



Sabbath FOR STUDY

- » **Memory Text:** "But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord" (2 Corinthians 3:18, NKJV).
- » **Our Beliefs, no. 22, Christian Behavior:** "We are called to be a godly people who think, feel, and act in harmony with biblical principles in all aspects of personal and social life. For the Spirit to recreate in us the character of our Lord we involve ourselves only in those things that will produce Christlike purity, health, and joy in our lives."
- » Ellen G. White, *Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing*, pp. 82, 83

MIRRORS AND THE MOON

Have you ever seen mirrors that make you look fat, tall, skinny, and short, and distort your features so that you can hardly tell that it's you? Mirrors have varying degrees of depth that, even though it may not seem like it, alter your image just a tiny bit. So a reflection of yourself will never be completely perfect, even if you look right into a mirror. In a similar way, even though the reflection may not be precise, others can still see what God is like by looking at you.

The story is told of a boy named Miguel who was walking home from school one Friday afternoon. He noticed another boy struggling to carry a large stack of books that were teetering back and forth. When the books hit the ground, Miguel ran to help. Miguel found out the boy's name was Eddie, and Miguel helped him carry all his books home. He then invited Eddie over to play video games. It didn't take long for Miguel and Eddie to become great friends.

During school and after school, all the way through high school they were inseparable. When the day came for high school graduation, Eddie, as the valedictorian, was required to give a speech to the rest of the graduates and guests. He said:

"I had given up. I was so alone, and I felt that my life didn't matter to anyone. So I cleaned out my locker for the last time and made my decision to commit suicide. As I carried a stackful of books from my locker I spilled them everywhere. I wanted to die right there on the spot. But then Miguel came along and helped me. Not only did he help me, but he became my friend. What began as a little gesture of kindness became the beginning of a friendship, which in turn, has made all the difference in my life."

As Miguel heard the speech he wondered if God hadn't placed him in the right place at the right time with the right frame of mind.

Reflecting God's image to others may not be as hard as it seems. Just watch how the moon reflects the sun!

Sunday RESPONDING

- » Read Ephesians 5:8-10.
- » You finish the scenes:
 - Scene 1:** Liz was a girl in school whom everyone liked. Always nice to everyone, Liz would walk through the hallways every day with a smile on her face, saying hello to everyone. Liz also had a wonderful singing voice, which she used to sing in church and in the school choir. One day she was practicing in the music room for special music when one of the younger students came noisily into the room. Liz stopped what she was doing and listened kindly to the younger student. What did she do to reflect Christ?
 - Scene 2:** Vaughn was a student whom other students looked up to. He could often be found playing ball with people who weren't even very good. During some free time Vaughn and some students were playing ball. Some friends invited Vaughn to play with them in a basketball game. They were exclusively asking Vaughn and not the other players. What did Vaughn do to reflect Christ?

Monday BIBLE ANSWERS ON CHRISTIAN BEHAVIOR

- » Read 1 Corinthians 10:31; Ephesians 5:1-3; 1 John 2:6.
- » When we realize that everything we do has an impact on who we become then we will guard our minds and hearts from wrong thoughts and feelings. It is by looking at Jesus that we become changed into His likeness. As we become more like Him, we begin to treat others as He did. And as we treat others as Jesus would, we reflect His love to them.
- » What are you doing to become more like Jesus?

- » With whom will you share the love of Jesus this week? _____
- » Below are two verses that are scrambled. Can you separate them and write out the correct verses? Both are from the New King James Version. Hint: knowing the books of the Bible will help you.
- » Do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, 19, 20 Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, 1 whom you have from God, whatever things are just, Philippians and you are not your own? whatever things are pure, For you were bought at a price; 6: whatever things are lovely, therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, Corinthians whatever things are of good report, 4: which are God's. if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—8 meditate on these things.



