

# SAMPLE

Why Am I

Here?



Preteen  
Devotionals

Level 2: Fall

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LEADERS IN TRAINING: Why Am I Here?  
Level 2: Fall Preteen Devotionals

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**“For by Him all things  
were created that are  
in heaven and that  
are on earth, visible  
and invisible, whether  
thrones or dominions or  
principalities or powers.  
All things were created  
through Him and  
for Him.”**

**Colossians 1:16**

# Incentive Pages

The background of the page is a stylized illustration of a mountain landscape. In the foreground, two hikers are silhouetted against the landscape. One hiker is on the left, walking up a slope, wearing a cap and carrying a backpack. The other hiker is on the right, also walking up a slope, wearing a cap and carrying a backpack. In the background, there are jagged mountain peaks and a bird is flying in the sky. The sky is a gradient of blue and purple.

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## KEY

**Number:** *Devotional Week*

**D:** *Devotional Completed*

**M:** *Memory Verse Learned*

**G:** *Good Behavior in Class*

**P:** *Parent Talk Signed*

## L.I.T. Token Totals

*Number of Devotionals Completed:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Number of Memory Verses Learned:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Good Behavior in Class:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Parent Talks Signed:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Total Tokens Awarded:* \_\_\_\_\_

# Congratulations!

*You made it to the top!*

18. D M G P

17. D M G P

16. D M G P

15. D M G P

14. D M G P

13. D M G P

12. D M G P

11. D M G P

10. D M G P

9. D M G P

8. D M G P

7. D M G P

6. D M G P

5. D M G P

4. D M G P

3. D M G P

2. D M G P

1. D M G P

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# Welcome to L.I.T.

In John 10:10, Jesus said, “The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.” The life Jesus is referring to here is abundant life, and it is for you. You just need to know how to find it and live it. In this session, you will learn the disciplines of being a disciple of Jesus Christ. You will go beyond being saved to understanding how to live victoriously for Him. You will also learn how to share the Good News and lead someone to faith in Jesus. You are beginning a journey that will lead you to new heights with God. You will see Him answer your prayers, speak through you as you share, talk with you as you pray, and speak to you through His Word. As you read and apply what you learn, you will begin to bear fruit, and it will become evident that you belong to Him.

The material contained in this book will take you through The Cross. You will learn several important aspects of walking with Jesus. By applying and doing these steps, you will grow spiritually. When you add them up, Lordship + God’s Word + Prayer + Evangelism + Servanthood = Life of Obedience to Jesus Christ and the “abundant life” described in John 10:10.

Each day, you will have a daily devotional. Begin your devotionals at Week One: Day One. This is the starting point no matter what

day of the week you begin the program. Each devotional includes a Bible passage followed by review questions. Be sure to look up the verses for that day and read them before doing the review. Next, use the PRAY prayer guide as you talk with God. This will help you learn to pray more effectively. Remember, do one devotional each day. You are developing the discipline of having a daily quiet time with the Lord.

On **pages 12-13**, you will find your assigned memory verses for each week. Bible memory is a very important part of your growth in Christ. Start working on your memory verses on the first day. If you memorize a few words each day, you will be able to easily memorize the whole verse by the seventh day. During your Disciple Group time, you will be asked to quote your weekly memory verse to your group.

A quiet time is necessary to be effective in your walk with Christ and to grow in Him. This involves reading the Bible and talking with God (prayer). These are on the vertical bar of The Cross, which represents your personal relationship with God. As you read, study, and pray, you will be developing your relationship with Jesus Christ. When you have completed your daily devotional, turn to the Prayer Journal on **page 129** and let it guide you as you pray each day. Be sure to write down your prayer requests every day, and then write down God’s answers to specific prayers when they come.

