

SAMPLE

The Way of the

DISCIPLE



Preteen
Devotionals

Level 1: Fall

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LEADERS IN TRAINING: The Way of the Disciple
Level 1: Fall Preteen Devotionals

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Written by Dr. Clint May and Amy McMullin
Edited by Amy McMullin
Initial design by Precision Creations (www.PrecisionCreations.com)
Revised page design, layout, and typesetting by D'awn Howland (www.dhartist.com)
Illustrations by Katherine Holmes
New design by Richard Cervantes

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**“And you will
seek Me
and
find Me,
when you search for Me
with all your
heart.”**

[Jeremiah 29:13]

Incentive Pages

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.” Jesus came to give you abundant life. 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 108** 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.¹

¹Pete 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

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)

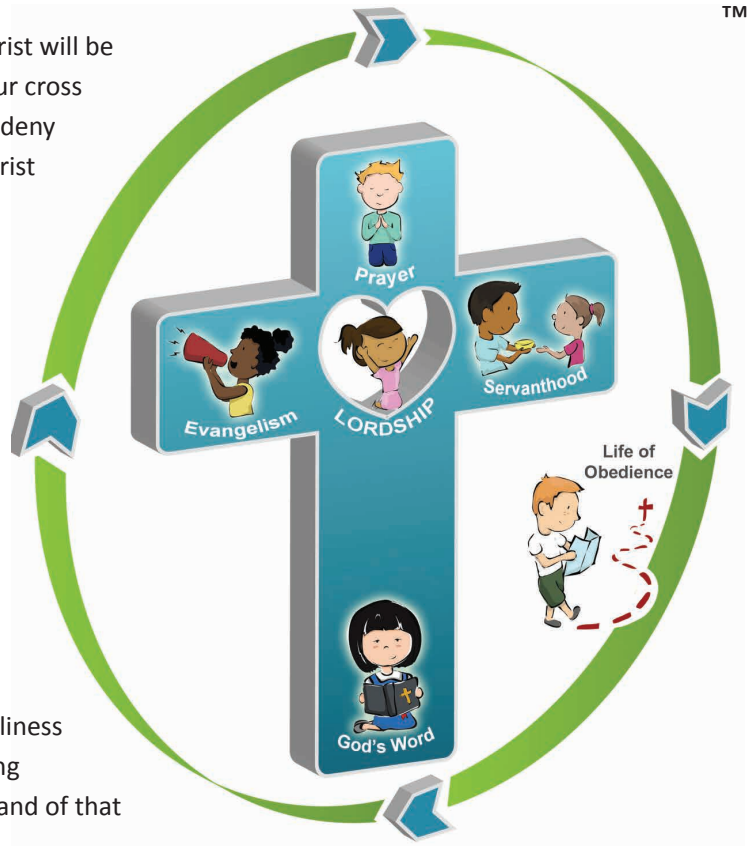
Yield & Surrender

"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 worshiping 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 TV, computer, and other electronic devices 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 108**), pray for others. You can also 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—"But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name." (John 1:12)

Week Two—"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me." (Galatians 2:20a)

Week Three—"I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing." (John 15:5)

Week Four—"But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves." (James 1:22)

Week Five—"Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly... But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And on His law he meditates day and night." (Psalm 1:1a, 2)

Week Six—"Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know." (Jeremiah 33:3)

Week Seven—"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 5:8-9a)

Week Eight—"For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God pulling down strongholds." (2 Corinthians 10:4)

Week Nine—"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." (Matthew 28:19)

Week Ten—"For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures." (1 Corinthians 15:3)

Week Eleven—"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 6:23)

Week Twelve—"Every good and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning." (James 1:17)

Memory Verses

Week Thirteen—“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.” (Ephesians 2:10)

Week Fourteen—“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.” (John 14:12)

Week Fifteen—“...that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work.” (Colossians 1:10a)

Week Sixteen—“And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave.” (Matthew 20:27)

Week Seventeen—“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.” (John 10:10)

Week Eighteen—“For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen.” (Romans 1:20a)

Week 1:

Salvation

DAY 1

MEMORIZE: John 1:12

READ: John 3:16, 3:36

To be Jesus' disciple, you must first be a part of the family of God. You cannot follow Jesus if you do not know Him as your personal Savior and Lord. In other words, have you made the most important decision of your life? Do you know for certain that if you were to die today that you would spend eternity in Heaven? Jesus said in John 14:6, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

If you have not accepted Jesus as your Savior and Lord, you are lost. If you died today, you would spend eternity separated from God. Are you ready to get right with God? Remember, there will never be a more important decision to make in your life. In order to have eternal life, you must ABC:

A—Admit that you are a sinner.

B—Believe that Jesus is God's Son and that He died and rose again for you.

C—Choose to receive the Lord Jesus as your Savior.

