

### **BANANA NEWS**



## **GO DEEPER**

### **BOTTOM LINE**

### **MEMORY VERSE**

## **OPEN THE DOOR**

Look! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal together as friends.

\*Revelation 3:20 (NLT)

## **DAILY DEVOTIONS**

#### DAY 1: KNOCKING ON OUR HEART

READ - Revelation 3:20, Matthew 16:24

You may be wondering how we open the door to our hearts or how God needs to be let in when He is everywhere! He means that He wants to have a relationship with us, but we have to choose to allow Him into our lives. God has the power to force us to worship and obey Him, but He wants us to want to have a relationship with Him. He wants us to choose to obey Him. All we have to do is **open the door**.

#### **DAY 2: ISAIAH'S VISION**

READ - Isaiah 6:1-8, Acts 2:38-39

Try to imagine what Isaiah saw in his vision. A vision is like a dream God gives to people while they are still awake. I'm sure our imaginations can't even come close to what it looked like when God gave the vision to Isaiah. God speaks in many different ways, and most of us will not receive a vision from God. But God is speaking to us and knocking on our hearts. God wants us to recognize where He is knocking in our lives and for us to **open the door.** 

#### **DAY 3: FORGIVENESS**

READ - Isaiah 6:7, Acts 2:38-39

Before Isaiah answered God, God did something incredible. Did you catch what it was? God forgave Isaiah of his sins. Our sins are anything we think, say, or do that disobey God. We all sin. We need to recognize our need to be forgiven for our sins. God wants to use us. He invites us to follow Him. But we have to be willing to first open the door of forgiveness that He offers to each of us. Forgiveness is there, waiting, we just need to choose to believe it and **open the door**.

#### **DAY 4: ISAIAH'S RESPONSE**

READ - Isaiah 6:8, Ephesians 2:10

The Lord asks who He should send to tell others about God. And what was Isaiah's response? Isaiah flung that door wide open and said that he would do what the Lord asked. In this case, Isaiah said yes to going and telling others about God. Isaiah had to choose whether or not to obey God. We also get to choose whether or not to obey God. When we feel that God is asking us to do something, we can either **open the door** by saying yes and obeying, or we can leave the door shut by saying no and disobeying.

#### **DAY 5: OUR CHOICE**

READ - John 14:6, Romans 5:8, Ephesians 2:8-9

Isaiah chose to say "yes" to God by going and telling others the things that God wanted them to know. God knocked on the door, and Isaiah opened it. And God knocks on the door to our hearts as well. God loves us so much that He sent Jesus to pay the price for our sin. Then Jesus came back to life, defeating sin and death, and made a way for us to have a personal relationship with the One True God! Will you **open the door** to a personal relationship with God today?



Materials: paper, tape, art supplies

Isaiah lived in a time when God's people were scared. Enemies to the north had formed an alliance and they were ready to attack. The people knew their country would be destroyed. If they ever needed to hear from God, this was the time. That's why God called a very special messenger. God calls His people to speak for Him.

What kind of message did Isaiah give the people? (Read Isaiah 6:1–8; 9:1–6)

Create and decorate your own megaphone. If you were going to spread a message of love and hope from God, what would you say? Once your megaphone is complete use it to shout out a message of love and hope from God.



Materials: votive candle, printable paper wrap, scissors, push pin, glue or tape

Print, cut out, and assemble the votive candle ring according to the instructions on the handout.

Isaiah 6:8 "I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I. Send me!'" God called Isaiah and us to speak for Him. When we speak for God we are a light in the darkness.

- In what ways is our world a dark place?
- How can you bring light and hope to people who don't know about God?

God is knocking and He wants us to be His messengers. Isaiah opened the door and said yes to being a very special messenger for God. God has a plan for you too! Will you open the door to His plan for your life? Place your candle somewhere as a reminder to open the door to God so that His light can shine through you. When you turn on the candle, the glow will come through the wrapper you designed.



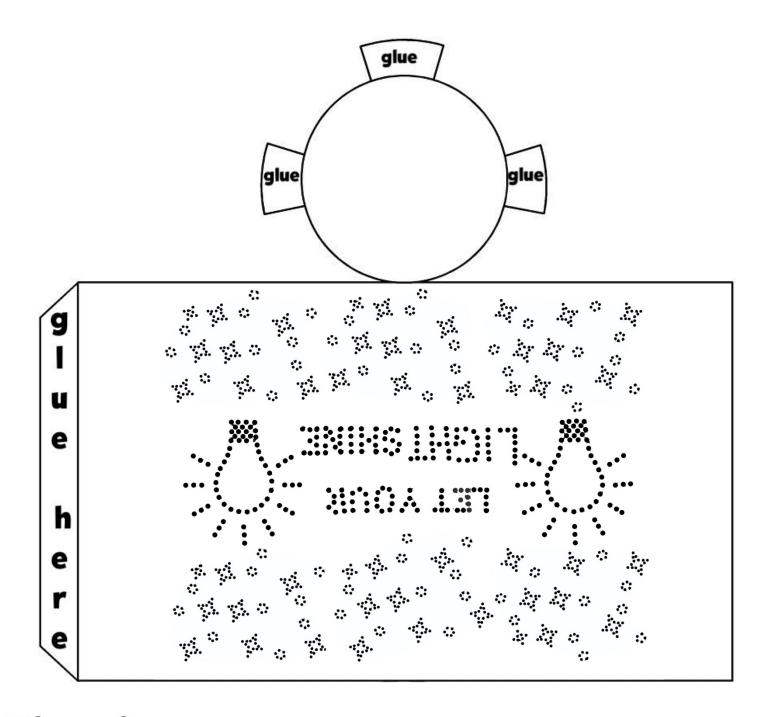
Materials: pencil, paper, eraser

When working on your school work do you ever make a mistake? How do you fix it? (Erase it!) Did you ever do something or say something bad to someone that you wish you could take back? Wouldn't it be nice if you could erase it and make it go away? We cannot make our mistakes just go away, but God does offer us forgiveness.

When God appeared to Isaiah. Isaiah said: "I am ruined. For I am a man of unclean lips and I live among a people of unclean lips and my eyes have seen the King, the Lord Almighty." Isaiah had made lots of mistakes and he was afraid because he knew he was in the presence of God.

Then a creature, called a seraphim, flew to him and took a hot coal from the altar and touched it to Isaiah's lips. God said "your sin is taken away" {like being erased}.

Jesus still offers us forgiveness today. On your paper write down some bad choices you have made. Then erase them one at a time. As you erase each bad choice, ask for forgiveness (if you haven't already) and thank God for His forgiveness.



# **Directions:**

- 1. Print template
- 2. Cut out template
- 3. Use a push pin to punch out the dotted design
- 4. Roll template and glue tabs inside the roll
- 5. Place an electric tea light in the tube and enjoy the glow of your design!