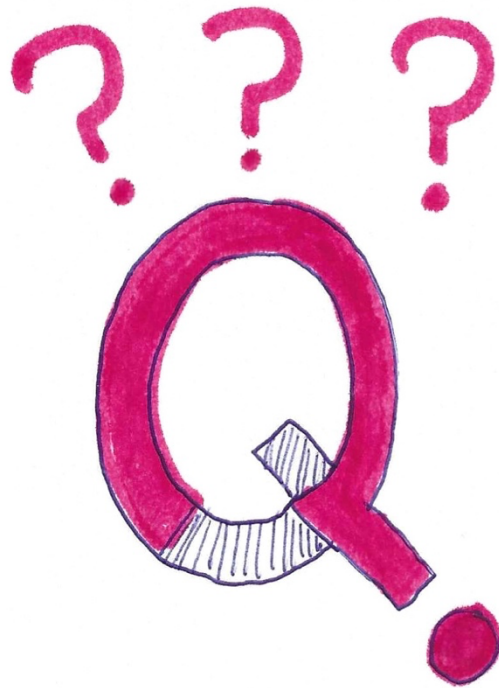
**“He has given me a new song to sing,
A hymn of praise to our God.
Many will see what he has done and be
amazed.**

**They will put their trust in the LORD.”
-Psalm 40:3 (NLT)**

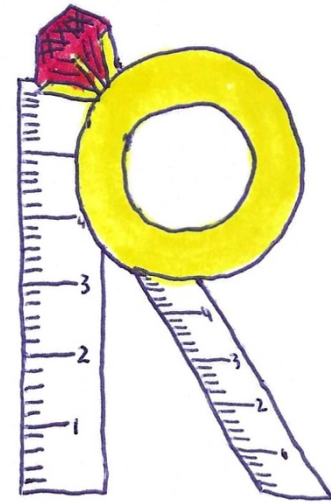
GOD loves music. He loves it when we sing to Him. Our singing doesn’t have to be perfect. Psalm 100:1 tells us to make a joyful noise unto the LORD!

An opera is a theatrical performance where all the words are sung. An orchestra plays music while the opera singers sing, dance, and wear costumes. Maybe you could create and perform an opera for JESUS! You could tell a story from the Bible or from your life. What would your opera be about?

Can you sing a song to JESUS right now? He will love it! Then, can you make up a new song to sing to JESUS? In your song, you can tell JESUS how much you love Him. You can also tell Him “Thank You” for all the kind things that He has done for you. If you are sad or need help, you can sing about that, too.



Qq Question



Rr Ring

“But his father said to the servants, ‘Quick! Bring the finest robe in the house and put it on him. Get a ring for his finger and sandals for his feet. And kill the calf we have been fattening. We must celebrate with a feast...’”

-Luke 15:22-23 (NLT)

In the story of the Prodigal Son, the son, who had left home to live life in a way that the father did not approve of, came back home. The son had wasted all of his dad’s money and felt like he was not worthy of even being called the father’s son anymore. He was willing to simply be a slave in his father’s house. But the father’s forgiveness was very deep. He honored the son with the best robe in the house, sandals for his feet, and a ring for his finger. A ring symbolized authority and would allow the son to conduct official business on behalf of the family. The father was saying, “I love you, and I trust you to make important decisions.” This story shows us how much God loves us and forgives us, even when we make bad decisions.

Have you made any bad decisions that you now regret? You can talk to God right now and tell Him that you are sorry and ask Him to forgive you. He will! And, as the father of the prodigal son did, he will honor you, trust you with important decisions again, and throw you a party! God is happy when we make good decisions! No matter what you have done, no matter how bad you have acted, God will forgive you! Talk to Him right now about anything that is on your heart. He REALLY loves you!

“If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you. He will not rebuke you for asking.”

