

The following is from Pr Glenn Coon's study, "The Science of Prayer, it's ABC's" which is available from [archive.org/details/GlennCoonBooks](http://archive.org/details/GlennCoonBooks)

In our early ministry we learned a sad lesson. We prayed for physical healing for a man who had suffered a stroke. He was healed, got up and immediately returned to his openly sinful life. He had been healed physically, but not spiritually!

When Jesus healed the crippled man, he told him to change his ways and stop sinning; the crippled man too, must have had some unhealthy, sinful habits.

Sometimes people think that when God answers their prayers, it also means that they are fine, spiritually. When Jesus was on earth, He gave all His disciples, including Judas, the power to do miracles. Jesus did this even though he knew what Judas was really like. (Matthew 10:1-4 & John 6:70)

No one is perfect, we all need to be growing in our relationship with God. We all need to pray the prayer that King David did in Psalm 19:12-14<sup>NLT</sup>

*How can I know all the sins lurking in my heart?  
Cleanse me from these hidden faults.  
Keep your servant from deliberate sins!  
Don't let them control me.  
Then I will be free of guilt and innocent of great sin.  
May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart  
be pleasing to you, O LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.*

The Pharisees in Jesus' time spent a lot of time comparing how much better they were than others. When you point the finger at someone, have you ever noticed how many fingers are pointing back at you? When you judge what is wrong with someone else, you don't realise that there are even more things wrong with you. In Matthew 7:1 Jesus said, "Do not judge others, and you will not be judged. For you will be treated as you treat others." Ask God to help us treat others in the same way that Jesus did.



# A Sabbath Visit

## Sabbath

Have you ever had a really special visitor? Tick the things you would do when you have a special visitor and cross the things you would not do.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Listen to them        | <input type="checkbox"/> Show favourite things                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Talk to them          | <input type="checkbox"/> Tidy your room                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sleep                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Spend time with them                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clean the house       | <input type="checkbox"/> Fight with your sister                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Share food or a drink | <input type="checkbox"/> Have fun together                            |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Play computer or phone games while they talk |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Phone someone else                           |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Leave them at home                           |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Have a party                                 |

What did you do last Sabbath? – Write one thing on each line for everything you can remember. What did you watch, what did you listen to, where did you go?

What you watched/listened to or did.
Went to church

## Sunday

One day Jesus came again to Jerusalem and on the Sabbath He came to the pool of Bethesda, near the Sheep Gate. People who were sick or disabled gathered on the covered porches waiting for the water to move, because they believed that an angel would sometimes touch the water and then the first person to enter the water would be healed.

Jesus approached one of the men who had been sick for thirty-eight years and said, "Would you like to get well?"

But the sick man said, "I have no one to help me into the pool when the water bubbles up."

Jesus said to the man, "Stand up and pick up your bed!"

The man jumped up! He gathered his mat and turned to thank Jesus, but Jesus was gone.

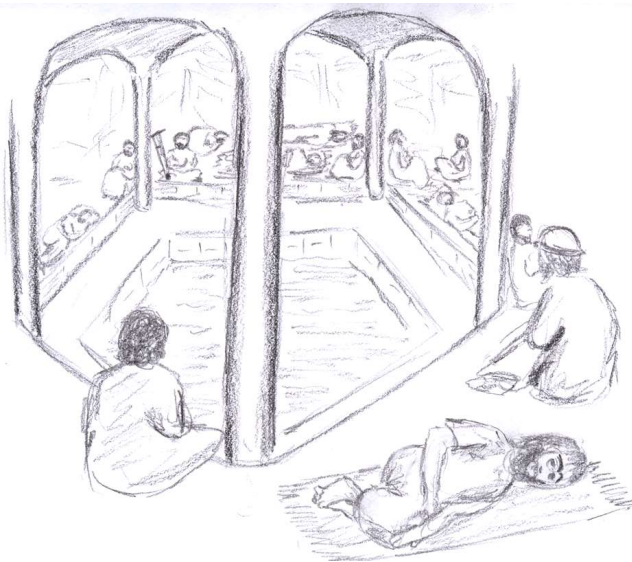
When the Jewish leaders saw the man carrying his bed they said, "You can't carry your mat on the Sabbath - that is work!"

"But the man who healed me told me to," he replied.

He didn't know that it was Jesus who had healed him, but later, Jesus came to him in the Temple and told him, "You are well now so change your ways, stop sinning."

