

## Questions Asked By Mid-Schoolers – Part 15

Michael R. Daily, March 2018

Other youth bible studies by Michael Daily available at: <http://gciweb.org/2011/04/youth-bible-study-materials-michael-r-daily/>

These questions were submitted anonymously by a group of 30 mid-schoolers who regularly attend church & AWANAs.

### God says to love our enemies. Does that mean we need to love satan?

No. God's command to love refers to how we are to treat humans (**Matthew 5:43-48, Luke 6:27-36**). We are to serve humans and do what is best for them as ambassadors for Christ (**II Corinthians 5:18-20**). The intent in doing this is that people might come to know Christ as Savior and Lord, grow in their faith, and give praise to God (**Matt 5:16, Col 1:28-29**). It is interesting to note that how we love non-humans is different than how we are to love humans. For example, in order to love God we are to obey Him which means we are to put into action the commands He gives us (**John 14:15 & 21-24**). To the extent that we obey His commands we love Him. To the extent we don't obey Him we don't love Him – regardless of our feelings. This is not the same as how we love humans. In general, we do not love humans by obeying them (however, we are to obey those in positions of authority over us because God commands us to – **Romans 13:1-2**), we love humans by serving them in ways that meet both felt and unfelt needs (**Ephesians 4:27-28, Romans 12:17-21**). Satan wants to be God (**Isaiah 14:14**). As a result, the only way you could love him would be to obey him! We can't do that, so its not possible to love satan without hating God (**Matthew 6:24**). Also, the purpose in serving other people in the name of Christ is so they might come to their senses and be saved from the wrath to come (**II Timothy 2:24-26**). Satan has already been condemned to spend his future in the Lake of Fire (he's not there yet – right now he lives on the Earth – **Revelation 12:9**) with no possibility of repentance (**Revelation 20:10, Romans 16:20**) so, again, serving him as an ambassador of Christ also makes no sense. God also tells us that satan is our enemy whose only intent toward us is our destruction and that we are to resist him (**I Peter 5:8, James 4:7-8**). We are also never told to love angels but instead to heed the words of God's book, the Bible (**Rev 22:8-9**). Also, how we love animals is different from how we love humans. We don't obey animals or serve them. Instead we are to take care of them as stewards of God's creation (**Prov 12:10**).

**(Matthew 5:43-48, Luke 6:27-36, II Corinthians 5:18-20, Matthew 5:16, Colossians 1:28-29, John 14:15 & 21-24, Romans 13:1-2, Ephesians 4:27-28, Romans 12:17-21, Isaiah 14:14, Matthew 6:24, II Timothy 2:24-26, Rev 12:9, Revelation 20:10, Romans 16:20, I Peter 5:8, James 4:7-8, Proverbs 12:10, Revelation 22:8-9).**

### How long can people live? Why are humans so delicate?

People were originally designed to live forever (**Ecclesiastes 3:11**). Unfortunately, Adam's sin caused the whole creation to decay and death entered into people's lives (**Romans 5:12, Romans 8:19-23**). This is why you can see a degradation in life spans after Adam's sin from over 900 years to about 70 years (**Genesis 5:3-5, II Samuel 5:4, I Kings 2:10-11**). By the time of King David, the productive life span of people was set by God to be around 70 or 80 years (**Psalm 90:10 - As for the days of our life, they contain seventy years, Or if due to strength, eighty years, Yet their pride is but labor and sorrow; For soon it is gone and we fly away**). What this means is that, for planning purposes, people should plan for a life that is fruitful and productive out to about age 70. However, people's lives can be shortened by the effects of sin in their lives or harsh living conditions (**Proverbs 10:27, Ephesians 6:2-3**). People can also live past 80 through proper living (**Exodus 15:26**) and advanced medical care, although their ability to be productive will be limited. In the United States, the oldest that a person can possibly live to, according to medical science, is about 115 years, but this is extremely rare. It also hasn't changed much as medical care has improved. More people now live to an older age, but the age of the oldest hasn't really changed much. Finally, because of the effects of sin, God has appointed all men to die once (**Hebrews 9:27**). As a result, human life is fragile and delicate. For those who put their trust in Christ death is a good thing because it has to happen before we can be resurrected with a body that will last for eternity (**I Cor 15:50-53**). If we didn't die we would not get the better body!

