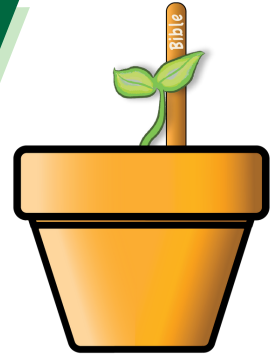


GROW

Kids Christian Magazine



Lessons for Life

Daniel was only in his mid teens when he was taken from his homeland and family to a strange country. It was very different from his own—different religion, different food, different culture.

Temptations and sinful influences threatened to pull him away from devotion to his God. The government gave him and his friends new names and tried to brainwash them with their worldview.

Yet Daniel stood firm. He was not afraid to be different, even risking the anger of the government. He spoke God's message before the most powerful human authority of the time. He would not stop praying, even at threat of death.

But why? Because Daniel was godly. Because he feared the LORD. Because he knew God was with him.

And God was. He gave Daniel favour in the eyes of the government. He gave him success, protection, understanding, and wisdom. He loved Daniel greatly, and gave him the privilege of hearing about the future—God gave him some of the most important prophecies in the Bible.

This is Daniel's story. This is the godly's story. Is it your story?

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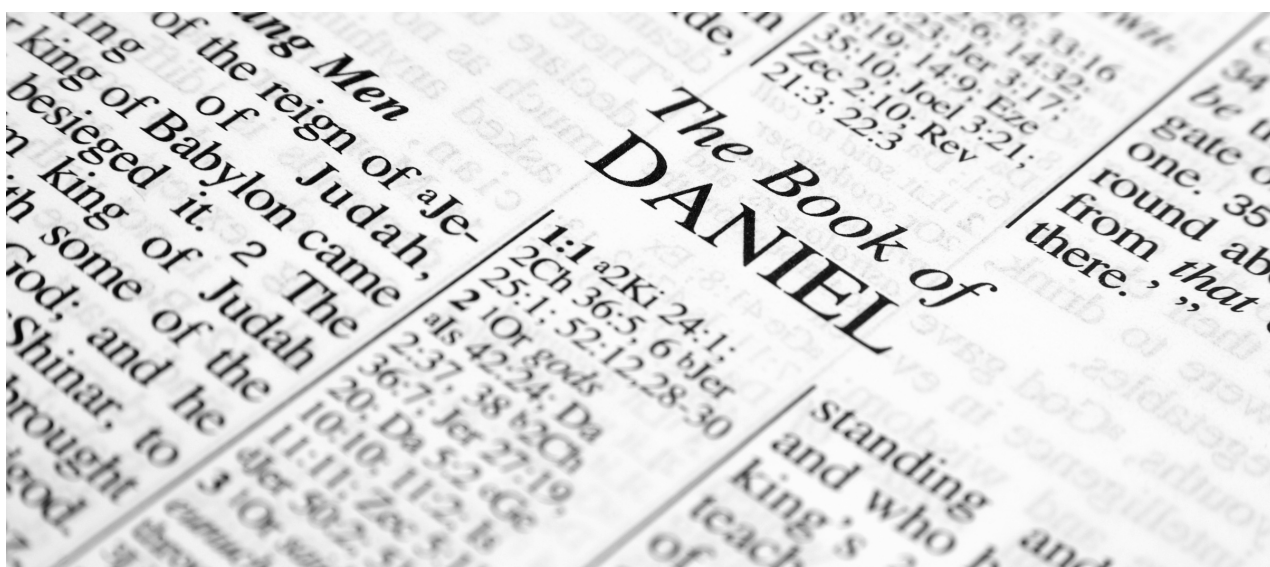
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Lessons for Life cont.

Godliness in 1 and 2 Timothy, Titus, and 2 Peter is a word describing the Christian life. This is the sense of the word which we will be focusing on. It can be defined as obeying God and being committed to him out of respect and awe for him. To be godly, we often need to be non-conformists like Daniel. It is more than correct behaviour; only through the power of Jesus is true godliness possible. (2 Peter 1:3) To have the power of Jesus, you must believe that he is the Son of God, died to take the punishment for your sins, and was raised from the dead. "Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God...everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?" 1 John 5:1; 4-5

Without believing, we cannot be godly. We can't do it on our own.



