

Week 17

Day 1



Jehovah Rocks:

I praise You and thank You because you deserve it. I will sing songs and praises to You because You are amazing. (Psalm 7:17)

See It:

'Do not ignore your gift, which was given to you through a prophetic message when the body of elders laid their hands on you. Pay attention to these matters; give yourself completely to them, so that everyone may see your progress. Watch your life and doctrine closely. Keep a close eye on them and stay true to them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and the people who listen to you.' (1 Timothy 4:14-16)

On It:

We guess Paul wrote this letter to his disciple and partner in the fight, Timothy, in AD63. Paul trained up Timothy and assigned him leadership responsibility. In this letter Paul is instructing him in how to live and lead as well as straightening out a few issues. These verses are so important for each of us. And the reason for the instructions are even more important. In verse 12 he encourages Timothy and says, "Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but rather, in speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity, be an example to the believers." Then he pushes him to stir up the spiritual gift Timothy had received. The Holy Spirit gives out gifts whenever He wants. If He is filling you up, He can give you whatever He thinks you might need. Stir up yours, today!

Live It:

This week we are going to be talking about giving away our money! We're going to learn about how generous The Army has been, even those with little money, in giving to others. And, it all starts with an officer named Major John Carleton in 1886.

Do It:

Write your next story for school on a Christian topic.

In It:

From Isaiah 6:3... "Holy, holy holy is the Lord God almighty. The whole earth is filled with Your glory."

Eat It:

'But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear.' (Isaiah 59:2)

Read It:

One-year Bible Plan: Read 1 Samuel 27, Psalm 141, 1 Chronicles 9, & Matthew 10



Week 17

Day 2



Jehovah Rocks:

Babies and children can praise You and with our praise we will silence our enemy. (Psalm 8:2)

See It:

'Work hard so you can give yourself to God and gain His approval. Be a good worker, one who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly explains the word of truth. Avoid worthless, silly talk that only leads to more godless behavior. This kind of talk spreads like cancer.' (2 Timothy 2:15-17a)

On It:

There is a great Veggie tales' story that comes to my mind when I read today's reading. It tells the story of a rumour which spreads like a giant weed over the whole city. That's what happens when we lie or spread rumours about people. It spreads everywhere fast and everyone who hears it is infected by the yuckiness that comes with mean stuff that has been said about others. It seems harmless or even fun sometimes to tell stories about others that make them look bad. But it is anything but harmless! Satan loves it when we say mean things because he wins when people feel sad and start to doubt how special they are. It reminds us, that even though we are a Christian and we have God on our side, we are still going to have difficult times in life. But the lesson for us is that even when things are not feeling so great, God still needs us to keep going and do His work. We have to live the life God requires of us every day. Will you do that today... no matter what comes your way?

Live It:

Major Carleton was at a large Salvation Army meeting at which General William Booth challenged 'well-to-do' supporters to promise to donate money over the season to The Salvation Army. Major Carleton, pretty poor, grabbed a slip of paper and promised to go without pudding for a year and donate the 50 shillings!

Do It:

Try to find out two interesting facts about William Booth you don't already know.

Fact #1

Fact #2

In It:

Thank You, God, that You have a special plan and purpose for my life.

Eat It:

Isaiah 59:2
'Your iniquities.' 'Iniquity' means injustice or immoral act (which means bad stuff you do). And these are YOUR iniquities. It gets very personal. The injustices you have done, and immoral acts you have performed are what separated you from God.

Read It:

One-year Bible Plan: Read 1 Samuel 28-29, Psalm 109, & Matthew 11

Week 17

Day 3



Jehovah Rocks:

*Thank You, Yahweh, with all of my heart. I want to tell
You all the things that make me think You are amazing.*
(Psalm 9:1)

See It:

'As for you, Titus, promote the kind of living that reflects good teaching.'
(Titus 2:1)

On It:

Imagine if you woke up one day and you were completely blind. Everything you could see yesterday... colours, shapes, trees, the sky, people... suddenly everything is dark! You learn how to walk using a cane, you learn to follow the sounds of people's voices, you learn to touch and smell more than you ever have before. But then one day, your sight returns! Would you continue to keep your eyes closed? Walk around with the lights off? No, of course not! You would be thankful that your sight had returned, and you would live with all the benefit of sight. The book of Titus instructs us in the way to live now that we have been restored to God and empowered by the Holy Spirit. Are we going to go back to the life of sin and nastiness before we were saved? No, of course not! We are going to be thankful that we have been forgiven and are going to live with all the benefits of living for Jesus. So, don't get caught up in lies and gossip and fighting. That was a life in darkness. Now, the light has surrounded us, and we see the better way to live for God!