**(Ecclesiastes 3:11, Romans 5:12, Romans 8:19-23, Genesis 5:3-5, II Samuel 5:4, I Kings 2:10-11, Psalm 90:10, Proverbs 10:27, Ephesians 6:2-3, Exodus 15:26, Hebrews 9:27, I Corinthians 15:50-53)**

### Why is David reviled for the bad things he did but Solomon, who also did bad things, is better spoken of?

In reality, both men were great kings and each of them ruled Israel for 40 years. Both were blessed by God and used by God to impact the world for Him. Both men were authors of Old Testament scripture. Both men also committed very serious sins. The impression you have that one man is spoken of better than the other is likely a result of a type of bias called the Availability Heuristic. The availability heuristic is a mental shortcut that relies on immediate examples that come to a person's mind when evaluating a specific topic, concept, method or decision. The availability heuristic operates on the notion that if something can be recalled, it must be important, or at least more important than alternatives which are not as readily recalled. As a result, you have an impression of each man that has been formed, not by a careful personal study of the scriptures, but by hearing others give talks about each man. The antidote for this is to study the scriptures yourself

to get a full picture of the life of each man (**Acts 17:11**). For example, God states that David is a very rare man who seeks to know what things are most important to God so that he can obey Him more completely (**Acts 13:22**). As sinful as David was, God forgave him when he repented of his sins and God thought highly of David. Although Solomon started very well and obeyed God for a long time and God loved him, he did not finish well (**Nehemiah 13:23-27**). Solomon disobeyed God and married foreign women who worshipped false gods. It wasn't just one or two. He married 1,000 women (literally)! Because of these wives, he allowed the altars and shrines to their gods (i.e. high places) to exist and operate in Israel. Keep in mind that one of these gods was Molech, to which people would sacrifice their babies by burning them to death! As King of Israel, Solomon allowed his wives to lead God's people in murdering their children in sacrifice to false gods (**I Kings 3:1-3, I Kings 11:1-13, Jeremiah 32:35**).

**(Acts 17:11, Acts 13:22, Nehemiah 13:23-27, I Kings 3:1-3, I Kings 11:1-13, Jeremiah 32:35)**

### **1/3 of the angels rebelled against God. Did any more rebel sometime later?**

Yes and no. The total fraction of angels that have rebelled against God in one way or another is 1/3. There is no indication in the Bible that this will change in the future. According to **Revelation 12**, the angels that rebelled against God were thrown out of heaven and they were thrown to planet Earth which is where they now live. During their time on Earth these fallen angels oppose God's work on the Earth, hinder and discourage Christians, and work to deceive men so that they won't come to a knowledge of the Gospel and be saved from the Lake of Fire. In doing this, God allows them to do certain things such as lie, tempt, and try to persuade people to not believe God's Word, the Bible. However, these angels must stay within the boundaries God has set for them. If He did not set boundaries for them, these fallen angels could easily overcome us and life on Earth would be like living in a horror movie. That begs the question, "What happens to a fallen angel who violates God's boundaries for their behavior on the Earth?" In the world of Spiritual Warfare, such a violation would make such a fallen angel a war criminal. The penalty for such a war crime is removal from the Earth and imprisonment in a place the Bible calls "The Abyss". The Bible also refers to this place as the Bottomless Pit. The Abyss is a prison of darkness and chains where a fallen angel is put until the final judgment at the end of the age. In this prison the fallen angel cannot see or move and they stay this way for thousands of years. At the final judgment, the war criminal angel is released from the Abyss, judged by God, then thrown into the Lake of Fire for eternity (the Abyss and the Lake of Fire are different places). There is also a short period during the future seven year Tribulation where these war criminals will be released from the Abyss in order to torment people who reject Christ (**Revelation 9:1-6**). The Bible describes the actions of some of these fallen angel war criminals during the time leading up to the Flood of Noah's time (**Gen 6:1-4**). Because of what they did in causing the Nephilim problem, a number of fallen angels were sent to the Abyss and mankind had to be exterminated except for Noah and his immediate family (**Genesis 6:5-13, Jude 1:6-7, II Peter 2:4-5**). For more information on the Nephilim problem please see the study, "Why isn't Life Like a Horror Movie?" available at: <http://gciweb.org/2011/04/youth-bible-study-materials-michael-r-daily/>