-James 1:5 (NLT)

Our FATHER GOD is really, really, REALLY smart. He knows everything. If there is anything we need know about, if we have questions and want to understand things, and if we need advice about what to do in life, we should ask GOD. He is our Source of all Wisdom, and He will teach us about any subject of which we want to learn. Grandma Eve did not need to eat the fruit of the knowledge of good and evil in order to be wise; all she needed to do was to ask God any question she had, and God would have given her wisdom. Similarly, any time we have a question, we can ask GOD, and He will teach us. GOD has written down some of His wisdom in the Bible. People who love GOD and read the Bible are wise. Many times, these wise people will write books and share the wisdom that God has given them. If we read the Bible, listen to these wise people, and read the books that wise people write, we will learn wisdom. The next time you have a problem, take a minute to pause. First, ask GOD to give you wisdom on the subject. Then, go ask your Dad, Mom, or other loving adult if they would help you solve the problem. Ask them if GOD’S WORD, the Bible, says anything about your specific problem. After you get wisdom about the best way to fix your problem, it is important to take the advice, counsel, and wisdom that you have received and actually DO it. Make a plan and then start right away. Work hard to carry out that plan. Be persistent and keep going until you finish the plan. Wisdom is taking GOD’S counsel that He gives us through the Bible, by His SPIRIT, or through wise people and actually DOING it. JESUS said, “Anyone who listens to my teaching and follows it is wise...” (Matthew 7:24) The way we listen to JESUS’ teaching is to read the Bible. Learning to read is the first step toward being wise!

Do you have a problem that you need to solve? Ask GOD to give you wisdom to solve it. Then tell an adult about your problem and ask for their counsel about how to solve it. Then, take their advice and DO it!



Ss Stream



Tt Tree

“Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.”

-Psalm 1:1-3 (KJV)

If you want to succeed in life, start reading God’s Word, the Bible, every day. Think about it all the time. Try to do what it says. Apply its wisdom to your life. God’s basic message in the Bible is: “JESUS is your Savior. He will bring you back to God. Believe in Him. Love Him. Trust Him. Obey Him. Do what He says. Follow JESUS’ example and love other people around you, even your enemies. Love everyone. Be kind and merciful to everyone; and you will see Me in Heaven. I love you!”

Memorize this Bible verse:

Matthew 7:12 “Do to others whatever you would like them to do to you. This is the essence of all that is taught in the law and the prophets.”

Now say it over and over to yourself. Turn it into a song. Talk to other people about how you can do to others what you would like them to do to you. As you do this, you are meditating on Scripture, and GOD says you are becoming like a strong, healthy tree!

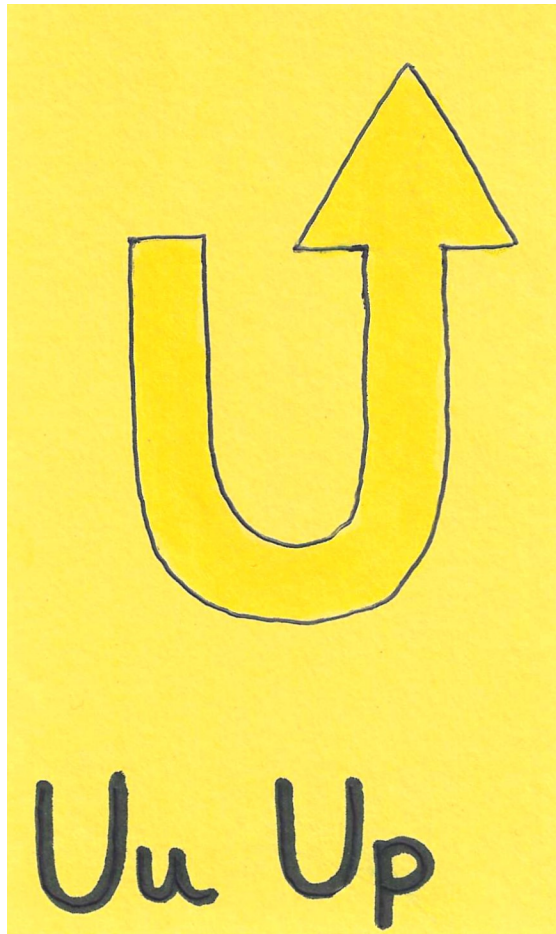
On the last and most important day of the festival, Jesus stood up and cried out, “If anyone is thirsty, he should come to Me and drink! The one who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, will have streams of living water flow from deep within him.” He said this about the Spirit. Those who believed in Jesus were going to receive the Spirit, for the Spirit had not yet been received because Jesus had not yet been glorified.

-John 7:37-39 (HCSB)

JESUS wants us to continuously come to Him, drink in His Word, the Bible, by reading it, thinking about it, and putting it into practice. He also wants to give us His HOLY SPIRIT to help us live the beautiful, godly, holy life that He calls us to. JESUS told his disciples in Acts 1:8, “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere – in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” JESUS wants us to be filled with His Holy Spirit so that we have power to do GOD’s work. How do you receive the HOLY SPIRIT? Just ask!