Live It:

General William Booth was impressed by Major Carleton's sacrifice and figured that it could be multiplied to great effect. So, he started this fantastic thing called Self Denial. Every Salvationist is challenged to sacrifice something for a season and donate the funds thus saved to the Self Denial fund.

Do It:

Write a little assignment on William Booth.



*Start here. Write down a
few things you know about
William Booth.*

In It:

Fill me up and send me out, Lord!

Eat It:

Isaiah 59:2
'Your sins have hidden His face from you.' God does not like to look at sins. So, if we have sin in our lives, He doesn't want to look at us. What a terrible reality! Memorize this verse.

Read It:

One-year Bible Plan: Read 1 Samuel 30-32, 1 Chronicles 10, & Matthew 12

Week 17

Day 4



Jehovah Rocks:

I am so happy to have You in my life. I love to praise You and I will praise You everyday! (Psalm 9:2)

See It:

'I pray that you will always be sharing your faith, so that you will have a full understanding of every good thing we have in Christ.' (Philemon 1:6)

On It:

We know that you are young, but we wonder if you have ever gone through a hard time while trying to follow Jesus. There are often different pressures that make it difficult to be obedient to God and to have faith for God's purposes for you. The Jesus freaks in Philippi were in a similar situation, and Paul encouraged them. This encouragement applies to you as well if you stay faithful to God. Paul is confident that He who began this good work in you – just think, He died for you, rose again, prodded you and provided for you to hear the Good News, AND (if you have repented and believe, following Him) forgave your sins, regenerated you, adopted you into His family, came to live within you, and so much more – He is faithful to perfect it until the day of Christ! Be encouraged!

Live It:

The idea is that for a few months leading up to Resurrection Day, we all sacrifice things in our lives and put the money aside to give to poor and needy people through The Salvation Army.

Do It:

Hand in your assignment into your teacher as extra homework.

In It:

Ask God for the things that you will need that will help you in your mission.

Dear God...

Eat It:

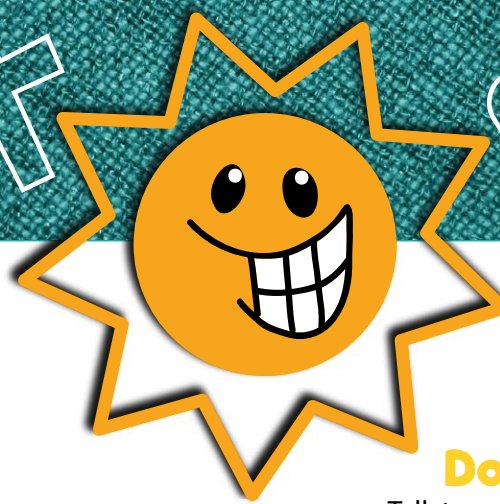
Isaiah 59:2
'He does not hear.' Did you catch that? Our sins make it so that God does not hear us! Now, God is God and can override this, but it seems here that God does not listen to the prayers of sinners or slacker Christians. The exception is if sinners or slacker Christians start their prayers with repentance. So, sorry seems like a good place to start when we talk to God.

Read It:

One-year Bible Plan: Read 2 Samuel 1, Psalm 140, & Matthew 13

Week 17

Day 5



Jehovah Rocks:

I praise You Yahweh! You are my King. I am going to tell everyone I know how good You are. (Psalm 9:11)

See It:

'...in these final days, He has spoken to us through His Son. God promised everything to the Son as an inheritance, and through the Son He created the universe. The Son shines God's own glory and expresses the very character of God, and He sustains everything by the mighty power of His command. When He had cleaned us from our sins, He sat down in the place of honour at the right hand of the majestic God in Heaven.' (Hebrews 1:1-3)

On It:

I love when I get into bed at night after the sheets have been cleaned and the bed freshly made. There is something about being totally clean that makes me feel happy. Well, you feel even happier when you are totally cleansed of your sins! Jesus takes it all away and we are filled with the Holy Spirit when we confess our sins and believe we have been set free through faith in God. The book of Hebrews is all about the cleansing we receive because of what Jesus did for us on the cross. Jesus is like a giant washing machine that takes all our stains and makes us white as snow. Once we have confessed those sins all we have to do in return is have faith and know that there is no longer any need for us to sin. We don't have to be weighed down by feelings of guilt and shame but instead we can run and jump and laugh because Jesus has taken it all away!

Live It:

OWSOMS is one excellent way of doing Self Denial (it happens in Australia!). It stands for One Week's Salary On Missionary Service. You put aside one week's salary and give it to God through The Army. So,

whatever your weekly pocket money is, no matter how large or how small, we give it away at OWSOMS.

Do It:

Talk to one of your friends about Jesus today.

In It:

Ask God to help you to see what He is going to do in your day tomorrow so that you can get involved in His plans.

Eat It: Isaiah 59:2

The verse before our verse talks about God's arm being strong enough to save and His ear clear enough to hear. So, if we are not saved it is not because God cannot save. It is because of us. Memorize the verse.

Read It:

One-year Bible Plan: Read 2 Samuel 2, 1 Chronicles 11, Psalm 142, & Matthew 14



Week 17

Day 6



Jehovah Rocks:

Thank You, Yahweh, because You always instruct me and show me what You want me to do. Your word is full of guidance and You even speak to me in my sleep.
(Psalm 16:7)

See It:

'What good is it, dear brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but don't show it by your actions? Can that kind of faith save anyone? Just as the body is dead without breath, so also faith is dead without good works.' (James 2:14, 26)

On It:

When I was little, I told my teacher I was a good swimmer so that I could miss a day of school for the swimming carnival. It all went according to plan until I had to dive in! That was when everyone realized I couldn't swim, and my teacher had to pull me out of the pool before I drowned! In today's reading, James says that our faith is kind of the same as my story about swimming. If we say we are a Christian, but then can't follow through and act like one, our faith is not going to be very useful to God. If we say we are a Christian but then we treat others badly, or we are too embarrassed to pray for someone or tell them about Jesus, then people are going to think we are not a Christian at all, and our faith will be like me trying to swim in a pool... useless! BUT... don't think that doing good things is what makes us a Christian. Our faith in God is the only thing that proves we are Christian. We have faith and because of that faith we serve others. Or, in swimming terms, I dive in and because I can swim, I make it to the other end. So, have faith in God... and let His good works move through you.

Live It:

Each territory is teamed up with one or more other territories. So, when we give, we know who we are giving to. These are called 'Partners in Mission'. Wealthier territories share their blessings with poorer territories.



Do It:

Try to read the whole book of James today!

In It:

Imagine Jesus was sitting right in front of you. You ask Him what makes Him happiest. What does He say?

Eat It: Isaiah 59:2

This is an important lesson for people. Some people want to blame God for their problems, but God is not to blame. He is able to save. He wants to save. It is up to us to repent of our sins. Trust Him. Then He will rescue us.

Read It:

One-year Bible Plan: Read 2 Samuel 3, 1 Chronicles 12, & Matthew 15

Week 17

Day 7



Jehovah Rocks:

I call out to You and You help me. You are worthy to be praised and I love You. (Psalm 18)

See It:

'Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day He visits us.' (1 Peter 2:12)

On It:

It may be that, even though you are young, people have given you a hard time for following Jesus. That is called persecution. Some soldiers of Jesus are denied jobs and benefits and are rejected from society. Others are imprisoned, starved, and tortured. If you have this book the persecution you experience is probably less than that, but it may real and hurtful anyway. Peter's first letter, written from Rome, was to soldiers of Jesus throughout Roman provinces who were experiencing persecution (or were soon to experience it) for following Jesus. His words to them are meant to offer instruction and encouragement for you, too. The advice from this verse – keep your behaviour excellent among those who don't follow Jesus yet – is actually a strategy that The Salvation Army uses in countries where soldiers of Jesus are regularly persecuted. Living 'supernatural holiness' (or staying good even when people are mean) was really helpful back in Peter's day in Rome, and it is still very helpful today in very difficult countries and in very difficult schools and homes.

Live It:

The first Self-Denial week £4,280, and most of it came, to William Booth's delight, in small change. It has grown to many millions of pounds today (lots of dollars!).

Do It:

Tell someone in your family how much you love them.



In It:

Please help me to understand the Bible.

Eat It:

- ☐ Write the verse.
- ☐ Recite it.
- ☐ Memorize it.
- ☐ Share it with five friends.

Read It:

One-year Bible Plan: Read 2 Samuel 4-5, Psalm 139, & Matthew 16