

The Daily God Walk Teachers Guide

The purpose of the Teachers Guide is to provide a help in leading small groups. It is provided to be a guide and to provide ideas for doing a study on each devotion.

There are ideas for discussion for each of the daily devotions, but you will probably choose one for your weekly Daily God Walk Small Group Bible Study.

The Teachers Guide is also very good for your personal devotion and study. You are encouraged to search out Scripture to help with the discussion questions and ideas.

Example:

Week 1- Day one - *The Lord Is Your Companion*

What is the difference between being content with what God provides and settling for less than the best?

- Contentment - Philippians 4:10-13; Paul is explaining being content with the circumstances in which he finds himself.
- Settling for less than the best - Jeremiah 29:11-13; God's best is reserved for those who seek him with their whole heart

This discussion could take up your entire study time.

You could also go into a discussion on covetousness:

- Exodus 20:17 - You shall not covet...
- Luke 12:15 - Be on your guard against... greed.

It is also good to work on the affirmation discussing how it can be used in personal reflection and meditation as well as in prayer.

Tools for Developing Daily God Walk Bible Study

There are online resources such as www.biblegateway.com . I find this one very useful because it offers many translations. Bible Gateway is free, but they also offer a monthly subscription version that includes more resources. I subscribe to it and I find it well worth the \$3.99 per month it costs.

e-sword is a resource that can be downloaded to your computer and it is free. You can download it at:

www.esword.net

I also use a Topical Bible. I have used a Thompson Chain Reference Bible since I was in high school and have found it to be very useful when I am putting together a sermon or Bible study. They can be found in any Bible Book Store and online at www.kirkbride.com

Nave's Topical Bible is also very good. It is not a book by book Bible but rather it organizes Scripture by topic.

I also use a Holman Study Bible which gives a verse by verse commentary as well as having center column references.

Most of these study aids (except those online) are available at www.christianbook.com

Promises 01 – Week 1 Day One

The Lord Is Your Companion

Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have; for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

- Hebrews 13:5 (KJV)

Message: The instruction, “Let your conversation be without covetousness,” is talking about our attitude toward others and about things. We should be content with the things God brings into our lives and not to desire the blessings of others.

Ideas to Discuss:

- What is the difference between be content with what God provides and settling for less than the best?
- Is contentment a sign of mediocrity?

Reflection: What are some conversations that you can imagine which would indicate being covetous of others? What would you consider to be the root of covetousness?

- Discuss the “root of covetousness” with the group using scripture.

Affirmation: I know that my Lord will never leave me nor forsake me, therefore, I am content with what he gives me.

- Meditate on the truth of the promise that God will never leave nor forsake you.

Promises 01 – Week One Day Two

The Holy Spirit Is Your Strength

That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man. – Ephesians 3:16

Message: The secret of success in being strong in righteousness is to rely upon His ability rather than our own. In our weakness He is shown to be strong. Trust Him - He won't let you down. (2 Corinthians 12:8-10).

- Explore the weakness Paul was referring to when God Told him, “My Grace is sufficient.
- In Romans 7 Paul talks about desiring to do good but not being able to do it. He also speaks of not wanting to do evil, but doing it anyway. Spend some time discussing this problem, then talk about the solution he finds in v25.
- Romans 7:24-25 – Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God – Through Jesus Christ our Lord!
- What did Paul mean in the second part of v25, “So then, I myself, in my mind, am a slave to God’s law, but in the sinful nature a slave to the law of sin”?
- In Colossians 3:1-3 Paul tells us to fix our minds and hearts on things above – How do we do that?

Reflection: In our Scripture passage today the writer speaks of the "inner man." What was he talking about there? Is our hope in the inner man, or in the strength of God which inhabits our inner man?

Promises 01 – Week One Day Three

Relax, God is Your Refuge

The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms; He will thrust out the enemy from before you. – Deuteronomy 33:27

Explore what it is to be underneath the everlasting arms. How is God our refuge?

Some Scriptures you might use to explore this idea:

Message: Many are the enemies of our soul and they are constantly attacking us through self-doubt, fear of failure, fear of rejection, insecurities and always wondering if we have done enough. We must remember that when we are assaulted by these enemies we do have a refuge.

- How is the enemy of our soul attacking us through self-doubt, fear of failure, fear of rejection, and insecurities?
- When our enemy comes at us Psalm 9:9 says, “The Lord is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble.”
- In John 10:10 Jesus mentions the goal of the enemy is to rob, kill and destroy. Then he gives his goal for believers: Abundant life.
- Point out that God, like any refuge, or place of safety, must be entered into and trusted.

Reflection: Dealing with stressful situations is never easy. Practice making God your refuge when facing stressful and anxious times. Ask yourself, "How do I do that," then pursue the answer.

- First get to know Him, then learn to trust Him.

Promises 01 – Week One Day Four

Need Direction? He Will Direct Your Paths

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths. – Proverbs 3:5-6

This devotion emphasizes learning to trust God completely and allow him to direct our paths.

Message: As we begin to practice trusting him instead of our own understanding our faith grows. Not only does our faith grow but the hand of God guiding our paths becomes ever more obvious.

- Explore ways of learning to trust God such as daily reading his word; consistent prayer and being intentional in our faith walk.
- What we put into our minds to think about are the things that will influence our faith. Therefore, we should be careful what we put into our minds.
- We become what we think and if our thinking is consistently on what we can do then we will trust our own resources rather than God's resources.
- Here are some Scriptures to explore which speak of putting our trust in God:
 - Psalm 32:10 – Many are the woes of the wicked, but the Lord's unfailing love surrounds the man who trusts in him.
 - Psalm 125:1 – Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion which cannot be shaken but endures forever.
 - Isaiah 26:3 – You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in you.

