

PUTTING OTHERS FIRST BY GIVING UP WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU DESERVE

BOTTOM LINE: There's always more to discover about God's plan.

Read Jeremiah 29:11



Surprise!

Let's review the Bible story from this weekend. With an adult, go online and search: Luke 24:13-35. Take a few minutes and re-listen to the story of when Jesus surprised everyone after He came back to life after being dead for three days.

Thank God for ways that He surprises us.



What's the Plan, Man?

Only God knows the plan for our life and thankfully He is a person we can trust with our future. Take some time to ask God to help you with the plan. Pray something like this

"Dear God, I know that You already have a plan for my life. Please help me to look and talk to You whenever I don't know what to do. Thank You for always being there for me. Amen."

Know that God already has a plan for your life, you just have to let Him show you.



More to Discover

Grab a friend and have them make a discovery. Find an object in your house, it could be a toy or something random. Tell your friend to close their eyes and then you go and hide the object. Once you have hidden the object, have your friend open their eyes. Play Hot or Cold to help them discover the hidden object. If they are far from the object say, "cold," as they get closer say, "getting warmer," when they are super close to the object say, "hot!" Once they have discovered the object you can switch and play again!

Look for some ways to discover what Jesus can do for you.



The Plan

With an adult, look up this week's verse:

Jeremiah 29:II. Read through the verse together out loud. Talk about what you want to be when you grow up or something you want to do right now. How can you ask God to help you with your plan?

Ask God to help show you what your plan should be.











PUTTING OTHERS FIRST BY GIVING UP WHAT YOU THINK YOU DESERVE





READ PSALM 143:10

DAY I

What is the very first word of today's verse? _____

King David, who wrote these words, isn't asking God to teach him some fun facts or information. He's asking God to teach him to be obedient, to do what God wants, instead of going his own way. David faced a lot of tough stuff in his life. In this Psalm to God David humbly asks God for help in following Him so that he can avoid making big mistakes.

When we disobey God and go our own way, we face some not so awesome consequences. David knew that God's way was better. Just like David, when we discover how God wants us to live and we follow His way in obedience, we'll be on the smoothest path for sure.

The next time you're riding in the car and you hit a bump in the road, remember this verse. Ask God to teach you to do His will knowing that He will lead you on level path, even through the bumps of life.



READ PSALM 25:4

DAY 2

What does the word "teach" mean? Write your own definition in the space below:

To teach means to show or to explain how to do something. As an elementary kid, you know a thing or two about teachers. Good teachers make learning fun; they care about you and they challenge you along the way. The fact that you can read these words right now is probably because a teacher taught you how to read. **Your heavenly Father also wants to teach you.** God loves you and wants to show you His plan for your life. But just like you have to listen and pay attention in order to learn from your teachers at school, you have to listen to God. Reading God's word, praying to God, and talking about Him with your friends and leaders at church are all great ways to listen to God and learn how He wants you to live.

Every time you pick up a pencil at school or at home this week, say these words to God: "Teach me how to follow you." God wants to help you follow Him with humility, understanding that there's always something new to learn.

Humility is understanding who God is. It's trusting God's way and following Him instead of thinking our way is best. It's recognizing that as we grow in our relationship with God, there is always something new to learn.

In today's verse, David asked God for two things: To guide and to teach. You could pray these words just as David did. Why? Because God is your Savior. He sent His only son to rescue you so that you could have a relationship with Him forever. We can put our hope in God, when? Only in the morning? Afterschool? Nope, all day long.

Grab four sticky notes. Write each sentence of Psalm 25:5 on a separate note. Then, stick your notes on four different clocks or in four different places around your house where you spend time. Each time you read a phrase this week, ask God to teach you how to follow Him, knowing there's always something new to discover.



READ PSALM 25:9

Have you ever watched a Charlie Brown cartoon on TV? In the show, the adults have these sort of "wahwah" sounding voices. George Shultz, who created the Peanuts comic, wanted to focus on Charlie Brown and his friends, so he chose an instrument to replace all the adult voices in the cartoon. Can you guess the instrument he chose?

