



Bible Studies for Middle School Students

WALK

Fall Quarter: September / October / November 2026

Featured Articles

Walking the Walk

The Blind
Leading the Blind

*God's Calling ...
Are You Listening?*



**SUNDAY SCHOOL
PUBLISHING BOARD**
Equipping Today's Church to Serve



Devotional Calendar

SEPTEMBER 2026

Unit I. From Nomadic Tribes to Settled People

6th

Meditate: Daniel 10:18-21

Listen: "Take Courage" by Bethel Music and Kristene DiMarco

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LJoABwNMzvM&list=RDLJoABwNMzvM&start_radio=1

Pray: Ask God to give you courage and hope in all situations.



20th

Meditate: Psalm 108

Listen: "You Are Good" by Israel & New Breed

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ul6i6Kz2p2k&list=RDul6i6Kz2p2k&start_radio=1

Pray: Ask God to help you recognize the importance of worshipping Him just because of who He is.



13th

Meditate: Luke 8:35-39

Listen: "I'm Free" by Rev. Milton Brunson & The Thompson Community Singers

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=72ZzLwAuXKw&list=RD72ZzLwAuXKw&start_radio=1

Pray: Thank God for His power to change, transform, deliver, and set free.



27th

Meditate: Matthew 25:31-46

Listen: "I Give Myself Away" by William McDowell

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-AtqEBYVMIs&list=RD-AtqEBYVMIs&start_radio=1

Pray: Ask God for His will to be done in your life and to use you as He sees fit.



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).

BACKGROUND SCRIPTURE: Joshua 1

PRINT PASSAGE: Joshua 1:1-11

Renewing Our Commitments



“KEISHA, ARE YOU GETTING OFF OR WHAT?” Creighton called out as the bus slowed; Keisha blinked, then said, “Oh, yes. I see you.”

All afternoon, Keisha had been thinking about one thing: track tryouts is on Saturday. She’d wanted this since the sixth grade. Now she was in the eighth grade. It was finally her chance.

Laila had nudged her earlier, asking, “Why are you smiling at your phone like that?” Keisha almost told her. *What if they think I’m doing too much?* she thought. So, she stayed quiet.



The moment she got home, she dropped her backpack and blurted out, “Mom! Guess what? I signed up for track tryouts!” Her mom’s face lit up as she said, “Keisha! That’s awesome!”

“The tryouts are Saturday morning,” Keisha added.

Her mom paused, then replied, “Sweetheart, this is your weekend to go with Aliya to rehab.”

Keisha’s stomach dropped. She had promised to go twice a month after her cousin’s car accident.

“Oh,” she whispered. In her room, she opened *Minecraft* but couldn’t focus. “There has to be a way,” she grumbled.

She grabbed her phone to call her cousin. When Aliya answered, Keisha said, “Hey, Aliya. What time is your appointment on Saturday?”

“Eleven,” Aliya responded. “Why?”

Keisha sat up, hopeful. Tryouts were at 9:00 a.m.

“What if you come to my tryouts first, and then we go to your appointment together?” Keisha suggested.

“So I get to watch you zoom past everybody?” Aliya noted with a laugh.

“Exactly!” Keisha remarked.

“I’m in!” Aliya commented happily.

Keisha ran to the kitchen and exclaimed, “Mom! We can do both! Tryouts are at 9:00, rehab is at 11:00!”

Her mom smiled proudly, explaining, “You chased your dream while working to honor your commitment . . . that’s maturity.”

Saturday morning, Keisha spotted Aliya in the stands.

“Run, superstar!” Aliya shouted.

Keisha took her mark, with her heart steady. This time, she didn’t feel nervous. She felt ready.



WORD UP

Joshua 1:1-11

1 After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD said to Joshua son of Nun, Moses’ aide: **2** “Moses my servant is dead. Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them—to the Israelites. **3** I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses. **4** Your territory will extend from the desert to Lebanon, and from the great river, the Euphrates—all the Hittite country—to the Mediterranean Sea in the west. **5** No one will be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you. **6** Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their ancestors to give them. **7** Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. **8** Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. **9** Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.” **10** So Joshua ordered the officers of the people: **11** “Go through the camp and tell the people, ‘Get your provisions ready. Three days from now you will cross the Jordan here to go in and take possession of the land the LORD your God is giving you for your own.’”



KEY VERSE:

[The Lord said to Joshua,] “Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.” (Joshua 1:9)



WORK OUT



LONG BEFORE JOSHUA LED ISRAEL, GOD MADE A COVENANT (PROMISE) WITH ABRAHAM.