In **II Peter 2:4-5** the Greek word "Tartarus", used this one time in the Bible, is often translated as "hell" but in reality it is referring to the Abyss. The Greek word usually translated as "hell" is the word "Gehenna" which refers specifically to the Lake of Fire. Because of the example of what happened to these war criminal angels back in Noah's time, the other fallen angels currently living on Earth are terrified of the Abyss (**Luke 8:28-31**) and now stay within the boundaries God has set for their behavior on the Earth. The last remnants of the Nephilim were killed off by King David (**I Samuel 17:1-11, II Samuel 21:15-22**). For more information on the Abyss and the Lake of Fire please see the study, "Heaven & Hell", available at: <http://gciweb.org/2011/04/youth-bible-study-materials-michael-r-daily/>

**(Rev 12, Rev 9:1-6, Genesis 6:1-13, Jude 1:6-7, II Peter 2:4-5, Luke 8:28-31, I Samuel 17:1-11, II Samuel 21:15-22).**

### **What happens to satan after he has been in hell for a thousand years? Why didn't God put him there forever?**

Please read the answer to the previous question before continuing. During the Millennial Kingdom, where Christ reigns physically on the Earth for a thousand years, satan will be locked in a prison of darkness and chains that the Bible calls the Abyss or Bottomless Pit (**Revelation 20:1-3**). This prison is not the Lake of Fire. It is a special prison for fallen angels that God wants kept off the Earth for some period of time. During this 1,000 year time period, Christ will rule planet Earth which will be populated mostly by Christians and Old Testament believers in their new resurrected bodies, along with a small number of people who became Christians during the Tribulation who also physically survived to see Christ's return. These people will be in the Millennial Kingdom in their fallen, sinful bodies. Over time, the people in their fallen bodies (like the kind we have now) will have children and grandchildren and so on. Some of the descendants of those in fallen bodies, even though they live in a world governed by Jesus Christ Himself, will not accept Christ as Lord and Savior. At the end of the 1,000 year period, satan will be released from the Abyss to lead these non-believing people in a last rebellion against Christ, who will quickly destroy them (**Revelation 20:7-10**). As a final act of judgment, God casts satan into the Lake of Fire for eternity. By allowing this to happen, God will demonstrate the depths of man's rebelliousness against Him because even when the world is ruled by God Himself in the flesh, men won't accept His authority over them.

**(Revelation 20)**

### **Is it OK to adopt a child because you want children but are afraid bearing a child would physically harm you?**

Yes. Being pregnant and delivering a child is very stressful on a woman's body. So much so that, every year in the United States, about 700 women die during childbirth! There are many medical reasons why it may be dangerous for a woman to deliver a baby. One alternative is adoption. However, adoption comes with its own challenges so it should only be done after prayer and a conviction that God wants a particular family to adopt. It's also good to remember that, as Christians, God has adopted all of us into His family (**Romans 8:14-16, Ephesians 1:3-6**) because of His love for us and His kindness toward us!

**(Romans 8:14-16, Ephesians 1:3-6)**

### **Why does God use the weak and unpopular for his greatest lessons?**

God accepts and uses anyone who turns to Him, repents of their sins, and accepts Christ as Savior and Lord (**John 6:37, II Timothy 2:19-21**). But following Christ means that the world system will turn against anyone who obeys Christ (**II Timothy 3:12, John 15:19-20**). In other words, the World System, which is under Satan's control, will not allow those who follow Christ to be popular, at least not for an extended period of time. As a result, those who have the ability as well as a strong desire to be popular tend to shrink back from following Christ and obeying Him (**John 12:42-43, Lk 16:14-15**). Those who don't have the ability to be popular don't have this temptation to struggle with, so they are more likely to follow and obey Christ, all else being equal. There are at least three reasons why God enjoys working through weak and unpopular people: 1) It demonstrates that God is the one who is making things happen, not from the abilities of a supposedly strong, wise, popular person (**I Corinthians 1:26-31, I Corinthians 3:6-7**), 2) It encourages the body of Christ, the Church, to care for its members (**I Corinthians 12:20-25**), and 3) It provides an opportunity for Christ's power to be displayed more completely in the life of a Christian (**II Corinthians 12:9-10**). Unfortunately, some Christians misinterpret being weak and unpopular with not working hard. God wants us to work as hard as we can in His service and do the very best job we can do (**II Thessalonians 3:6-13, Ecclesiastes 9:10**). So, work hard for Him, give it everything you've got, and know that His power will work in you to make up what you lack (**Colossians 1:28-29, Mark 12:30**).