Challenges

Read: *Kingdom's Dawn* by Chuck Black

This is the first book in an exciting and very christian series, with the allegory of *The Chronicles of Narnia* and the drama of *The Green Ember*. I just finished listening to the fourth audiobook in the series, and I think it was my favourite so far. It is probably more suitable for ages 10+.

Lego: Build little cars out of Lego and race them down a slope.

Outdoors: Make an outdoor catapult. (But don't shoot it at people)

Character Verses: Godliness

Look up and read these bible verses in the ESV, then fill in the blanks.

1 Timothy 4:7-8

Have _____ to do with irreverent, silly myths. Rather _____ yourself for godliness; for while bodily _____ is of some value, godliness is of _____ in every way, as it holds promise for the _____ life and for the life to _____.

2 Timothy 3:4-5

...lovers of _____ rather than lovers of God, having the _____ of godliness, but denying its power. _____ such people.

2 Timothy 3:12

Indeed, all who _____ to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted...

2 Peter 2:9

...then the _____ knows how to _____ the godly from _____.

Character Activities

Choose one or two of these activities (more if you want) and do them!

- **Study** 1 Timothy, marking important repeated words (Paul, Timothy, Jesus, teach, faith, doctrine, godliness, money, the devil, prayer etc.) and their synonyms with different colours or symbols. Write a list of the main things you learn about godliness. How can you apply them?
- **Study** some of the women and/or men in the bible. Make a list, give bible references, and then note what they did right and/or wrong and how their behaviour affected them and those around them. What can you learn?
- **Ask** yourself as you read books or watch movies or TV whether the characters are acting in a godly or ungodly way and explain how. Consider whether they are having a good influence on you and whether you should keep reading/watching.
- **Ask** your parents what they like best about each other. How can this knowledge help you be a godly husband/wife if you marry? What about being godly in general? What about choosing a godly wife/husband?

Continued on next page

Character Activities cont.

Girls:

Use some of these activities to study and become more like the virtuous woman of Proverbs 31.

- **Look** for similarities and differences between the virtuous woman and Ruth.
- **Write** a summary word for each verse about the virtuous woman in Proverbs 31.
- **Read** Proverbs 31:10-31. How are you like the virtuous woman? How are you not like her? What actions can you take to improve?
- **Think** of women you know who exhibit the characteristics described in Proverbs 31:10-31. Get to know these ladies better and follow their good example.

Boys:

Use some of these activities to study and become more like the elder and deacon in Titus 1:5-9 and 1 Timothy 3:1-13. These are qualities for which all men and boys should strive.

- **Look** for similarities and differences between the elder/deacon and one or more bible characters like Paul, David, Abraham etc. What did they accomplish for God?
- **List** the characteristics of elders and deacons in these verses.
- **Read** Titus 1:5-9 and 1 Timothy 3:1-13. How are you like the elder and deacon? How are you not like them? What actions can you take to improve?
- **Think** of men you know who exhibit the characteristics in these verses. Get to know these men better and follow their example

Most activities adapted from Polished Cornerstones and Plants Grown Up by Pam Forster



But **GROW in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.**

2 Peter 3:18

Activity Page

Color



Fruit of the Spirit Wordsearch

n p c e f d g s j t p i q n u
i a a n y h m p x o v v m x z
m s u t z u j x e i y o c f z
s a m x i e g k i n d n e s s
l l t b w e x o p r k i v t s
o v k o k z n w o f y x r p p
v q e p b o f c r d x w a r i
e o e s f t u t e o n m k m r
s e l f c o n t r o l e e b i
b m v h b w a n i l t u s t t
f a i t h f u l n e s s l s m
z r l w o m a l x f r u i t f
z l f s g e n t l e n e s s b
d p e a c e g p o b f a m g d
p y t l n i r o k w l l x r c

faithfulness

self control

gentleness

fruit

patience

kindness

goodness

joy

peace

Spirit

love

Serial Story

The Story of Charlie Chipmunk on Noah's Ark

by Sophia Coleman

Many months passed. It may seem like a long time to you, but because chipmunks sleep fifteen hours a day in captivity, I didn't get quite so bored as you might expect. Besides, I had Charlotte to keep me company. But **I still longed to run and jump and climb without being hindered by the walls of my cage**, and to breathe in the fresh outdoor air. Charlotte must have felt it much more than me. She had always been exploding with energy as long as I had known her, but she was still cheerful in spite of being caged in.