Promises 01 – Week One Day Five

Do Not Let Your Heart be Troubled

Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. – John 14:27

Message: The world's peace depends upon how others respond and if they are in the right mood today. God's peace doesn't have anything to do with the way others act toward us. It is God's gift regardless of what the world around us is doing.

- Discuss the difference between the peace God gives and the peace the world offers.

- God promises peace:
 - Philippians 4:4-7 – Rejoicing in times of stress and taking our concerns to Him, with thanksgiving, results in peace beyond human understanding.
 - Acts 10:36 – The good news is peace through Jesus Christ.
 - Romans 5:1 – We are justified through faith in Christ and therefore we have peace.

- In a discussion explore some things which hinder our peace.
 - Isaiah 57:20 – How are the ungodly like the tossing of the sea?
 - Matthew 6:31 – Worry hinders our peace.
 - Matthew 13:7 – Cares of this world choke out the effects of God's peace.

Reflection: Give some thought to the things you used to do to have inner peace. Could any of those things bring true, lasting, inner peace? Think of some ways the peace Jesus gives is different from the peace the world gives.

- I gave a brief description of my lack of peace as a teenager - ask your group how they might identify with that.

- What is the effect of seeking peace in all the wrong places? See Ezekiel 13:10.

- I have talked with many people who abuse alcohol or drugs and they have told me they continue to do that to dull the pain - Is that an effective way to have peace? Will it produce lasting peace? Talk about it.

Affirmation: I live in and practice the peace Jesus gives. The peace of this world is but a fleeting hope but His peace is lasting.

My Thoughts and Ideas for Group Study:

Promises 01 – Week One Day Six

Stewardship Produces Plenty

He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. So let each one give as he purposes in his heart... And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work. – 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

This devotion is about: Giving, serving and joyfully committing our time, talent and resources.

A saying in the world of business, “You have to spend money to make money.” Our emphasis is not on giving, or investing yourself, in order to receive a bountiful reward, but it is about two things:

1. Investing your time, talent and resources in God’s kingdom because it is the right thing to do.
2. There is a blessing that comes with investing in God’s kingdom.

One of the best Scriptures which challenges believers to be fully committed to obeying God is Malachi 3:8-12.

- The subject: Robbing God by not giving to him what belongs to him.
- Beyond money, we are to give ourselves as a sacrifice worthy of his blessing (Romans:12:1-2).
- Discuss how we “rob God” by committing our life to him then continue to invest our time, talent and treasure in this life.

Message: The principle of sowing and reaping is not limited to money – it applies across the board to our entire life. If most of our efforts are for this temporal world then we will reap temporal benefits. If most of our efforts are for the eternal world then we will reap eternal benefits.

- How do we find a balance between our commitment to God’s kingdom and the opportunities and responsibilities of this world?
- Jesus seemed to make a point about balance in our relationship to the world in Matthew 22:19-22. He had been asked about paying taxes and responded by asking whose likeness was on the coin. “Caesars,” was the reply. Then Jesus said, “Give to Caesar what is Caesar’s and to God what is God’s.
- What seems to be implied is there are necessary things that must be taken care of in this life, but beyond that all that we are belong to God.

Reflection: The point of this devotion is that where we sow our lives is where we will reap a harvest. Think of some ways you can sow that will produce an eternal harvest.

- Hosea 10:12 – Sow for yourselves righteousness, reap the fruit of unfailing love
- Galatians 6:7-10 – A man reaps what he sows.

Affirmation: Sowing my time, talent and resources into the Kingdom of God produces Kingdom results.

My Thoughts and Ideas for Group Study:

Promises 01 – Week One Day Seven

Speaking God's Word Releases Power

Since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, “I believed and therefore I spoke,” we also believe and therefore speak. – 2 Corinthians 4:13

In this devotion we are contrasting the confession of what we believe with the truth of God as he has revealed it.

Notice Paul wrote, “I believed and therefore I spoke.” We should filter what we speak through what God’s word says.

- Jesus told us he only spoke what he heard the Father speak – John 8:38, 12:49-50
- Pattern of receiving and believing the truth revealed: One is sent to preach God’s Word; the word is preached; It is believed and received; Faith is born – Romans 10:13-17
- Faith comes by hearing the Word of God – Romans 10:17
- Some say, “I spoke it therefore it is truth.”
- Believing releases God Power to work through us – Acts 11:17, Mark 16:15-18, Acts 1:8, Matthew 21:21-22

Message: When we have believed the word of God we then release the power of the word by speaking it. God calls us to believe his word and trust his promises to be true. When you read a promise in the Word of God that applies to yourself, speak it out loud.

- Speak it until you believe it - Joshua 1:8

Reflection: Can you explain the difference between, "I spoke it therefore it is truth," and "I believed and therefore I speak?"

- Discuss this question within the group and emphasize the importance of knowing God's truth so we can speak His truth in faith.

Affirmation: After hearing God's word I believed it and now I confess the word I believe and His power is released to fulfill His word.

- Practice confessing this affirmation in your personal devotion and with your group.
- Practice praying this confession: "Father, I heard your Word and believed it. Now I confess your word and become a vessel through which your power is released to fulfill your Word."

My Thoughts and Ideas for Group Study:
