

GO DEEPER

SPECIAL WORDS

SEEK ME

(MAKE HAND BINOCULARS)

AND YOU WILL FIND ME

(COVER YOUR FACE WITH YOUR HANDS AND THEN PULL THEM AWAY FROM YOUR FACE)

MEMORY VERSE

Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.

Jeremiah 29:12-13 (ESV)

DAILY DEVOTIONS

DAY 1: SEEKING GOD

READ - Jeremiah 29:12-13

When you want to talk to someone who is in a different room than you are what do you do? Do you go and search for them or seek them out? Yes! God wants us to seek Him out to talk to Him too! God isn't hiding from you. To seek God all you have to do is talk to Him! How awesome is that?! We are going to learn more about other ways to seek God this week. **Remember God's Word tells us: Seek Me, and you will find Me.**

DAY 2: DON'T MISS IT

READ - 1 Kings 19:11-13

What does it mean to be a good listener? If there is a lot of noise around you and someone is giving directions, you really have to pay attention so you don't miss the directions. Did God speak to Elijah in the fire, or the wind, or in the earthquake? No. After those big events, God spoke, and it sounded like a gentle whisper. God uses the Bible to speak to us and to give us directions but we have to be paying attention so we don't miss it! **Remember God's Word tells us: Seek Me, and you will find Me.**

DAY 3: DON'T GIVE UP

READ - 1 Kings 19:14-21

Elijah was ready to give up because he had gotten scared and worried, he didn't realize the truth. But before giving up Elijah talked to God. And God encouraged Elijah with the truth that he wasn't all alone! In fact, there were 7,000 others who still followed God! Because Elijah talked with God he was given the courage and strength he needed to continue serving God. **Remember God's Word tells us: Seek Me, and you will find Me.**

DAY 4: DON'T MISS OUT

READ - Jeremiah 29:11, 2 Corinthians 9:8, Ephesians 3:20

It's always worth it to seek God. He is able to give you strength (make muscle arms), joy (show your best smile), peace (hug yourself), and so much more! But you may miss out on these things if you don't seek God in your life. God is not lost or hiding from you! He's not missing. In fact, He's all around you! You can seek God by talking to Him and reading His Word. **Remember God's Word tells us: Seek Me, and you will find Me.**

Day 5: BLOCKED PRAYERS

Read - John 9:31, 1 John 1:9, Psalm 66:17-20

Let's pretend this ball is a prayer. I want you to toss your prayer to me (when your child tosses the ball, block it). Sometimes you may seek God for His help, but feel like you just can't hear Him! Those times can feel sad, but they happen to just about everyone. Sometimes when we don't hear from God it is due to sin, the wrong things we do. Sin can block our communication with God. Part of seeking God with all of our heart is telling Him we're sorry when we do the wrong thing. **Remember God's Word tells us: Seek Me, and you will find Me.**



SOUNDS OF THE SEA

Materials: Spiral Seashell or Cup

Hold your shell up to your ear. (A cup, bowl, or any other curved object will give you the same sound.) What do you hear? *Fun fact: The sound you hear is really the sound around you, and also the sound of your blood circulating in your head.*

How does the sound in the shell like God's voice? It's a gentle sound or whisper; you have to listen very carefully to hear it; the sound comes from deep inside the shell (or cup) and God speaks deep inside us. Isaiah 30:21 says, "And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, 'This is the way, walk in it,' when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left."

How do you know when God is speaking to you? Well, know that God will never ask you to do something that goes against His commands or the Bible. God will never ask you to do something that harms someone else or that is not a loving thing to do. God will guide you, but you need to be listening for His gentle whisper.



SEARCH AND FIND

Materials: Bag of Treats

How did God talk to Elijah? A whisper. You have to listen very carefully when someone whispers. When God spoke to Elijah, Elijah recognized God's voice. He then listened carefully to what God had to say to him. But with all the noise around us, it can be hard to listen for God's quiet voice. Let's see what that's like.

Get two people from your family or two friends to help you with this activity. Close your eyes while your helpers hide the bag of treats from you. Once the bag is hidden one of your helpers should whisper "hot" or "cold" to try and guide you to the treat while the other helper makes noise and tries to distract you. You will have to listen carefully to successfully find your treats!

Once you have found your treats think about these questions:

What was it like trying to listen while being distracted?

What are things that the world distracts us with that might keep us from hearing the voice of God today?

How can we listen for God's voice?

God wants you to listen for His voice. Sometimes you can listen with your eyes, by reading the words of the Bible. Sometimes you can hear God's voice through wise parents and teachers. And sometimes He will speak to your heart when everything is still. What is God saying to you? Take a moment now to stop, rest, and listen.



CUDDLE CLOSE

Materials: None

Before bed pull your child close beside you and say, "You can seek God by praying, reading the Bible, and talking to others who love God. God is near!" As you tuck them into bed sing, "Ask, Seek, Knock" (www.tinyurl.com/askseek). Then pray together, pausing after each phrase, to let your child repeat after you:

Dear God,

Help me learn to seek you.

With you I have nothing to fear.

Thank you for always being near.

In Jesus' name, Amen.