About the 150th day of our voyage (Eden told me) a wind began to blow over the earth, and the water began to subside. The rain stopped and the sea calmed immensely. Then in the seventh month, the ark came to rest on Mount Ararat. It was good to be still, yet it made me even more impatient to get out.



It was the ninth month of our voyage when I noticed that my food and water were a tiny bit less each day than the previous one, and began to suspect that **our provisions were dwindling**. I also observed that Eden and the other humans seemed more tired and worried than usual. Eden had big black patches under her eyes and rarely smiled, although sometimes Charlotte's antics made the corners of her mouth lift a little with amusement.

The storm clouds outside were gone, but I sensed they were gathering inside the ark. It was the first day of the tenth month when they broke. Eden had come later than usual, and was in the middle of her visit when Ham came to clean out our cage with a big scowl on his face.

continued on next page

Serial Story cont.

Shoving Eden aside, he yanked the dirty straw out of our cage, making me hit my head on the hard wall. Eden was about to correct him when Shem, who had seen the whole thing, ran up.

"How dare you push my wife!" he said angrily. "Stop it at once. Just because Japheth got the extra slice of bread doesn't mean you can go around sulking."

To my astonishment, Ham yelled back in his face, "**I don't care.**" You always think you're the best, ordering people around just because you're the oldest."

"Oh, yeah?"

Suddenly Ham punched Shem in the stomach. In return, Shem gave him a fist in the face.

Before I knew it, they were down fighting.

Eden jumped out of the way and ran off down the hall. She returned soon after, bringing Noah and the other women with her.

"Stop, both of you," commanded Noah, in a calm yet strong voice. Displeasure was written all over his face. The two brothers immediately ended their fight and stood up. Shem had a big bruise on his arm and a sore jaw, while Ham had a bloody nose and limped. "Shame on you both," he continued. "You're acting like the men God destroyed. We should be different because we worship him. I never want to see you fighting again. Do you understand?"

"Yes, father," they both replied, hanging their heads.

"And Ham, never push a lady, even if you are having a bad day."

"Yes, father," he repeated remorsefully.

Just then Japheth came running down the hallway towards us. "**I can see the mountains!**" He yelled.

"What?" Noah asked.

To be continued....

News from the Farm

Hi everyone! Welcome to the first full editon of GROW magazine made on a computer. As you may have guessed, I will now be producing it bimonthly rather than monthly. This will give me plenty of breathing room so that it will be easier to send it out in time. If you have any suggestions or would like to contribute to the content or designing of this magazine, let me know at kiwisophia09@gmail.com.

continued on next page

News from the Farm cont.

We have had a reasonably quiet few weeks, giving us a rest before two camps and a road trip in April and May. I have had Mohawk (my adorable bantam chicken) for a year now, and she has finally hatched five cute chicks! Our family also biked almost 50 km on the Clutha Gold trail. Thanks to God's help, we all made it, even my 7-year-old brother! This leads into what I have been learning in this period-to challenge myself. When it is God-honoring and not dangerous, challenging yourself while relying on God's power can increase your confidence and courage. I hope you will get out there and challenge yourself in the next two months!

Manner of the Month

Food Allergies and Dislikes

Foods you Dislike

Just leave without comment a dish of something you know you hate. Don't make a face and say, "I think beets are so gross! How can you eat those things?". Making faces and blurting disparaging comments is a good way to ensure that you won't be invited back.

Unfamiliar Foods

Take just a little bit of something you've never tried. Don't spit something out of your mouth if it turns out you don't like it, hide the rest of it under a piece of bread, or drop it in your napkin. When you take just a bit of an unfamiliar food, you might discover something you really love, and asking for more will please the cook. If you find you don't like it, it's not rude to leave just that small bit on your plate.

Food Allergies

Let a friend who asks you to dinner know in advance if you have food allergies so he or she can share that with the cook. No one wants to be responsible for making someone sick!

Other Things

Let your host or hostess know in advance if you do not eat a particular food, if you are on a diet or are a vegetarian or vegan.

If offered a food you don't like, say something like "No thank you. But I'd love some more salad!" You don't need to say how much you dislike it.

Do not point out how fattening something is, even if it is very fattening.

Adapted from 50 Things Every Young Lady Should Know by Kay West with John Bridges and Bryan Curtis. (All Manner of the Months are adapted)