PRAY: You can ABC by praying the prayer below:

"Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner and I deserve death for my sins. I ask You to forgive me of my sins. I believe that You are the Son of God and that You died for my sins and rose on the third day. I invite You right now to come into my heart to be my Savior and Lord. Amen."

If you have already done this, then spend some time today praising the Lord for giving you eternal life.

Pray on the armor of God, and then turn to your Prayer Journal and pray as directed.

DAY 2

MEMORIZE: John 1:12

READ: Psalm 77:11a

To begin a journey, you must have a starting point. This point for the Christian is the day you accepted Jesus Christ. You began your walk with God that day. Take the time today to answer the following questions with your parents to help you to develop your testimony and story. It is important to remember what God has done for you.

What was your life like before you accepted Christ? _____

What made you decide you needed Christ? _____

How old were you when you accepted Christ as your Savior? _____

What was that date? _____

Where were you when you prayed to receive Christ? _____

Who led you to Christ? _____

What has your life been like since you made this decision? _____

PRAY: Praise God for all He has done in your life. Spend time worshipping Him.

Pray on the armor of God, and then turn to your Prayer Journal and pray as directed.

DAY 3

MEMORIZE: John 1:12

READ: John 3:16, 10:10

How does a person receive eternal life? _____

Who is God's Son? _____

What did Jesus do for you? _____

According to John 10:10, who is the thief that wants to steal, kill, and destroy your life?

What does Jesus want to do for you? _____

PRAY: Give thanks to the Lord for saving you. Recognize the sacrifice He made for you, and show gratitude for the price He paid for you so that you might have eternal life.

Pray on the armor of God, and then turn to your Prayer Journal and pray as directed.

DAY 4

MEMORIZE: John 1:12

READ: 1 Corinthians 15:1-4

According to verses 3-4, what is the Gospel message? _____

Why did Jesus die for us? _____

In your own words, what does 1 Corinthians 15:3-4 say? _____

What does this passage mean to you as a Christian? _____

PRAY: Thank the Lord for dying for your sins and for raising from the dead on the third day. Ask Him to help you never to forget the price He paid for you. Give Him your life today. Ask Him to help you live for Him.

Pray on the armor of God, and then turn to your Prayer Journal and pray as directed.

DAY 5

MEMORIZE: John 1:12

READ: Romans 3:10, 3:23, 6:23

According to Romans 3:10, who is righteous or good? _____

Who has sinned according to Romans 3:23? _____

What does Romans 6:23 say the “wages of sin” is? _____

What is the free gift of God? _____

What is sin? _____

Have you ever sinned? _____

PRAY: Thank Jesus for dying for your sins so that you might live forever. Express to the Lord your love for Him. Give Him your life today. Ask Him to guide you as you serve Him.

Pray on the armor of God, and then turn to your Prayer Journal and pray as directed.

DAY 6

MEMORIZE: John 1:12

READ: John 14:6 and Titus 3:5-6

According to John 14:6, who is the only way to Heaven? _____

Why is Jesus the *only* way to Heaven? _____

Titus 3:5-6 says that God saved us because _____

How did God save us? _____



In the space below, draw a hand pointing up to remind yourself that there is only one way to Heaven, and it is through Jesus Christ.

PRAY: Give Jesus thanks for being our way to Heaven. Thank Him for dying for your sins that you might have eternal life.

Pray on the armor of God, and then turn to your Prayer Journal and pray as directed.

DAY 7 Parent Talk: Developing a Christian Worldview

PARENT: Before your preteen can begin the steps of discipleship, they must first come to the point of making a decision for Christ. Did you know that internationally most decisions for Christ are made between 5 and 12 years of age? It becomes more and more difficult as people get older to accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. Making a decision for Christ is as simple as ABC. If your child has not yet done so, turn to **page 14**, Day 1, and discuss with them how to make this decision. If you have not made this decision yourself, you can do so as well by following the same steps. The question you must answer is this: “If you were to die today, do you know without a doubt that you would spend eternity in Heaven?” Making a decision for Christ is something you should not put off another minute.

EXPLAIN: If you have already made a decision to accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior, be aware that nothing can take you out of His hands (Hebrews 13:5, John 10:29). God has promised He will never leave you once you become His child. There is nothing you can ever do to cause God to stop loving you or to lose your place in Heaven. Plan to share the news of your profession of faith with your pastor, your L.I.T. leader, or another minister in your church.

MEMORY VERSE: Have your child quote John 1:12 from memory. Work on it together if needed. Discuss its meaning.

REVIEW:

1. Ask your child to share their memories of the day they were saved. Ask questions to help their memory. If it happened today, have them write about it in a journal or notebook.
2. Turn to **page 14**, Day 1, in this devotional book, and then go over their personal testimony with them. Help them write out the details if they need it.

PRAY: Pray together, thanking God for your salvation. **Pray on the armor of God, and then have your child turn to their Prayer Journal and pray as directed.**

CHALLENGE:

1. Share with your child your own salvation experience.
2. Encourage your child to share their testimony with others.

Parent Initials	Date
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