Tuesday
REFLECTING

- » Read 2 Corinthians 4:6.
- » Paul calls us to “contemplate the Lord’s glory” (2 Corinthians 3:18, NIV). A mirror reflects that which is right in front of it. The moon reflects the light from the sun. We are not different. If we have our eyes, heart, hands, and mind fully focused on Christ, His reflection will appear in our lives. The result, according to Paul, is that we become more and more like Jesus.
- » As Christians, we are learning what it means to follow Christ. So we practice kindness when we don’t feel like it. We forgive others when we don’t want to. We show love to the unloving because it is the right thing to do. The more you follow Christ, the more like Him you will become, and the more natural these traits will be. It changes you.
- » “As we study the Example, as we behold the character of Christ, note His life of humility, patience, self-denial, and love, we become changed” (Ellen G. White, “Learn of Me,” *Signs of the Times*, January 26, 1891).
- » Be sure of this, however, that unless the Son is your focus, you will not shine. There is no moon without the sun. There is no mirror reflection without someone standing there. You know the song “This little light of mine, I’m going to let it shine”? Your “light” is a “reflector light” of the love of Jesus!

Thursday
CONNECTING

- » Read 1 Peter 1:14-16.
- » Review the memory text.
- » When God told us to “be perfect,” He meant to go and spend time with the outcasts, the less-popular people at school, the sad and the broken. He calls us to extend grace to them in the same way He extended grace to us. Do you remember the first time you realized what Christ had done for you? When did you first understand what unconditional love is? That is the “perfection” God is looking for. Every one of us is endowed with the capacity to love unconditionally—but only by surrendering our selfish nature and focusing on God’s perfect character will we be able to do it. The more we practice love like Jesus, the more we experience it ourselves. As we receive it from God we can reflect that experience to others.

Wednesday
BIBLE INSIGHTS

- » Fill in the blanks after looking up the texts in the New International Version (go to Biblegateway.com).
- 1. “And we all, who with unveiled faces _____ the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into his _____ with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the _____” (2 Corinthians 3:18).
- 2. “For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, _____; and to _____, _____; and to _____, _____; and to _____, _____, love. For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But whoever does not have them is _____ and blind, forgetting that they have been cleansed from their past sins” (2 Peter 1:5-9).
- 3. “As obedient children, do not conform to the evil _____ you had when you lived in ignorance. But just as he who called you is _____, so be holy in all you do; for it is _____: ‘Be holy, because I am holy’” (1 Peter 1:14-16).
- 4. “When they saw the _____ of Peter and John and realized that they were _____, ordinary men, they were _____ and they took note that these men had been with _____” (Acts 4:13).
- 5. “For you were once _____, but now you are _____ in the Lord. Live as children of _____ (for the fruit of the _____ consists in all goodness, _____ and _____) and find out what pleases the Lord” (Ephesians 5:8-10).
- 6. “For God, who said, ‘Let _____ shine out of darkness,’ made his _____ shine in our _____ to give us the _____ of the knowledge of God’s glory displayed in the face of Christ” (2 Corinthians 4:6).
- 7. “The Son is the _____ of God’s glory and the exact _____ of his being, sustaining all things by his _____ word. After he had provided _____ for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the _____ in heaven” (Hebrews 1:3).

Friday
APPLYING

- » Read 2 Peter 1:5-9.
- » “It is the Holy Spirit, the Comforter, which Jesus said He would send into the world, that changes our character into the image of Christ; and when this is accomplished, we reflect, as in a mirror, the glory of the Lord. That is, the character of the one who thus beholds Christ is so like His, that one looking at him sees Christ’s own character shining out as from a mirror” (Ellen G. White, *In Heavenly Places*, p. 337).
- » We won’t be able to reflect Jesus overnight. Allowing our reflector “lights to shine” takes time and effort. Try taking a few minutes each morning and ask God to help you show His love to others. Write in the mirror below three to five ways you want to reflect God’s love to others this week. Journal your thoughts and experiences around the mirror throughout the week.