You can pray this:

LORD JESUS, would you please baptize me with Your HOLY SPIRIT? I really want to do Your work. I know I cannot follow You and do Your work on my own strength. I need Your help. I want the HOLY SPIRIT to flow through me like streams of living water! Please fill me up to overflowing, I ask in Your HOLY NAME, LORD JESUS. Amen!



**“Those who are victorious will sit with me on my throne,
just as I was victorious and sat with my Father on his
throne.”**

-Revelation 3:21 (NLT)

When we accept JESUS as our Savior and begin to follow Him, JESUS tells us to “Go and sin no more”. As we resist the temptation to do unkind, hurtful, wrong things, we begin to overcome sin and temptation. We become VICTORIOUS followers of the LORD JESUS CHRIST. Victorious believers say “No!” to sin and temptation, and instead choose to be loving, joyful, peaceful, patient, kind, good, faithful, gentle, meek, self-controlled, merciful, forgiving, and holy; and choose to be the servant of all. Victorious Christians also leap over every hurdle, obstacle, problem, fear, sin, temptation, anxiety, worry, frustration, and discouragement that is standing in the way of them accomplishing things for GOD. They endure hardship and keep following JESUS even when things get tough. If they are threatened with death, they will still be faithful and follow JESUS. They will obey JESUS and persevere in their faith until they see JESUS face-to-face! Don’t ever stop loving and talking to JESUS. Talk to Him every day. Be an overcomer!

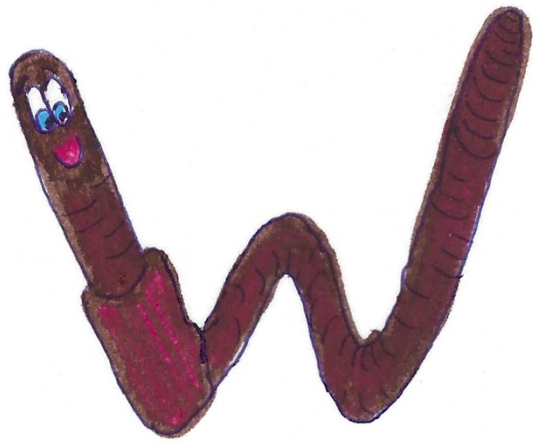
Make an appointment with JESUS every day, early in the morning when you first wake up. Sing a song to Him, read a chapter in the Bible or ask your parents to read it to you, and talk to Him about the things that are on your mind. JESUS is your Best Friend. He will be with you! He is listening and LOVES this daily time with you!

**“I will lift up mine eyes unto
the hills, from whence cometh
my help. My help cometh
from the LORD, which made
heaven and earth.”**

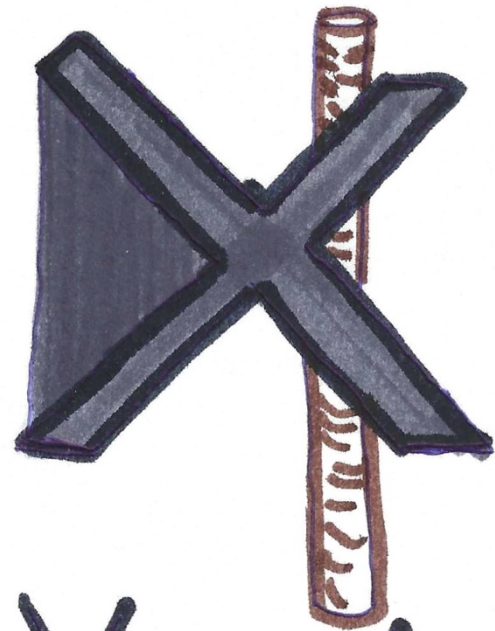
-Psalm 121:1-2 (KJV)

Whenever we have a problem, we should look up and pray to God. He will hear us and help us. He is a very big, powerful God, and there is nothing too hard for Him! ALL things are possible with God!

Do you have any problems in your life today? Take some time to look up and talk to JESUS about it. Ask Him to fix your problem. He will!



Ww Worm



Xx Ax

“When [the group of prophets with Elisha] arrived at the Jordan, they began cutting down trees. But as one of them was cutting a tree, his ax head fell into the river. “Oh, sir!” he cried. “It was a borrowed ax!”