From that time on, the Jewish leaders watched Jesus because they did not like Him; He did not follow all their Sabbath rules.

One day, someone asked Jesus, "Why don't your disciples fast? John the Baptist's disciples do, and the disciples of the Pharisees do." Jesus said, "Do people fast at a wedding feast? When the bridegroom is with them they celebrate!"



## Friday

The Sabbath is a special time for us to spend with Jesus.

Look at the list of things you did on Sabbath's page – tick the things that you think Jesus would do.

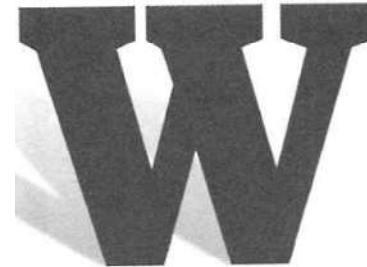
How did you go?

What are some other things you could do on Sabbath?

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(You can also ask God for ideas)

This is from "More Power to Ya – Razor sharp devotions for Juniors" by Celeste Perino walker 2001 Used by Permission



hen I was in school we read a story called "The Lady, or the Tiger." In the story a man had to choose between two doors. Behind one was a beautiful lady. Behind the other was a very hungry tiger. One would love him. One would eat him. The choice was his.

In a way we all have a similar choice to make. Life or death. Love or *(gulp!)* being eaten by a ferocious beast (Satan). The only difference is that we can see behind the doors. We don't have to guess which one to open. We know that by choosing God we choose life and love. If we choose Satan, we're choosing death and destruction.

Why do we sometimes find it so hard to make the right choice? It's because Satan makes living for the moment sound more attractive than living for eternity. We settle for temporary things instead of permanent happiness. Not such a hot deal when you stop to think about it. The problem is that we don't often think about it.

Which door will you choose? We can put ourselves on God's side and choose to open His door. We can set our hearts in the direction of life.



***See, I set before you today life and prosperity,  
death and destruction. Deuteronomy 30:15.***

## Thursday

In Mark 2:27, Jesus said to the Pharisees, **"The Sabbath was made to meet the needs of people, and not people [made] to meet the requirements of the Sabbath."**

Find what Jesus said in the grid.

The time that the disciples spent with Jesus was special. Our time with God on Sabbath should also be special. Here are some suggestions of things that you and your family could do to help make Sabbath special. Tick the ones you already do and put a star next to the ones you would like to start doing.

- ☐ Have special food
- ☐ Have special toys just for Sabbath
- ☐ Clean the house and do as much preparation before Sabbath as possible so that you can relax on Sabbath.
- ☐ Leave as many chores as you can for after Sabbath so you can relax on Sabbath.
- ☐ Spend time in nature: visit a beach or go for a bush walk.
- ☐ Visit with friends
- ☐ Visit an aged-care home or hospital
- ☐ Have a special Sabbath craft box
- ☐ Decorate the house or table for Sabbath: use candles, special plates, nice tablecloth etc.
- ☐ Have a special worship time
- ☐ Sing or play Christian songs, have a Christian concert
- ☐ Do nature or Bible arts or crafts: paint, draw or scrapbook.
- ☐ Read stories about missionaries or other Christians
- ☐ Play Bible games

T R U E W R O R S N H I  
P G O D P E O P L E S W  
A Y T R U Q E E W E O R  
S H I P G U O O D D S W  
A Y T R U I E P W S O R  
S H I P G R O L D S W A  
Y T M A D E R E U E W O  
R S E H I M P G O T O D  
A S E W M E E T A O Y T  
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P G S O T H E D S B W A  
Y T R U H E W O M A D E  
R S H I E P G O D T S W  
A Y T R U E W O T H E R

## Monday

Salvation means to save.

What does God want to save us from?

Romans 6:23 "For the wages of \_\_\_\_ (5a) is \_\_\_\_ (6d)..."

NIV/NLT

What do we do to be saved?