For more information on this topic please see the study, "Christ Living In Me? I Don't Get It", available at:

<http://gciweb.org/2011/04/youth-bible-study-materials-michael-r-daily/>

**(John 6:37, II Timothy 2:19-21, II Timothy 3:12, John 15:19-20, John 12:42-43, Luke 16:14-15, I Corinthians 1:26-31, I Corinthians 3:6-7, I Corinthians 12:20-25, II Corinthians 12:9-10, II Thessalonians 3:6-13, Ecclesiastes 9:10, Colossians 1:28-29, Mark 12:30).**

### **How would you help someone with depression and anxiety when you don't have it yourself?**

First, let's be careful about how we make decisions. It is not necessary, nor is it desirable, to make life decisions based on personal experiences. We have two things that are more effective in helping us make good decisions. First, if God's Word, the Bible, tells us something is good and helpful, then we act on that, regardless of whether we have personal experience in that area or not (**Psalms 19:7-11**). If God's Word tells us something is bad and destructive we avoid it (**Proverbs 14:16**), without seeking personal experiences in that thing. This is the path of wisdom God wants us to follow (**Proverbs 1:1-7**). It's also possible to gain wisdom through personal experience. Do a bunch of things and see which ones are beneficial or destructive in your life. Unfortunately, this process of gaining wisdom takes a long time, 40 years or more, and is extremely painful, destructive, and often irreversible (**I Timothy 6:9-10**)! Better to believe God and obey Him (**Deuteronomy 5:29**). A second tool we can use that is helpful is analysis based on data. If a large amount of data has been gathered that shows that a person's odds of surviving a car accident are greatly improved if they wear seat belts, we use that information to change our behavior and wear seat belts. This is a better approach than having a car accident while wearing a seatbelt yourself, then having another accident without wearing your seatbelt, and then comparing your two personal experiences to decide which one is better.

So, to answer your question we will use these two tools, the Bible and data analysis. There are many different types of depression and anxiety with some being more serious than others. If we start with data analysis, we know from medical science that the more severe types of depression and anxiety require treatment by a medical doctor and/or professional Christian counselor. In some cases, a person's brain has a chemical imbalance that is causing the depression or anxiety and, if a doctor determines that that is the primary cause, can prescribe medicine to help treat it. In other cases, the person may have experienced a severe trauma of some type and needs a doctor's or counselor's help with that. Examples of things that can cause severe emotional trauma are physical abuse, sexual abuse, or seeing something horrible and unforgettable such as sometimes happens to soldiers in war. Even the divorce of parents, for a middle school student, can cause this type of pain. So, the first step is to help the person see a doctor so that these more severe types of depression or anxiety can either be ruled out or treated.

If the depression or anxiety is of a milder nature (it doesn't interfere with sleep, school, work, health, or relationships), then the source of the problem may have a spiritual cause. In this case, the first step is to share the Bridge Illustration with them to find out if they are a Christian or not. If they are a Christian, then we need to look at what they are exposing their

mind to. Why? Because our brains will naturally spend time and effort thinking about whatever we expose them to. If we continually expose ourselves to worthless things, it will affect how we feel and what we do (**Psalm 101:3, Psalm 19:14**). We like to think that this isn't true. We like to think we can watch anything and listen to anything and it doesn't affect us – but it does (**Proverbs 4:23**). What we allow our minds and hearts to dwell on affects our destiny. Contrary to popular belief, your successes and failures in life will be determined by a series of small decisions, each of which, at the time, does not seem significant (but they are). The outcome of these small decisions will be determined by what you allow your heart and mind to dwell on, which directly relates to what you watch and listen to. This is why God says we need to be diligent in controlling what we allow into our hearts and minds – it will determine the course of our lives! Satan has set things up so that we are exposed to a relentless stream of the World System's values all day long through other people, the news, TV shows, movies, games, our phones, and other things. As a result, we end up thinking about and meditating on the values of the satanic World System, even if we don't want to. **Meditate:** *to give serious and careful thought to. To ruminate, chew over, think about, question, or wrestle with in our thoughts.* Whether we want to or not, our minds think about whatever is put in front of them. This is why corporations spend so much money on advertising. The more the idea of buying a product is put in front of someone, the higher the likelihood they will take action and buy the product – it works! *“Many a small thing has been made large by the right kind of advertising” – Mark Twain.*