# Learning to Hear from God

Each day as you approach the Lord during your quiet time, you must go to Him with an open heart and with the understanding that He wants to speak to you. “And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart” (Jeremiah 29:13). This is one invitation you do not want to miss. God makes a promise to us in this verse: “You will find Me.” If you seek the Lord with all your heart through prayer, He promises to answer you. Here are some helpful things to keep in mind when you pray and ask God to speak:

1. Be open to **listen and obey** the voice of God.
2. **Do not quench** or stop the work of the Holy Spirit by disobeying His voice when He speaks to you.
3. God may tell you that **He loves you**.
4. **God may reveal sin** through the conviction of the Holy Spirit. If so, confess or tell Him you are sorry for your sin.
5. He may speak in the **middle of the night**. Sometimes, God even speaks through dreams.
6. He may speak during your **Bible study**.
7. He may speak during your **prayer time**.
8. He may speak through your **thoughts**.
9. He may call you out to **speak to someone about Him**. Make sure you obey His voice if He does.
10. **You must believe that He can speak to you**. Remember, be sure to write everything down in your journal. When God speaks, write down in your journal what He shows you.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Pete Hohmann, *Kids Making a Difference: Incredible Stories of What Kids Today Are Doing Around the World* (Mechanicsville: InstantPublisher.com, 2004). [www.yourbook.com/DisplayArea/IP11507-04.pdf](http://www.yourbook.com/DisplayArea/IP11507-04.pdf)



# Armor of God Prayer

When you decide to get serious about walking with Christ, the battle will intensify. That is why you should pray on the armor of God every day.

**“Lord Jesus,** I desire to be obedient to You today by being strong in the Lord and in the power of Your might (Ephesians 6:10). I take up the armor of God so that I can stand firm against the devil’s schemes. I recognize that Satan wants to destroy my life and to take advantage of me (John 10:10a). Thank You, Lord, that You have given me Your armor for my spiritual protection. Thank You that I have been seated with You in the heavenly places (Ephesians 2:6) and that I have authority over Satan and all of his demons. I give You my life today as a living and holy sacrifice (Romans 12:1).

As an act of obedience right now, I take the **belt of truth**. Thank You for Your Word, which is truth. Protect me from Satan’s lies.

I take the **breastplate of righteousness**. Thank You that I have been made righteous by faith in Jesus Christ (Romans 5:1). Lead me in the path of righteousness today.

I put on the **sandals of peace**. Thank You that You have not given me a spirit of fear, but of power, of love, and of a sound mind (2 Timothy 1:7). Empower me today to share with others about the Gospel of peace.

I take up the **shield of faith** so that I can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one. Help me, by faith, to obey You in everything.

I put on the **helmet of salvation**. I cover my mind and my thoughts with Your salvation. I recognize that my mind is a major target for Satan. Help me to take every thought captive to obedience to You (2 Corinthians 10:5).

I take up the **sword of the Spirit**, which is the Word of God. Help me to stand on the promises of Your Word today. I choose to be wise in what is good and innocent of evil, and soon You will crush Satan underneath my feet (Romans 16:19-20).

Thank You for Your armor. Help me to pray at all times today for my brothers and sisters in Christ. In the mighty name of Jesus I pray. **Amen.”**

# Prayer and Worship: God Encounters

Isaiah had an encounter with God that resulted in God calling him out in obedience to Him. Isaiah saw the worship of the angels, he felt convicted of sin in the presence of God because of God's holiness, and he felt a burden for the people of Israel. Isaiah said, "I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips..." and then he surrendered to God's will for his life: "Here am I! Send me." Each day as you approach the Lord, pray in the Spirit as instructed in Ephesians 6:18. Approach Him in worship and thanksgiving, confess any known sin to Him every day, ask the Lord what to pray for according to His will, and then surrender yourself fully to His will for your life every day.

## P.R.A.Y.

Isaiah 6:1-8

### Praise & Thanksgiving

"I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple. Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one cried to another and said: 'Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory!' And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke." (vs. 1-4)

### Repentance & Confession

"So I said: 'Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips...' (v. 5a)

### Asking

"'And I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, The LORD of hosts.' Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a live coal which he had taken with the tongs from the altar. And he touched my mouth with it, and said: 'Behold, this has touched your lips; Your iniquity is taken away, And your sin purged.'" (vs. 5b-7)

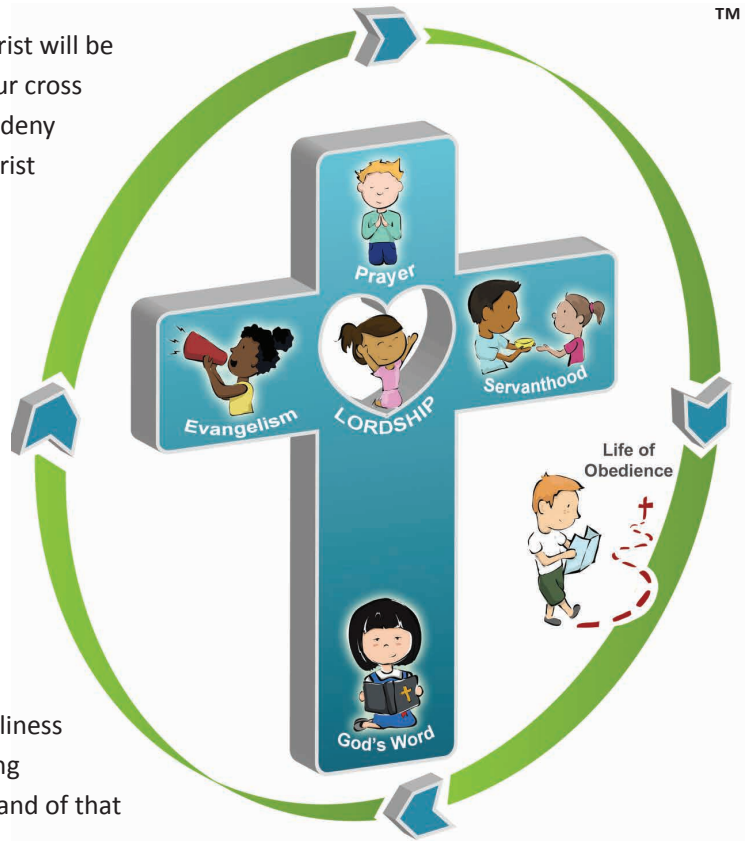
### Yield & Surrender

"Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: 'Whom shall I send, And who will go for Us?' Then I said, 'Here am I! Send me.'" (v. 8)

# Take Up Your Cross Daily

Living a life of obedience to Christ will be the result of daily taking up your cross and following Christ. You must deny yourself—surrender fully to Christ every single day. Take up your cross daily by reading God's Word, praying and worshipping Him, putting on God's spiritual armor, sharing the Good News of Christ, and using your gifts to minister to others. This equals radical obedience to Christ. Living out The Cross every day helps you to discipline yourself for godliness. "Exercise yourself toward godliness. For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come."

(1 Timothy 4:7b-8)



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"Then He said to them all, 'If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.'" (Luke 9:23)

# Parent Talk:

## Developing a Christian Worldview

*“You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.”*  
(Deuteronomy 6:7)

There are many beliefs in our world. These beliefs can be considered a person’s worldview. A worldview is how someone determines what they believe about who they are as a person, their purpose for being here on Earth, what they believe to be truth, what they believe about family, and how they view the needs of the world around them.

As Christians, we look at things differently because we have a tool that guides us—God’s Word. On sunny days, some people wear sunglasses to filter out the sun’s rays. They find it easier to see with sunglasses on bright days. As we live in the world, we need to have a filter to help us determine what is right and wrong. It is like putting on sunglasses to block out the sun. So the believer takes up the Bible to block out those views that do not line up with God’s Word.

On each week’s **Day 7** devotional page, you will see the “Parent Talk” logo. With your child, do the assigned reading, and then discuss the topic with them. This will be a good time to talk about some cultural or societal conditions with them, answer questions your child may have, and explain what God’s Word says about those issues.