Romans 10:9

"If you \_\_\_\_ (2d) with your mouth, " \_\_\_\_ (1d) is

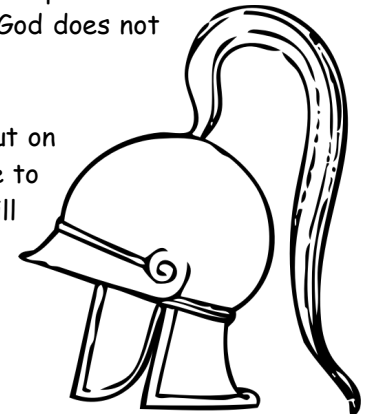
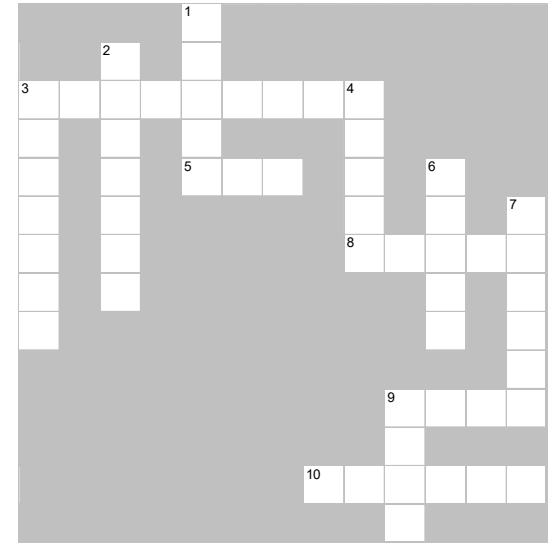
\_\_\_\_ (9d)," and \_\_\_\_ (3d) in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be \_\_\_\_ (4d)." NIV

What choices can we make?

Deuteronomy 30:19-20 "This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you \_\_\_\_ (9a) and \_\_\_\_ (6d), \_\_\_\_ (3a) and \_\_\_\_ (10a). Now \_\_\_\_ (7d) life, so that you and your children may live." NIV

Romans 5:6 says that we were "utterly helpless" - we cannot save ourselves, we need Jesus to save us. But God does not force us, He lets us make the choice.

What do you want to choose? Have you put on God's helmet of Salvation? Will you choose to keep wearing it? If you have not yet, will you choose to put on God's helmet of Salvation?



## Tuesday

Do you think the sick man was glad to see Jesus? – What would have happened if he had ignored Jesus, or not done what He told him to? Find these words. They may be down, across or diagonal!

Angel, bed, Bethesda, crippled,  
healed, Jerusalem, Jesus, pool,  
Sabbath, sick, temple, water, work.

The Jews had filled  
Gods special day  
with so many rules  
that it wasn't a  
blessing anymore.

B	A	S	P	E	C	C	I	A	L	V	I	S	I
E	E	T	W	A	T	E	R	O	R	A	S	P	E
D	C	T	I	O	A	E	L	I	V	I	S	I	H
T	O	R	H	A	R	S	M	P	P	E	C	I	E
A	L	V	I	E	S	K	I	P	T	P	O	R	A
A	S	P	E	C	S	I	A	O	L	L	L	V	L
I	S	I	T	O	E	D	A	O	S	E	P	E	E
E	C	J	E	R	U	S	A	L	E	M	I	A	D
L	V	E	I	S	I	T	O	N	R	A	S	P	E
C	I	S	I	C	K	A	L	V	G	I	S	I	T
O	R	U	A	S	P	E	C	I	A	E	L	V	I
S	I	S	A	B	B	A	T	H	T	O	L	R	A

This is from Bible.org, outlined from *Fan the Flame*, J Stowell, Moody, 1986 p52.

The Pharisees had created a system of 613 laws, including 365 things to avoid. By the time Christ came, it had produced a heartless, cold, and arrogant type of righteousness. New laws had to continually be invented for new situations. People were accountable to men, rather than to God for their actions. It created a judgmental culture. It created a false standard of righteousness. It was a burden. It was strictly external - physical, not spiritual.

In Matthew 23:23 Jesus said to the Pharisees: "Hypocrites! For you are careful to tithe even the tiniest income from your herb gardens, but you ignore the more important aspects of the law—justice, mercy, and faith." NLT

## Wednesday

In Ezekiel 20:19, 20 God says, "I am the LORD your God... Follow My decrees, pay attention to My regulations, and keep My Sabbath days holy, for they are a sign to remind you that I am the LORD your God." NLT

Isaiah 58:13 "Keep the Sabbath day holy. Don't pursue your own interests on that day, but enjoy the Sabbath and speak of it with delight as the LORD's holy day. Honour the Sabbath in everything you do on that day, and don't follow your own desires or talk idly."

When we do Sabbath the way that God wants us to, the Sabbath won't be a boring day where we can't do anything fun. It will be a fun day to spend doing special things with God.

Fit the underlined words into the grid.

Hint: Start with the 6 and 7 letter words.