Write your answer here:

Did you guess a trombone? Because you can't talk to God face to face, you might think that hearing from Him is like trying to listen to Charlie Brown's teacher. But hearing from God isn't complicated. You can hear from God every time you open His word.

Learning from God requires humility. He shows those who aren't proud how to do what is right. Because God is in control of all things, we need to trust that His way is better than our way. We have to put Him first, knowing there is always something new we can discover about Him.

Ask an adult to help you find a trombone sound on the computer. As you listen, say the words "Teach me your way" as a prayer to God. Humbly ask for His help so you can do what is right.



THERE'S ALWAYS MORE TO DISCOVER **ABOUT GOD'S PLAN.**











If you've ever been around a little kid, like a two or three-year-old, you've definitely heard this question:

"Why?" Toddlers want to know the why behind everything. Why do I have to wear shoes? Why can't I eat that? Why is it too early to wake up? Why do I have to go to bed?

Even though the questions stage may be exhausting for anyone who is around a toddler, this is a really important phase for development of their little brains. The more they ask, the more they learn, and they definitely have a lot to learn! The older we get, the more we take pride in what we know. Sometimes, we know a lot. But what we have to know about God is infinite. There is always more to learn. And when we are open to asking questions, we'll find that there's always more to discover.

The good news is, we have lots of ways to discover more about God. We can read His word. We can talk to others about Him, especially people who have been discovering things about God for a long time. And, of course, we can also just go directly to the source and ask God!

Grab a dry erase marker and write the word "WHY" on your bedroom or bathroom mirror. Use it as a prompt to take some time every day to discover more about God: either from reading your Bible, talking to others, or talking to Him.



DAYI

Go to Studio252.tv and watch this week's episode of The So & So Show. (Click on Fun2Watch! then The So & So Show.)

Even if you already saw it at church, feel free to check it out again!

PRETEEN

DAY 2

Read Luke 24:13-35

As you read Luke 24:13-35, circle the paragraph where Jesus' followers try to explain to Jesus what had happened . . . well, to Jesus.

What important thing were the followers missing? (Hint: It's in the second part of verse 25.)

The two disciples were sad because they had missed a really important part of the story: Jesus' death was actually prophesied hundreds of years earlier, as was His resurrection! And in fact, this was Jesus standing in front of them right now!

But before Jesus was going to let them know who He was, first He took some time to explain exactly what the prophets had said, and how Jesus was the fulfillment of God's plan to save the world. Jesus wanted to make sure His followers discovered as much as they could about God and His plan!

The disciples walking that road to Emmaus had no idea Jesus was right there with them! How awesome to get to talk to the very One who had come to be the Savior of the world. You can talk to Jesus too! Sure, it's not the same as having Him in the same room as you, but it's just as real and life-changing!

Ask a parent if you can go on a short walk outside. If that's not possible, just walk around your house. Keep your eyes open so you don't fall over something, but as you start out your walk, imagine you are the disciples, confused about what has happened and sad that Jesus has died, but also hopeful that maybe the story isn't over. Now imagine Jesus shows up and walks with you.

As you continue walking, begin talking to Jesus. Start out by thanking Him for humbling Himself to come and die for you.

Then ask Him to reveal even more of Himself and His plan to you. Ask Jesus to help you live a life that is more like His, and to help you to grow "in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man" like He did. Pray about anything in your life that you need His help or wisdom with. Close your prayer by asking Him to surprise you today with a new truth about God!

Grab a sheet of paper and write at the top, "What have you discovered about God that surprised you?" Today, you're going to interview a few different people in your life to see what they've learned about God. In the process, you'll probably discover something new too!

As you decide who to interview, consider picking various people, including someone who:

- Has been following God for a long time
- Recently started following God

- You think knows a lot about God
- Lives out humility
- Follows after God closely

As they share with you what they've discovered about God, be sure and share with them something you've discovered too. Take the sheet of paper and put it somewhere you'll see the next few days. When you see it, take a minute to read and remember all the cool things you discovered about God by talking to others who follow Him.