“Where did it fall?” the man of God asked. When he showed him the place, Elisha cut a stick and threw it into the water at that spot. Then the ax head floated to the surface. “Grab it,” Elisha said. And the man reached out and grabbed it.

- 2 Kings 6:4-7 (NLT)

An ax head is used to cut down trees. It is very heavy. In the water, it will sink to the bottom. The man lost his ax head in the river. He didn't know what to do! Elisha knew that GOD could help them.

Do you have a problem you are facing today? Talk to JESUS about it, because ALL things are possible with God! JESUS can do amazing miracles!

“But I am a worm, and no man; a reproach of men, and despised of the people. All they that see me laugh me to scorn: they shoot out the lip, they shake the head, saying, He trusted on the LORD that he would deliver him: let him deliver him, seeing he delighted in him.”

-Psalm 22:6-8 (KJV)

JESUS quoted Psalm 22 as he hung on the cross, dying for our sins. The whole Psalm accurately describes his experience on the cross. JESUS calls Himself a worm. But He was a VICTORIOUS worm, because his act of dying on the cross was purchasing Eternal Life and Forgiveness for every single person who has ever lived, is living, and ever will live! He took the punishment for our sins that we deserved and gave us the reward of Eternal Life that He deserved by His sinless life!

Have you accepted this gift of Eternal Life that JESUS offers you? You can talk to JESUS right now and say,

“LORD JESUS, I'm sorry for all the unkind, disobedient, and foolish things I have done. Would you please forgive all my sins and give me eternal life? I want to follow Your example, overcome sin and temptation, and practice being loving and kind to everyone, just like You are. I want You to be my LORD, SAVIOR, and Best Friend. Please help me, I ask in Your HOLY NAME, LORD JESUS. Amen.”



Yy Yes



Zz Zipper

“Put on your new nature, and be renewed as you learn to know your Creator and become like him... Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.”

-Colossians 3:10 & 12 (NLT)

God wants us to be kind and loving to everyone. He wants us to become like JESUS and put on JESUS' loving character qualities like clothing. How do we do that? Every morning, we can pray, "LORD JESUS, please help me to act with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. HOLY SPIRIT, would you please teach me these qualities?" Then talk to your family and friends about how you can practice these character qualities. Read the Bible and observe how JESUS lived according to these character qualities. Follow JESUS' example and do His commands. Make it a habit to act like JESUS. When you are faced with problems, irritations, and decisions, stop and think about how JESUS would respond. Then, follow His example: choose to respond to the problems in gentle, kind, merciful, humble, patient, godly, and holy ways – according to these character qualities. That is how you put on His character like clothing.

What are the character qualities? In addition to the ones listed in Colossians 3, GOD wants us to choose to be loving, joyful, peaceful, patient, kind, good, faithful, gentle, meek, have self-control (Galatians 5:22-23), and tame our tongues (be able to keep our mouths shut when it is wise to do so; see James 3:2). Other good character qualities of JESUS that we want to choose are: the Ability to Teach, Alertness, Attentiveness, Availability, Boldness, Calmness, Caring, Cautiousness, Cleanliness, Commitment, Common Sense, Compassion, Confidence, Conscientiousness, Contentment, Courage, Creativity, Curiosity, Decisiveness, Deference, Dependability, Determination, Diligence, Discernment, Discretion; being Early, Ready, and Prepared; Efficiency, Emotional Maturity, Endurance, Enthusiasm, Equity, Faith, Fear of the LORD, Fidelity, Flexibility, Fairness, Fervency, Focus, Forgiveness, Foresight, Fruitfulness, Generosity, Godliness, Good Judgment, Goodness, Graciousness, Gratefulness, Grit, Healing, Helpful, Holiness, Honesty, Honoring Others, Hospitality, Humbleness, Humility, Humor, Impartiality, Initiative, Innocence, Insight, Integrity, Joyfulness, Justice; Keeping our Promises and Covenants Even when it Hurts or Gets Boring or the suffering goes on for a long time; Kindness, Knowledge, Listening, Love, Lowliness, Loyalty, Meekness, Mercy, Mightiness, Nurturing, Obedience, Observant, Orderliness, Perseverance, Persistence, Persuasiveness, Pleasantness, Pro-Active, Protective, Prudence, Punctuality, Purity, Quietness, Receptive, Repentance, Resilience, Resolve, Resourcefulness, Respectful, Responsiveness, Responsibility, Revelation, Reverence, Righteousness, Security, Self-Discipline, Self-Sacrificing, Sensitivity, Servant-Leadership, Servant's Heart, Sharing, Sincerity, Slow-to-Anger, Studious, Submitted to Authority, Teachable, Teamwork, Tenacity, Thriftiness, Thoroughness, Thoughtfulness, Tolerance, Trust, Trustworthy, Truthfulness, Understanding, Unfailing Love, Unity; Using our Gifts, Talents, and Abilities for the Kingdom of God; Virtuous, Wisdom, Worshipful, and Zealous. Over all of these qualities, clothe yourself with the PRESENCE of the LORD JESUS CHRIST (see Romans 13:14) and the Armor of GOD: the Belt of Truth, the Breastplate of Righteousness, Shoes of the Preparation of the Gospel of Peace, the Shield of Faith, the Helmet of Salvation, the Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God; and Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit (Ephesians 6:14-18).

