

BANANA NEWS



GO DEEPER

BOTTOM LINE

SEEK ME, AND YOU WILL FIND ME

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: WE CAN CONNECT WITH GOD

READ - Ieremiah 29:12-13

Do we need WiFi to be able to connect with God? No! God is waaaay bigger than WiFi! For thousands and thousands of years God has communicated with people! We can still connect with God, because He loves us and wants to talk with us! How awesome is that?! God, the Creator of all life, wants to talk with us. All we have to do is seek Him! **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

Elijah had a difficult journey. But God took care of him. God sent an angel to bring Elijah food, and then God told Elijah to look for Him. Did God speak to Elijah in the fire, or the wind, or an earthquake? No. After those big events, God spoke, and it sounded like a gentle whisper. If Elijah wasn't seeking God, He may not have even noticed that whisper. **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 had felt like he was the only one who was still following God. Elijah was ready to give up because he had gotten scared and worried, he didn't realize the truth. But before giving up Elijah sought 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 sought God, he discovered the truth, gained a partner (Elisha), and 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 new life, joy, peace, hope, and so much more! But you may miss out on a lot of those things if you don't choose to seek God in your life. God is not lost or hiding from you! He's not missing. In fact, He's all around you, so that you don't miss what He has for 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

Sometimes you may seek God for His help or direction, but feel like you just can't hear Him! Those times can feel frustrating, but they happen to just about everyone. Sometimes when we don't hear from God, it is due to sin that can block our communication with God. So it's important to ask forgiveness any time we become aware of our sin! 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.**

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 is 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 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?



ENCOURAGEMENT MAIL

Materials: Paper, Markers, Scissors

Look at the word 'EN**COURAGE**MENT'. Do you see the word 'courage' there? To encourage means to say something or do something that will give someone courage. What did God's encouragement give Elijah the courage to do? You can find encouragement from God in His Word, the Bible. Look up and read these verses of encouragement:

John 14:27, Jeremiah 33:6, Deuteronomy 31:6, Isaiah 41:10, Philippians 4:13, 1 Corinthians 10:13

God's Word can encourage you when you are afraid, sick, lonely, or need help. Choose a verse that you think might be encouraging to someone you know. Then make a greeting card for them that includes the Bible verse you chose. Send out your encouragement by hand delivering your card or by placing it in the mail.

God knows you need encouragement; that's why He encourages you and He loves it when you share His encouragement with others!