

# Devotional Calendar

## APRIL 2020

### Unit II. God Promises a Just Kingdom

#### 5th

Meditate: Psalm 98

Listen: "Lord, We Rejoice" by Darwin Hobbs  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IGzrygt-DUc>

Pray: Express to the Mighty God that You Rejoice in Him



#### 19th

Meditate: Luke 19:11-26

Listen: "Celebrate the King" by Ricky Dillard  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4BFt7M7KUwE>

Pray: Express to God that He Is the King of Your Life



#### 12th

Meditate: Isaiah 53:4-12

Listen: "Celebrate (He Lives)" by Fred Hammond  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XcplHtZzQe8>

Pray: Thank the Living God for All that He Has Done for You



#### 26th

Meditate: Isaiah 42:1-9

Listen: "Your Spirit" by Tasha Cobbs Leonard (featuring Kierra Sheard)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BZT8jqsc8lQ>

Pray: Ask the Lord to Bring Justice across Our Nation by His Spirit



### How to Do a Devotional

Daily devotionals are important to help you grow in your relationship with God. Pray, meditate, and read the Word of God, and you will grow spiritually. Devote ten minutes at the beginning of your day to clear your mind and heart and prepare to receive God. Daily devotions will prepare you for any obstacles that may come your way. Take time each morning to hear from God. Even Jesus used time in the morning to be with God. "Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed" (Mark 1:35, NIV).

Background Scripture: Isaiah 42 • Print Passage: Isaiah 42:1-9

**KEY VERSE:** [God said,] “Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him, and he will bring justice to the nations.” (Isaiah 42:1)



Milah works in the cafeteria as a student helper. She really likes her job because she loves to cook. Milah enjoys helping the school cooks because she knows how many students depend on the school meals. There is a group of students who rush to the cafeteria each day. Often, after eating their lunch, they request a second helping of food. Usually, students are not allowed to have seconds on food, but they can have more milk. Their refusing to give students more food really bothered Milah, because she always watched how the cafeteria ladies would throw away any leftover food after lunch was over. One day, Milah decided to ask the head cook about her concern.

Milah asked, “Mrs. Fikes, why do you throw away all of the leftover food at the end of lunch?” Mrs. Fikes informed Milah that the State Food Code gives guidelines on how to keep food safe and how

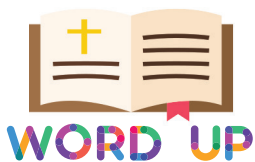


much food each student should eat for healthy nutrition, and they also decide what happens with leftover food. The Food Code rule states that any food left after lunch must be thrown away. Milah thinks throwing away food is wasteful, especially because there are always students who were still hungry after lunch.

Milah talked with her principal about hungry students and food being thrown out after lunch. Milah’s principal promised that he would investigate the situation.

Later in the week, Milah’s principal came with good news: Students requesting a second helping of food could have it! Some cafeteria workers worried about having to make more food; however, everything worked out and the new rule was never abused. Only the students who were really hungry asked for seconds. Milah was proud that she took the initiative to help her fellow classmates.

Have you ever stepped up to help a student with a special need?



### Isaiah 42:1-9

1 “Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him, and he will bring justice to the nations. 2 He will not shout or cry out, or raise his voice in the streets. 3 A bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out. In faithfulness he will bring forth justice; 4 he will not falter or be discouraged till he establishes justice on earth. In his teaching the islands will put their hope.”

5 This is what God the LORD says—the Creator of the heavens, who stretches them out, who spreads out the earth with all that springs from it, who gives breath to its people, and life to those who walk on it: 6 “I, the LORD, have called you in righteousness; I will take hold of your hand. I will keep you and will make you to be a covenant for the people and a light for the Gentiles, 7 to open eyes that are blind, to free captives from prison and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness. 8 I am the LORD; that is my name! I will not yield my glory to another or my praise to idols. 9 See, the former things have taken place, and new things I declare; before they spring into being I announce them to you.”



Today's lesson focuses on a chosen servant. The servant being referred to in the Scripture passage is the Messiah—Jesus Christ. The Scripture passage is sometimes referred to as the “Servant Song.” Some Bible scholars debate exactly which servant is being addressed in the Scripture verses. Both the nation of Israel and Jesus, the Messiah, are called “servant.” The nation of Israel was given an assignment or mission to serve God, to be good stewards and teachers of God’s Word, and to be light to all nations. God recognized Israel as His “chosen people,” but because of sin and continual rebellion against the things of God, Israel failed

to honor God or accomplish their mission of serving God in the way God intended. God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, as the Messiah to fulfill the mission that Israel was unable to complete.

The chapter records the servant’s character, which is described to reveal Jesus’ divine nature. The servant demonstrates the attributes of gentleness, encouragement, justice, and truth. Isaiah prophesied how God would send a servant who would bring justice to the earth and restore the people’s relationship with God. Jesus’ special mission on earth would be to demonstrate righteousness and lay the foundation and be the light for all nations. No longer would salvation only be for Jewish nations only. Through the Messiah, every nation on earth would have an equal opportunity to share a relationship with God.

## INSIDE OUT

God chose Israel to be a light to the world, but the people repeatedly rebelled against God. Because of God’s love for humankind, God had another plan by which He would redeem the world. God sent a Messiah to save His people. The Messiah would have all authority to accomplish His purpose on the earth, but instead of coming as a king, Jesus—the Messiah—would come as a servant. God expects believers to serve others just like Jesus did. How do you demonstrate a servant’s heart to others?



## There’s an App for That!

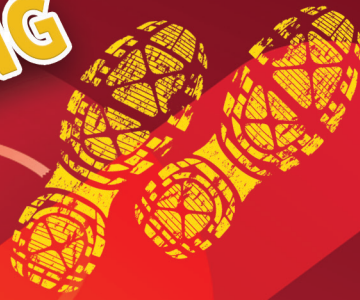
Some people believe that young people cannot make valuable contributions to society because of their young age, but this kind of thinking is not correct. Youth are very important to the world because they are sometimes able to see and hear things that adults may miss. Believers (young and old) have a responsibility to be a light to the world by reflecting God’s love. Never think you are too young to make a difference in the world. Open your heart to love people as God loves and let God use you to meet others’ needs.



## Walk Out

When Israel failed to carry out its mission, God already had a backup plan. God sent Jesus to serve and save the world. How do you show your appreciation for Jesus? Serving others is a perfect way to express your gratitude for all God does for you. Pray and ask God to lead you to opportunities to bless others through your service.

# STEPPING OUT!



Sometimes, people who make a living serving others are viewed as less important than those who are served. But, imagine what our world would be without servants like cooks, police officers, firefighters, military personnel, nurses, teachers, sanitation workers, and others. This week, take time to write three thank-you notes to individuals who serve others on a daily basis. When you deliver the thank-you notes, express your appreciation for how each person is a blessing to others.

## It's Game Time!

Find the listed words from today's lesson in the word search below.

E	C	I	T	S	U	J	S	Z	N	S	R
F	S	K	B	L	P	E	O	E	X	F	S
J	M	N	V	Z	R	F	S	C	R	D	M
U	I	L	O	V	E	O	B	V	I	E	M
M	S	L	A	I	H	E	Q	V	K	L	J
X	Q	N	I	C	T	Y	O	T	A	I	U
B	T	V	N	L	Z	A	T	I	W	G	K
G	P	P	L	V	E	A	N	R	U	H	X
W	N	U	N	H	W	M	T	I	Y	T	Y
J	C	J	U	R	V	I	S	P	T	S	C
G	W	Q	V	F	Y	D	S	S	J	D	V
B	G	U	H	Y	C	E	O	A	I	I	R

CHOSEN   DELIGHTS   JUSTICE   NATIONS   SERVANT   SPIRIT

## Media Mission

Conduct an Internet search for the phrase "community food programs" to find food resources in your city and state. Many American citizens struggle with having enough food to eat each day. Use information learned from your research to discover ways that you and your friends might assist others who do not have enough food.