I used to work as a volunteer for the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association telephone ministry. People would watch Billy Graham on TV then call in on the phone to talk to someone. I shared the gospel and led people to Christ that way. But I also received calls from Christians. Many of them were suffering from worry, anxiety, or sadness. As I asked questions as to why, I discovered a recurring theme. Many of them were not reading their Bibles, but they had the TV on all the time (particularly the news) or some form of electronics was dominating their lives. In short, they had the World System turned on and their Bibles turned off! Without realizing it, they had developed a lifestyle of constantly meditating on the messages of the satanic World System. No wonder they were anxious and sad! I suggested that they turn off the electronics and the news and read a chapter from the Bible everyday instead. There is no rule that says you have to keep up with the news every day. People lived for thousands of years without instantly knowing what was happening in other cities or countries. What horrible price will you pay if you are not instantaneously aware of the latest news? Nothing. I do not try to keep up with the news and it has not affected me negatively in any way. So, spend more time taking in and meditating on God's Word and less time taking in the World System's messages through electronics. According to **Psalm 104:34** you will actually feel happier!

What about your “friends”. They might even be Christians. How might they negatively affect your thinking? What if you don't respond immediately to their texts or instant messages? What will happen to you? If a quick response from you is a requirement for inclusion in their activities, they are not your friend! Anyone who tries to pull you down or hold you back or who calls you an “overachiever” is not your friend. Anyone who punishes you emotionally for trying to do your best or for not behaving the way they want you to, is not your friend. Instead of exposing ourselves to people like this, we avoid them and spend time meditating on God's Word (**I Corinthians 15:33, Psalm 119:78, Psalm 119:23-24**). By the way, a real friend is always looking for ways to help you become more than you currently are! **Friend:** *one attached to another by affection or high regard; one that supports, confirms, or promotes another; one that is not hostile.*

Some people don't think they have time to spend in God's Word. Time is not the issue. The average person spends 3.5 hours per day, every day, engaged with their electronics for leisure (social media, phone, TV, video games, etc.). Why not reduce this 3.5 hours of intake from the world system and increase our time for taking in and meditating on God's Word? We can do that if we want to. We have the time! Give God the best hour of your day. Every day shut off and power down all of the electronics and spend some time on your Bible Study, Bible Reading, Scripture Memory, whatever it is, with the electronics off. Then, later in the evening, when you have the satisfaction of completing your work for God, when you are tired and can't concentrate very well, then you can watch a little TV or a movie, or look at your phone or play a video game. Even then we need to be selective about what we watch (**Philippians 4:8**). You may not think that this time in God's Word (even just reading one chapter a day) could make that much difference, but it does (**Romans 12:2**). Meditating on scripture keeps us from being conformed to this world's way of thinking, renews our mind to think more the way that God thinks about things, and helps us understand what the will of God is. As a result, we will feel better and won't have the anxiety and depression that those have who instead meditate on the messages of Satan's World System (**II Corinthians 1:3-5, Philippians 4:6-7**). For more information on this topic please see the study, “How To Develop A Biblical Worldview”, available at: <http://gciweb.org/2011/04/youth-bible-study-materials-michael-r-daily/>

**(Psalm 19:7-11, Proverbs 14:16, Proverbs 1:1-7, I Timothy 6:9-10, Deuteronomy 5:29, Psalm 101:3, Psalm 19:14, Proverbs 4:23, Psalm 104:34, I Corinthians 15:33, Psalm 119:78, Psalm 119:23-24, Philippians 4:8, Romans 12:2, II Corinthians 1:3-5, Philippians 4:6-7)**

### Why did Jesus choose Judas as a disciple?

The primary reason, according to **John 17:12**, was to fulfill the scriptures. In **Psalm 41:9** King David prophesied that the future Messiah would be opposed by His close friend who would eat His bread. In **John 13:18-27** Jesus quotes Psalm 41:9 when he tells the disciples that one of them will betray Him. Jesus then identified the betrayer as Judas by handing him a piece of bread. In **Matthew 26:20-25** we learn that Judas himself was condemned to the Lake of Fire for eternity and that it would have been better for him had he never been born. Judas was the first and the worst of a type of person called the Apostate Non-Christian. This is a person who has been immersed in the Christian church, has heard the gospel numerous times, has been taught the Bible, has seen the work of the Holy Spirit in the lives of Christians and, like Judas, has even participated in the Christian ministry. Then, one day, they finally make their decision and they decide they don't really believe any of it and they reject Christ. The most severe level of punishment in the Lake of Fire is reserved for the Apostate Non-Christian. **Apostasy:** *to say in a formal or definite way that you refuse to follow, obey, or support a religious faith any longer.* It's important to understand that these people never became Christians. It is interesting to note that God did not have to include betrayal by a disciple in the plan for Jesus' death. Although the Bible does not tell us why God included this betrayal by a disciple in His plan, it has comforted many people. That may sound strange but by allowing this to happen, Jesus demonstrated that if someone close to us rejects Christ, it's not our fault. As we invest our lives in our children and in people we are disciplining, not all of them will choose to follow Christ. If none of Jesus' disciples had betrayed Him it would be easy for us to blame ourselves for not doing something right if one of our children or one of the people we are helping grow in the Christian life decides to reject Christ. The truth is, even if we did everything perfectly (like Jesus did), some of these people will reject Christ and give themselves to sin.

