

Name _____

MONDAY: Beginning the Journey

Welcome to the new school year! Hope you had a splendid summer. Did you take any trips this summer? Where? What did you enjoy doing there?

If you could pick one place to travel to right now, where would it be? Why would you like to go there? _____

Have you or your family ever been lost on a trip? What was that like? _____

Getting lost can be scary, even dangerous in some places. What steps did you take on your last trip to avoid getting lost? Did you use GPS? A printed road map? A road map shows streets and important locations to help travelers navigate unfamiliar places. Your parents and grandparents probably used road maps on trips when they were younger.

The Word of God is a lot like a road map. It shows the way God would have you go. Without it to guide you, you may travel down all sorts of wrong paths that lead far away from God.

Read Psalm 25:4–5. What is David asking the Lord for? _____

David recognizes that the truth of God’s Word is the best road map he could follow. This year as you journey into a deeper relationship with God, *Basic Bible* is here to help you. Each day you will be given a *Daily Bible Connection* to help you understand God and His path. You also will find a lot of questions that help you think about how God’s Word relates to your life. As you pay attention to God’s Word, He will change you into the traveler He has planned for you to be.

What are some “wrong turns” that you are tempted to make from time to time? Share an experience of when you made a wrong decision. Where did it lead you? _____

How would you describe your spiritual journey so far? Do you think you are currently traveling closer to Christ? Explain. _____

Name _____

TUESDAY: Traveling Together

As you charge into the journey of this school year, what are you excited about? _____

Is there anything about this year that you are dreading or concerned about? _____

Part of enjoying the journey of life is having good traveling companions. Who is in your family?

What does your family most enjoy doing together? _____

What friends do you think will be a big part of this year? _____

What do you most enjoy doing with your friends? _____

Anyone journeying through this life will face hard places. Moses understood just how hard the journey of life can be. He was born into slavery but then grew up in the palace of the king of Egypt. Later, he fled to the desert, where he took care of sheep for forty years. He then returned to Egypt to lead God's people from slavery to freedom. Near the end of his life, Moses had some great advice for God's people.

Read Deuteronomy 31:6. What does Moses tell them? _____

Who does Moses say will be with them? _____

The people Moses was talking to were about to take over a new country. You might not be facing actual battles like the people of Israel were, but you will have choices to make and enemies.

Read 1 Peter 5:8–9. Who is the enemy who is out to destroy you? _____

What advice does God's Word give for how you can make it? _____

You may be starting this year surrounded by friends, or you may feel all alone. God wants to be your guide on the journey ahead. He has promised to go with you. And if you are following Him, you are part of a world-wide movement of other fellow travelers on this journey.

WEDNESDAY: Food for Your Journey

When you go on a trip, what are your favorite places to stop for meals? _____

What are your favorite road-trip snacks? _____

Road trips go better with great snacks. A good music playlist also helps. What you feed your body and mind during your journey this year through Basic Bible will have a lot to do with how your journey goes. Peter, one of Jesus's followers, wrote about what we need to take in to grow spiritually.

What are the five commands in 1 Peter 2:1?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

After giving these commands, Peter immediately writes about what babies need to eat. This topic may seem completely disconnected from the five commands, but Peter is actually giving people the only hope for how they can do the five commands he has already mentioned.

According to 1 Peter 2:2, what should the people (those who Peter is writing to) long for? _____

For newborns, milk is the best possible nutrition. They take in that food so that they can grow.

God's Word is the best possible nutrition for anyone who wants to grow up into a mature believer. Two things are necessary for growth—one is the food of God's Word and the other is to be a believer. The term *believer* doesn't just mean that you know there was a man in history named Jesus who came to earth. Being a *believer* means you totally trust the life, death, and resurrection of Christ to count for you. This is a work God has to do (and wants to do) in your heart.

The people Peter was writing to in 2 Peter 2:3—which includes us today—could only grow spiritually if they had tasted how good God is. The good food your soul needs is Christ and His Word.

THURSDAY: What Kind of a Traveler Are You?

Some people like to take trips because they are going places. The journey is all about the task of getting where you need to go. These are task-oriented travelers who want to check off the task of arriving at their destination.

Other people like to take trips because they like people. The journey for the people-oriented traveler is all about who they travel with and who they meet along the way. This type of traveler also wants to go places, but what makes the trip fulfilling are the friends they make along the way and at their new destination.

Which type of traveler do you think you are? _____

You might be able to tell the difference between task-oriented and people-oriented classmates at school. Task-oriented students are eager to get their work done and often remain quiet as they stick to the work at hand. People-oriented students, on the other hand, are eager to chat with other students or the teacher as they work or sometimes instead of getting work done.

While you may be mainly either task oriented or people oriented, the truth is—God designed us to be both.

According Mark 30:12 who are we to love? _____

Write out Colossians 3:23. _____

If we are to love others as ourselves and do our work with all our heart for the Lord, we cannot just be task- *or* people-oriented. We must step out of our comfort zone. We need to ask God to help us and to change us in order to develop skills in both areas.

When it comes to taking a journey, arriving at the destination is certainly important. But how you treat those around you on the journey is just as important.

In which of these two areas do you need more of God's help? _____

Name _____

FRIDAY: Connection Reflection

Travel takes intentionality. You don't wake up one morning in one place and accidentally arrive in a different place by night time. If you are going to succeed in your journey of learning to walk closer to Jesus this year, you have to do it on purpose.

God gives two gifts of guidance as you travel this year.

What is the guide in Psalm 119:105? _____

Who is the guide in Psalm 48:14? _____

As we wrap up this week talking about travel, it's important that we all realize there are two things that are necessary for travel. You have to know where you are—and—you have to know where you are going.

How would you describe where you are spiritually (in connection with God) right now? _____

How would you describe where you want to go spiritually (in connection with God) this year?

You may not be sure where you are in connection with God or where He wants to take you. God is completely clear about both areas. Take a minute to ask God to guide you down the unknown road ahead. Ask for His help in getting you exactly where He wants you to go. _____