Pray right now and ask the LORD JESUS to help you develop these character qualities. Visualize yourself putting on these qualities like clothing. Think about them and talk about them. You are planting good seeds in your heart. Those seeds will grow and, slowly, over time, you will begin to act in accordance with these qualities. Little by little, your nature will change to become more and more like JESUS' nature. You will be so beautiful! You will be just like JESUS! This is what it means to follow JESUS and be His disciple!

**“Praise the LORD, you angels,
You mighty ones who carry out his plans,
Listening for each of his commands.
Yes, praise the LORD, you armies of angels
Who serve him and do his will!”**

-Psalm 103:20-21 (NLT)

When JESUS tells the Arch Host Michael to do something for Him, the Arch Host nods his head up and down and says, “Yes, Sir!” Then the Arch Host immediately goes and does it! We can be like the angels. When we read one of JESUS' commands in the Bible, such as “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you”, we can say, “Yes, Sir!” and immediately go and do something kind for another person. What do you want others to do for you? Can you do that same thing for someone you see today? GOD's law of sowing and reaping says that whatever you sow, that shall you reap. So, if you obediently sow kindness and love, GOD will make sure that you reap a harvest of kindness and love!

Obedying JESUS is very important. JESUS told His disciples, “If you love me, obey my commandments” (John 14:15) Obeying JESUS shows Him that we love Him. It also helps us to become like Him! When we obey JESUS' Commandments, JESUS says that He will ask the FATHER to send the HOLY SPIRIT to be with us (John 14:16), that the FATHER and JESUS will love us and that He (JESUS) will reveal Himself to us (John 14:21 & 23), that He and the FATHER will come and live with us (John 14:23) and that we can ask for anything we want, and it will be granted (John 15:7 & 10). The Bible contains JESUS' words, instructions, and commands. You can read His commands carefully, repeat them again and again, work to understand them, believe them, make a plan of how you can obey them, count the cost of working your plan, say “Yes” to do the plan, commit your plan to the LORD, begin immediately, work the plan, finish it, build character, abide in JESUS, change the world through intercessory prayer, make disciples, and then anticipate the reward from JESUS. JESUS loves to reward His obedient servants who say “Yes” to His commands, quickly carry them out, and finish them!

Can you read a chapter in Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John today and search for one of JESUS' commands? Then you can take the command through all of these steps and actually DO it! A wise disciple of JESUS will listen to His commands and then quickly put them into practice (Matthew 7:24 and John 9:4).



Funny Phonics Flashcards

Directions:

1. Print in color on white cardstock, double-sided (flip on the short edge). This will put the letter picture on front, and the coinciding devotional on the back.
2. Cut Cardstock in half to separate the letters.
3. Laminate, if desired.
4. Use flashcards to practice sounds and build words. If your student sees a new word, he or she can pull out the letters in the word from the flashcards, build the word, and sound it out!

Scripture verses are taken from the following
versions:

(KJV) – King James Version

(NLT)– New Living Translation

Copyright 1996, 2004, 2015

Tyndale House Publishers, Inc.,

Carol Stream, IL 60188

(HCSB) – Holman Christian Standard Bible

Holman Bible Publishers

Nashville, TN

Funny Phonics, Inspired by my Friend, JESUS.

Copyright 2025 by Regina Harp. Universal
permission is granted to print copies for
educational purposes.