For a detailed study of this topic please see, "How To Interpret Passages That Seem To Indicate Salvation Can Be Lost", at: <http://gciweb.org/2011/04/youth-bible-study-materials-michael-r-daily/> (**John 17:12, Psalm 41:9, John 13:18-27, Matt 26:20-25**)

### Why did God choose kings to rule over Israel if God could be king overall?

According to **I Samuel 8:1-22** and **I Samuel 12:1-25** it was because of Israel's rebellion against God. God's ways are always best for us. But if people refuse to obey God, one of the ways He demonstrates that His ways are best is He lets the rebellious person or nation have exactly what they want! Then, they will experience the pain of the path they have chosen and will eventually come to admit that God's ways are best, not their ways. This is what happened with Israel. They rejected God and demanded to have a king like all the other nations. So, God went ahead and gave them one. But before He gave them the king, God explained all the bad things that their king would do to them. God explained that the king would force their sons and daughters to serve him and that the king would take their fields away from them and give them to other people and that he would heavily tax them (take away a significant portion of their money and belongings). God also said that the oppression from the king would be so bad that they will eventually cry out to God for help but that God won't help them. Having said that, God also said that He would not abandon them but would work with them and the king if they obeyed God. Nevertheless, Israel had to live with the negatives of having a king that they would not have had if they just obeyed God in the first place and did not demand a king. (**I Samuel 8, I Samuel 12, Deuteronomy 17**)

### How can Christians explain dinosaur fossils?

God created dinosaurs on Day 6 when He created all the land animals (**Genesis 1**). According to the Book of Job, dinosaurs lived at the same time people did. **Job 40:15-24** describes a dinosaur called "Behemoth" with a tail the size of a cedar tree and a sea monster called "Leviathan" in **Job 41:1-34**. **Behemoth:** *something of monstrous size, power, or appearance.* **Leviathan:** *something large or formidable, a large sea animal.* Although people and dinosaurs lived at the same time, that doesn't mean they lived in the same place. For most of Genesis, the population of the world was small compared to today so it's likely that people and dinosaurs only saw each other occasionally. The dinosaur fossils are easy to explain because the flood of Noah's time created perfect conditions for the transport and rapid burial of large numbers of dinosaurs. The resulting fossils are what we would expect to see if Noah's flood really happened. The next question people usually have is, "how did dinosaurs get on the Ark?" Like the other animals, God brought pairs of dinosaur "kinds" on the Ark (**Genesis 6**). There are about 50 dinosaur kinds that we know of. Each kind had the genetic information for multiple variations so Noah only needed 50 pairs of dinosaur kinds on the Ark. This may sound like a lot, but the average full grown dinosaur was about the size of a sheep. Also, God did not specify that adult animals had to be on the Ark. It would make more sense logistically if the pairs were young animals, which means they would be much smaller than adult animals. **Logistics:** *the handling of the details of an operation.* So, the larger dinosaur kinds would be represented on the Ark by young, smaller pairs. Sometime after the flood the dinosaurs became extinct. Although we don't know why, they may have had a difficult time surviving the Ice Age that occurred immediately after the Flood. For more information on Noah's Flood and the Ice Age please see the study, "Geophysics, The Flood, & The Ice Age", at: <http://gciweb.org/2011/04/youth-bible-study-materials-michael-r-daily/> From the standpoint of observational science, Dr. Mary Schweitzer at North Carolina State University has isolated soft tissue from the femur bone of a dinosaur. There is no known way that organic material such as this could remain intact for millions of years. Since then, numerous dinosaur fossils have been found having soft tissue or the remnants of red blood cells inside of them, material which should have decayed away long ago. For more information on dinosaurs and the Bible, please see the Answers In Genesis website at: <https://answersingenesis.org/dinosaurs/> (**Genesis 1, Genesis 6, Job 40:15-24, Job 41:1-34**)