As parents, we need to teach our children how to perceive life in our world in light of God’s Word. Our decisions and our lives should be directly in line with the Bible. Strive to develop a Christian worldview in your child. When you have completed “Parent Talk,” review the past week’s materials with them and see what they have learned. Be sure to pray with your child during this time.

# How to Have a Quiet Time with God

1. Before you get started each day, **pray for the Holy Spirit to help you** stay focused on Him, to open your heart and mind to His Word, and to speak to you as you spend time with the Lord.
2. **Decide on a time each day** that is good for you for having your quiet time with God. Plan to meet with Him at that time every day.
3. **Find a quiet place** where the radio, TV, and computer are turned off—a place where there are no distractions.
4. **Approach God with the highest respect.**
5. Remember, **God loves you** more than you can ever imagine, and He cares about your every need.
6. **Do not do all the talking.** Let God speak to your heart.
7. If God shows you something in His Word, **“do it.”**
8. As you spend time with the Lord in prayer, you must realize you are in the midst of **spiritual warfare**. Paul tells us, “For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds” (2 Corinthians 10:3-4). In your Christian walk, you have an enemy. The only way you can stand against him is through the power of Christ. Revelation 12:11a says, “And they overcame him [Satan] by the blood of the Lamb [Jesus] and by the word of their testimony.” By Jesus’ death, you have victory over the devil—Satan. Jesus’ disciple Peter wrote, “Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you. Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith” (1 Peter 5:6-9a). There is no need for us to fear Satan—Jesus Christ defeated him on the cross. So, when he tries to attack us (and he will), all we have to do is stand steadfast in Jesus.
9. **Put on the full armor of God** every single day. Remember, you have an enemy, and God has provided you with His armor for your protection. “Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.” (Ephesians 6:10-11)
10. **Using your Prayer Journal** (see page 129), write down your prayer requests and the date so that you can see how God answers your prayers. You can write about your struggles or needs, or those of your family and friends. You can also write about how God has helped you or what He has shown you. Write out your prayers as you pray to the Lord so that you can go back and remember what the Lord has done in your life.

# Weekly Memory Verses

The following Bible verses are your weekly memory verses. You will be required to have each verse memorized before going to that week's Disciple Group meeting.

**Week One—**"For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him."  
(Colossians 1:16)

**Week Two—**"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; Before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations."  
(Jeremiah 1:5)

**Week Three—**"You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain."  
(John 15:16a)

**Week Four—**"No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends."  
(John 15:15a)

**Week Five—**"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength."  
(Deuteronomy 6:5)

**Week Six—**"This people I have formed for Myself; They shall declare My praise."  
(Isaiah 43:21)

**Week Seven—**"Bring My sons from afar, And My daughters from the ends of the earth—Everyone who is called by My name, Whom I have created for My glory; I have formed him, yes, I have made him."  
(Isaiah 43:6b-7)

**Week Eight—**"But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord."  
(2 Corinthians 3:18)

**Week Nine—**"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."  
(Matthew 5:16)

**Week Ten—**"For it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure."  
(Philippians 2:13)

# Memory Verses

**Week Eleven—**“If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also. If anyone serves Me, him My Father will honor.” (John 12:26)

**Week Twelve—**“I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.” (John 10:10b)

**Week Thirteen—**“But as it is written: ‘Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.’ But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit.” (1 Corinthians 2:9-10a)

**Week Fourteen—**“I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.” (Galatians 2:20)

**Week Fifteen—**“And the second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’” (Matthew 22:39)

**Week Sixteen—**“There are many plans in a man’s heart, Nevertheless the Lord’s counsel—that will stand.” (Proverbs 19:21)

**Week Seventeen—**“And He said to them, ‘Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.’” (Mark 16:15)

**Week Eighteen—**“Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?” (1 Corinthians 6:19)

# Introduction

## Why am I here?

Have you ever wondered or asked yourself the question, “Why am I here?” Could you be the result of some cosmic accident? What is life all about? Do you have a reason for why you even exist? Rick Warren says in his book, *The Purpose-Driven Life*, “It’s not about you.” What does this mean? Why is it not about you? Because you have a Creator who brought you to life on Earth and who made you for His purpose. That purpose and reason for why you are here is what will bring you the greatest joy in your life. It is not about all the things the world has to offer. It is all about finding the true meaning in life and what your purpose is. Many people walk through life and feel that it is meaningless. They have not found the reason for their existence. Paul says, “For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him” (Colossians 1:16). You are God’s creation, created by Him and for Him.

For the next eighteen weeks, you will be studying about who God is and why He created you. You will begin to understand what life is really all about, that you are not an accident, and that you are a part of the divine plan of God.



# Week 1:

## It's All About Him

### DAY 1

**MEMORIZE:** Colossians 1:16

**READ:** Colossians 1:15-20

Who is the image of the invisible God? (v. 15) \_\_\_\_\_

In verse 16, who created all things? \_\_\_\_\_

Why were things created according to verse 16? \_\_\_\_\_

Was Jesus there when everything began? (v. 17) \_\_\_\_\_

According to verse 17, in whom do all things consist? \_\_\_\_\_

Verse 18 says that Jesus has \_\_\_\_\_ in all things.

What does verse 19 say dwells in Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_

What was the purpose for which Jesus died on the cross? (v. 20) \_\_\_\_\_

What have you learned from today's lesson? \_\_\_\_\_

What is God telling you to do in response to this lesson today? \_\_\_\_\_

**PRAY:** Write out a prayer asking God to help you obey Him today and apply what you have learned to your life. \_\_\_\_\_

**Pray on the armor of God, and then use your Prayer Journal for your prayer time.**

# DAY 2

**MEMORIZE:** Colossians 1:16

**READ:** Genesis 1:1-5, 27

According to verse 27, in whose image did God create man?

\_\_\_\_\_

Who created all things? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you here by accident, or were you created? \_\_\_\_\_

How does it make you feel to know that you are created by God? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Does it make you feel better to know you are created and not an accident? \_\_\_\_\_

How should you live your life knowing that you are created in the image of God?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What have you learned from today's lesson? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What is God telling you to do in response to this lesson today? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**PRAY:** Write out a prayer asking God to help you obey Him today and apply what you have learned to your life. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Pray on the armor of God, and then use your Prayer Journal for your prayer time.**

# DAY 3

**MEMORIZE:** Colossians 1:16

**READ:** John 1:1-4

According to verses 1-2, who was with God in the beginning?

\_\_\_\_\_

All things were made through \_\_\_\_\_ . (v. 3)

Without \_\_\_\_\_, nothing could have been made. (v. 3)

According to verse 3, the entire world and everything in it was made by Jesus in the beginning.

Life was in Jesus, and that life was the \_\_\_\_\_ of men. (v. 4)

Jesus was with God in the beginning, and Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ all things.

Knowing that God made all things, you should recognize that He made you as well. And, Jesus was there, too. Jesus created you, and He loves you very much.

What have you learned from today's lesson? \_\_\_\_\_

What is God telling you to do in response to this lesson today? \_\_\_\_\_

**PRAY:** Write out a prayer asking God to help you obey Him today and apply what you have learned to your life. \_\_\_\_\_

**Pray on the armor of God, and then use your Prayer Journal for your prayer time.**

# DAY 4

**MEMORIZE:** Colossians 1:16

**READ:** Isaiah 40:28-31

He is the \_\_\_\_\_ God, the Lord. (v. 28)

He is \_\_\_\_\_ of the earth. (v. 28)

According to verse 28, will God grow tired or weary? \_\_\_\_\_

To whom can we go for strength when we grow tired and weary? (v. 31) \_\_\_\_\_

Why? \_\_\_\_\_

God is Creator of all. He is the Sustainer of all things, and all things were created by Him and for Him. You are His pleasure and joy. You can go to Him any time you are weary, and He will give you strength to carry on. Remember, you were created by Him and for Him.