God promised Abraham and all his descendants land, a great nation, and a blessing that would bless the whole world (see Genesis 12:1-3). Abraham's son Isaac was born after many years of waiting. Isaac's son, Jacob (also called Israel), had twelve sons. Their families became the twelve tribes of Israel. God promised them the land of Canaan as their own home. Before they reached that land, the Israelites were enslaved in Egypt by the Egyptians for more than four hundred years. God chose Moses to lead them out of slavery. Through powerful miracles, God rescued His people. The Passover (see Exodus 12) reminded them that God saves and keeps His promises.

After Moses died, God chose Joshua, Moses' assistant, to lead the people into the Promised Land (verses 1-3). Joshua knew how to lead. He had fought battles, trusted God when others were afraid, and believed that God would give him the land. God made Joshua a promise: "As I was with Moses, so I will be with you" (verse 5b). Then God told him three times to be strong and courageous. Joshua's courage was not supposed to come from himself, but from trusting God. God also told him to read and obey His Word every day (verse 8).

Joshua 1:1-11 shows us that God keeps His promises. When we trust Him, obey His Word, and move forward in faith, He goes with us.

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INSIDE OUT



Joshua showed faith in every role that God put him in: soldier, helper to Moses, and leader of Israel. When Moses died, God chose Joshua to lead because he had already proven to be faithful. Think about your own life: What assignments has God given you at school, at home, or with friends? Are you committed, even when it is hard? God always keeps His promises. How can you show faithfulness to Him this week? Take a moment to thank Him for staying faithful to you.

THERE'S AN APP FOR THAT!

Open the "Notes" app in your mind and in real life. What commitments have you made? Maybe it is homework, a team participation, chores, church, helping family, or showing up for a friend. Write down your commitments. Now ask yourself the following: Did I make time for God this week? Is God part of my priorities, or just an afterthought? If He is the former, ask Him to help you grow even stronger in faithfulness. If He is the latter, list practical steps you can take this week to prioritize Him. Finally, write a short prayer thanking God for His faithfulness and asking Him to help you keep your commitments.



Joshua 1:9 reads, "Be strong and courageous . . . for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go." This may seem unreal and hard to believe when problems with friends, school, and family feel overwhelming. Memorize this verse. Whenever you feel nervous, stressed, or afraid, repeat it. Let God's Word remind you that you are not facing anything alone. He really is with you, everywhere!





STEPPING OUT!

God told Joshua three times to be strong and courageous because He promised to be with him. This week, ask at least two people (friends, family members, or church leaders) how God has given them strength and courage during a hard time. Write down what they share. What stands out to you? Does their story encourage you to trust God more? Does it challenge you to be braver? End by praying and asking God to help you recognize His strength in your everyday situations.

Media Mission



Visit the link listed below to listen to the song "You Are My Strength" by William Murphy. (You may also access the songs "Committed" by Koryn Hawthorne and "Lift Me" by Lecrae [as supplements].) How do these songs remind you that God gives strength and courage?



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pUdMKOEiEYA&list=RDpUdMKOEiEYA&start_radio=1



A "God-fitted" Shoe

After Moses died, Joshua had big shoes to fill, but God promised to be with him. Draw an oversized shoe on cardboard (think "Shaq-sized" big!). Compare it to your own shoe size. Imagine trying to walk in shoes that do not fit. God doesn't expect you to fill someone else's shoes. He has "God-fitted" shoes just for you—plans, gifts, and assignments designed specifically for your life. Brainstorm ways that God's rules and instructions are gifts that protect, guide, and bless us.



BACKGROUND SCRIPTURE: Joshua 4
PRINT PASSAGE: Joshua 4:14-24

Family Legacies



AISHA SCROLLED THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA LATE ONE NIGHT. At first, it was just for fun. But the more she scrolled, the heavier her heart felt. Her friends were posting big birthday parties, family vacations, and happy group photos with both parents and grandparents. Everything looked perfect. Aisha's family did not

look like that anymore. Her parents had separated. Her dad had moved out. Money was tighter. Big parties were not happening this year. She missed how things used to be. She missed everyone being together.

At school, she told her friend group how she wished her family could celebrate like everyone else's. "I just want things to feel normal again," she admitted. One friend, Catana, gently reminded her, "Your family loves you. Remember when your house caught fire? Your relatives showed up with clothes, food, and everything you needed." Aisha stopped. She had forgotten about that. Her family cried together, prayed together, and rebuilt together.

That night, Aisha whispered, "God, thank You for reminding me. Help me remember the good things You have done for my family, even when life changes."

Before bed, Aisha opened her Bible app and read Joshua 4:21-24. God told the Israelites to set up twelve stones after crossing the Jordan River. The stones were reminders of what God had done. Aisha thought, *Maybe*

I need my own reminder stones. Instead of comparing her life to everyone else's life, what if she remembered the ways in which God had already been faithful?