### **How do you know you have a strong relationship with God?**

The Bible gives us indicators that we can use to evaluate our relationship with God. First, the Bible tells us that if we want a strong relationship with God its up to us to draw near to Him, stop sinning, and stop being double-minded (**James 4:8**). Double-minded just means that you can't decide if you want to live for God and His eternal values, or live for this life. So, you will have to decide which life you are going to live for – the one on the Earth or the one in eternity. This is not trivial because if you are going to live for eternity, it will require you to sacrifice some things in this life (**Matthew 19:16-22, Luke 9:23**) in order to please God (**Hebrews 11:1-6**). Next, we have to stop intentionally sinning and draw near to God by obeying Him (**John 14:15, John 15:14, John 14:21-24, Luke 11:27-28**). Obeying God means to take action (**John 13:17, Psalm 143:10**). Gathering more knowledge about God and the Bible is not the end goal and, by itself, does not bring you closer to God. In fact, the Bible teaches that accumulating Bible knowledge without putting it into action leads to sin, arrogance, and destruction (**I Corinthians 8:1, James 4:17, Matthew 7:24-27**)! So, the way to measure your relationship with God comes down to comparing what you know He wants you to do with how much of that you are actually doing! For example, if you know He wants you to share the gospel, do you do it? If not, then you are deceiving yourself and your relationship with God is not strong (**James 1:21-25**). God promises that as we seek to obey what He has told us to do, He will give us the strength to do it (**I Timothy 4:7, II Timothy 1:7, II Corinthians 9:8**). So, to build a strong relationship with God we need to spend the majority of our energy and efforts on acting on what God has taught us rather than on gathering more Bible knowledge. We hear far more Bible messages than we can apply at any one time. We hear a message where God reveals something He wants us to work on but its going to take more than a week to build it into our lives. But by the end of the week we hear another message with more to do. Many times people feel that its too much. So, instead of obeying God they do nothing. They live their lives the way they have always lived it. Forty years later nothing much has changed. A more effective approach is to pick one thing God wants you to work on, say, having a regular time of prayer and Bible reading. Spend a year working on building that into your life very effectively. You will probably need to find someone who is already doing this who can help you with the "how to's". By the end of the year it has become a habit and is relatively easy to maintain. Then look for God to point out something else to work on the next year. Maybe its witnessing. Again, seek out someone who is already doing this successfully to help you do it. Focus on that for a year and build that into your life. Work on one new thing a year every year and go deep in applying it in action. If you do this for forty years your progress will be significant and you will be like the Christians in the church at Thyatira (**Revelation 2:19**). This continual growth in applying God's word in real life action is the pattern you see in Christians who invest in having a personal relationship with Christ through His Word. For more on this topic please see the studies, "Obedience To God" and "Knowing God's Will" and "What Does God Want From Me? (The Wheel Illustration)", at: <http://gciweb.org/2011/04/youth-bible-study-materials-michael-r-daily/>

**(James 4:8, Matthew 19:16-22, Luke 9:23, Hebrews 11:1-6, John 14:15, John 15:14, John 14:21-24, Luke 11:27-28, John 13:17, Psalm 143:10, I Corinthians 8:1, James 4:17, Matthew 7:24-27, James 1:21-25, I Timothy 4:7, II Timothy 1:7, II Corinthians 9:8, Revelation 2:19)**

**QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD**

***JEREMIAH 15:16***

**THEME: *God says to love our enemies. Does that mean we need to love satan?***

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Matthew 5:43-48, Luke 6:27-36***

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *II Corinthians 5:18-20***

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Matthew 5:16, Colossians 1:28-29***

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD**

***JEREMIAH 15:16***

**THEME: *God says to love our enemies. Does that mean we need to love satan?***

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *John 14:15, 21-24***

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Romans 13:1-2***

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Ephesians 4:27-28, Romans 12:17-21***

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD**

***JEREMIAH 15:16***

**THEME: *God says to love our enemies. Does that mean we need to love satan?***

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Isaiah 14:14, Matthew 6:24***

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *II Timothy 2:24-26, Revelation 12:9***

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Revelation 20:10***

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD**

***JEREMIAH 15:16***

**THEME: *God says to love our enemies. Does that mean we need to love satan?***

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Romans 16:20, I Peter 5:8, James 4:7-8***

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Proverbs 12:10***

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Revelation 22:8-9***

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD**

*JEREMIAH 15:16*

**THEME:** *How long can people live? Why are humans so delicate?*

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** *Ecclesiastes 3:11*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** *Romans 5:12, Romans 8:19-23*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** *Genesis 5:3-5, II Samuel 5:4, I Kings 2:10-11*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

**QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD**

***JEREMIAH 15:16***

**THEME: *How long can people live? Why are humans so delicate?***

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Psalm 90:10, Proverbs 10:27, Ephesians 6:2-3***

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Exodus 15:26***

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Hebrews 9:27, I Corinthians 15:50-53***

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD**

***JEREMIAH 15:16***

**THEME: *Why is David reviled for the bad things he did but Solomon is better spoken of?***

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Acts 17:11, Acts 13:22***

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Nehemiah 13:23-27, I Kings 3:1-3***

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *I Kings 11:1-13, Jeremiah 32:35***

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD**

*JEREMIAH 15:16*

**THEME:** *1/3 of the angels rebelled against God. Did any more rebel sometime later?*

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** *Revelation chapter 12*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** *Revelation 9:1-6*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** *Genesis 6:1-13, Jude 1:6-7, II Peter 2:4-5*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

**QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD**

*JEREMIAH 15:16*

**THEME:** *1/3 of the angels rebelled against God. Did any more rebel sometime later?*

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** *Luke 8:28-31*

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** *I Samuel 17:1-11*

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** *II Samuel 21:15-22*

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD**

*JEREMIAH 15:16*

**THEME:** *What happens to satan after he's been in hell 1,000 years? Is it OK to adopt a child?*

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** *Revelation chapter 20*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** *Romans 8:14-16*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** *Ephesians 1:3-6*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

**QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD**

***JEREMIAH 15:16***

**THEME: *Why does God use the weak and unpopular for his greatest lessons?***

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *John 6:37, II Timothy 2:19-21***

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *II Timothy 3:12, John 15:19-20, John 12:42-43, Luke 16:14-15***

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *I Corinthians 1:26-31, I Corinthians 3:6-7***

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD**

***JEREMIAH 15:16***

**THEME: *Why does God use the weak and unpopular for his greatest lessons?***

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *I Corinthians 12:20-25, II Corinthians 12:9-10***

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *II Thessalonians 3:6-13***

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Ecclesiastes 9:10, Colossians 1:28-29, Mark 12:30***

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD**

***JEREMIAH 15:16***

**THEME: *How would you help someone with depression and anxiety when you don't have it yourself?***

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *I Timothy 6:9-10, Proverbs 1:1-7, Psalm 19:7-11***

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Deuteronomy 5:29, Proverbs 14:16***

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Psalm 101:3, Proverbs 4:23***

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD**

***JEREMIAH 15:16***

**THEME: *How would you help someone with depression and anxiety when you don't have it yourself?***

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Psalm 104:34, Psalm 19:14, Psalm 119:78, Psalm 119:23-24***

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *I Corinthians 15:33, Philippians 4:8, Romans 12:2***

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *II Corinthians 1:3-5, Philippians 4:6-7***

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD**

*JEREMIAH 15:16*

**THEME:** *Why did Jesus choose Judas as a disciple?*

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** *John 17:12, Psalm 41:9*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** *John 13:18-27*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** *Matthew 26:20-25*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

**QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD**

*JEREMIAH 15:16*

**THEME:** *Why did God choose kings to rule over Israel if God could be king overall?*

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** *I Samuel chapter 8*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** *I Samuel chapter 12*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** *Deuteronomy chapter 17*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

**QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD**

*JEREMIAH 15:16*

**THEME:** *How can Christians explain dinosaur fossils?*

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** *Genesis chapter 1*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** *Genesis chapter 6*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** *Job 40:15-24, Job 41:1-34*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

**QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD**

***JEREMIAH 15:16***

**THEME: *How do you know you have a strong relationship with God?***

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *James 4:8***

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Matthew 19:16-22, Luke 9:23***

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Hebrews 11:1-6***

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD**

***JEREMIAH 15:16***

**THEME: *How do you know you have a strong relationship with God?***

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *John 15:14, John 14:15, John 14:21, John 14:23-24***

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Luke 11:27-28, John 13:17, Psalm 143:10, I Corinthians 8:1, James 4:17***

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Matthew 7:24-27***

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD**

*JEREMIAH 15:16*

**THEME:** *How do you know you have a strong relationship with God?*

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** *James 1:21-25*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** *I Timothy 4:7, II Timothy 1:7*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** *II Corinthians 9:8, Revelation 2:19*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?