What have you learned from today's lesson? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What is God telling you to do in response to this lesson today? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**PRAY:** Write out a prayer asking God to help you obey Him today and apply what you have learned to your life. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Pray on the armor of God, and then use your Prayer Journal for your prayer time.**

# DAY 5

**MEMORIZE:** Colossians 1:16

**READ:** Romans 11:33-36

According to verse 33, can anyone know the depth of God's knowledge?

\_\_\_\_\_

Does anyone know the mind of God? (v. 34) \_\_\_\_\_

Why? \_\_\_\_\_

Verse 36 says that all things are of Him, through Him, and to Him.

From whom are all things made? \_\_\_\_\_

For whom did God create all things? \_\_\_\_\_

If God knows all things, where should you go the next time you have a question? \_\_\_\_\_

What have you learned from today's lesson? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What is God telling you to do in response to this lesson today? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**PRAY:** Write out a prayer asking God to help you obey Him today and apply what you have learned to your life. \_\_\_\_\_

**Pray on the armor of God, and then use your Prayer Journal for your prayer time.**

# DAY 6

**MEMORIZE:** Colossians 1:16

**READ:** Hebrews 1:1-3, 10

Through whom did God make the world? (v. 2)

In verse 2, who did God appoint as heir of all things?

Who does it say in verse 3 is Jesus the brightness of?

Who upholds all things? (v. 3)

According to verse 10, who laid the foundations of the earth?

The heavens are the works of whose hands? (v. 10)

How can you glorify God today through your life?

What have you learned from today's lesson?

What is God telling you to do in response to this lesson today?

**PRAY:** Write out a prayer asking God to help you obey Him today and apply what you have learned to your life. \_\_\_\_\_

**Pray on the armor of God, and then use your Prayer Journal for your prayer time.**

# DAY 7 Parent Talk:

## Developing a Christian Worldview

This week's lesson focused in on who God is and why He created the world. Genesis 1:1 says, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." This tells us some things about God. He has existed since before the earth was formed, and He is the magnificent Creator of all things. Therefore, we learn that God created man as well. Why did He do this? The Bible tells us that God created us for Himself (Colossians 1:16). In other words, we exist for Him. God is all-powerful, so creating the world is something He could easily do. He is Supreme over all things, and He loves everything He has made. God made you because He loves you. He created you in His own image because He made you to be in relationship with Him. The plants, rocks, and animals cannot have a relationship with God the way man can. God takes pleasure in knowing you, in caring for you, in loving you. You were made for Him.

Colossians 1:19-20 says, "For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell, and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross." What this means is that God created man to be in relationship with Himself. When sin entered the world through Adam, God made a way for His people to be reconciled, or brought back into a right relationship, with Him through the shed blood of His perfect Son Jesus Christ on the cross. God loves you so much that He sent His Son to die for your sins so that you could have a right relationship with Him.

**MEMORY VERSE:** Have your child quote Colossians 1:16 from memory—"For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him."

### REVIEW:

1. According to Colossians 1:16, was your life created for you or for God?
2. If you are created for Him, how should you live your life?
3. What do you feel is your purpose for living?

### PARENT CHALLENGE:

1. Share with your child your thoughts about God's creation, and particularly His choice to create you.
2. Discuss with your child ways in which you can share with others the purpose of God creating mankind and His desire to know and love everyone personally. Make plans to do it.

**PRAY TOGETHER:** Thank God together for creating you and for His desire to have a personal relationship with you. Praise Him for loving you so much and caring for you every step of the way. Ask Him to help you live each day with and for Him. **Pray on the armor of God together, and then have your L.I.T. use their Prayer Journal.**

Parent Initials	Date
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# SAMPLE



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