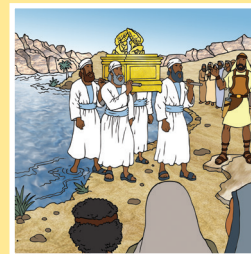
When life feels unfair or different from that of others, will you focus on what you do not have, or remember what God has already done?



WORD UP

Joshua 4:14-24

14 That day the LORD exalted Joshua in the sight of all Israel; and they stood in awe of him all the days of his life, just as they had stood in awe of Moses. **15** Then the LORD said to Joshua, **16** "Command the priests carrying the ark of the covenant law to come up out of the Jordan." **17** So Joshua commanded the priests, "Come up out of the Jordan." **18** And the priests came up out of the river carrying the ark of the covenant of the LORD. No sooner had they set their feet on the dry ground than the waters of the Jordan returned to their place and ran at flood stage as before. **19** On the tenth day of the first month the people went up from the Jordan and camped at Gilgal on the eastern border of Jericho. **20** And Joshua set up at Gilgal the twelve stones they had taken out of the Jordan. **21** He said to the Israelites, "In the future when your descendants ask their parents, 'What do these stones mean?' **22** tell them, 'Israel crossed the Jordan on dry ground.' **23** For the LORD your God dried up the Jordan before you until you had crossed over. The LORD your God did to the Jordan what he had done to the Red Sea when he dried it up before us until we had crossed over. **24** He did this so that all the peoples of the earth might know that the hand of the LORD is powerful and so that you might always fear the LORD your God."



KEY VERSES:

[Joshua said to the Israelites], "'What do these stones mean?' tell them, 'Israel crossed the Jordan on dry ground.'" (Joshua 4:21b-22)



WORK OUT

IN JOSHUA 4, GOD PERFORMED A MIRACLE. The Jordan River stopped flowing so the Israelites could walk across on dry ground. This happened on the tenth day of the first month. During the same time of year, they left Egypt forty years earlier during Passover (see Exodus 12). Passover celebrates how God rescued the people from slavery.



After crossing the river, Joshua set up twelve stones at Gilgal. Each stone represented one of the twelve tribes of Israel. These stones were reminders. God knew that one day children would ask, “What do these stones mean?” Parents would then tell the story of how God made a way through the river. The memorial helped future generations remember that God is powerful and faithful.

The miracle at the Jordan was like when God parted the Red Sea. Both events showed that God protects His people and keeps His promises. The stones also reminded Israel to “fear the Lord,” which means to respect, trust, and honor Him.

God did not want His people to forget what He had done. Remembering builds faith. When we remember God’s past faithfulness, it helps us trust Him with today’s challenges.

INSIDE OUT



Respond to the questions below on a separate sheet of paper.

1. Why did God tell Joshua to set up the twelve stones?
2. What do the stones teach us about remembering God’s power?
3. What did the Ark symbolize?
4. How was crossing the Jordan like crossing the Red Sea?
5. Why is it important to tell the next generation what God has done?
6. What has God done in your life that you do not want to forget?

THERE’S AN APP FOR THAT!

The stones were like a memory app for God’s people. They revered (feared) the Lord and showed their faith. The stones helped them remember His power and faithfulness.

Today, we can create our own “memorial stones.” You could write answered prayers in a journal, save a meaningful Bible verse in your phone, or celebrate the day when God helped you through something hard.

Baptism and Communion are also reminders of what Jesus has done for us. When you intentionally remember God’s actions, your faith grows stronger. Instead of focusing on what’s missing, you begin to see how present and powerful God truly is.



When life feels confusing, unfair, or different from what you expected, pause and remember this: God has already been faithful to you. This week, choose one way to remember God’s actions. Write down a prayer that He answered, a time He helped you, or a moment your family made it through something hard. When you feel discouraged, go back to that reminder. Let it strengthen you. The same God who helped you before is still with you now. He will carry you forward.



STEPPING OUT!

Think of one time when God helped you or your family. Write it down. That is your “memorial stone.” Now decide how you will remember it. Will you mark the date? share the story with someone? create a reminder on your phone? Do not let God’s faithfulness fade from memory. Remembering strengthens your faith for the future.



Media Mission



Share one story this week about something that God has done for you. Post it, text it, or tell it in person. When you speak about God’s faithfulness, it strengthens your heart and encourages others. Remember that God is your provider, protector, and promise keeper. When we create memorial stones, we keep His Word as a lamp for our feet, and it will be a light for our pathway. For more on this topic, visit the link below.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AKPUipAc-OM>



Create Your Memorial Stones

Your teacher will give you several small paper stones or cutouts. On each one, write or draw about a time when God helped you, protected you, or provided for you. Place the stones together to build a “memory pile.” You will have time to share your story. Then discuss with your classmates how your remembering God’s past actions helps you trust Him today.