



Sabbath FOR STUDY

- » **Memory Text:** “For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them” (Ephesians 2:10, NKJV).
- » **Our Beliefs, no. 17, Spiritual Gifts and Ministries:** “God bestows upon all members of His church in every age spiritual gifts that each member is to employ in loving ministry for the common good of the church and of humanity. Given by the agency of the Holy Spirit, who apportions to each member as He wills, the gifts provide all abilities and ministries needed by the church to fulfill its divinely ordained functions.”
- » Ellen G. White, *Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing*, pp. 36, 37

WHAT I WANT TO BE WHEN I GROW UP

Hope and Nikki have been best friends since they were little. Growing up, they always used to dream about what their life would be like when they became adults. Hope had a dream of becoming a doctor. She loved learning about the human body, and she loved to study about health, diseases, and nutrition. When Hope was young, she loved to look for information on her computer to learn how she could “do surgery” on patients and perform all types of operations in a virtual space. When she was a teenager, she volunteered at the hospital as a candy striper. Eventually Hope decided that she wanted to become a nurse. Now Hope is almost done with nursing school, and she’s at the top of her class. She loves what she’s doing, and she desires to honor God and serve others by being a caring nurse.

Nikki, on the other hand, wasn’t quite sure what she wanted to be when she grew up. Sometimes she thought it would be fun to be a veterinarian, since she loved animals so much. But then she decided that it would be too hard to see animals in pain. Other times she thought it would be fun to be an animal trainer. She also thought about taking pictures and writing for *National Geographic*, becoming a teacher, or being a marine biologist. As Nikki grew up and changed, her ideas of what she wanted to do in life changed as well. In college she thought about being a school counselor, a youth pastor and psychologist, a writer and editor, and a marriage and family counselor.

Nikki sometimes wonders to herself, *Why does God make it so clear to some people what they should do in life, but not to others? Why can’t I be like Hope, and just know what I’m supposed to do? Why does it have to be so hard?*

Hope and Nikki are still close friends, and they try to talk and encourage each other as much as they can. Hope has just a few more months before she graduates, and Nikki has a couple more years in college, during which she’ll be praying, and seeking God’s counsel to find out what He is preparing her to do for Him.

Sunday RESPONDING

- » Read Jeremiah 1:5.
- » What about you? You are too young to have to be concerned about this yet, but do you think you are like Hope, who has always had an idea of what she wanted to do for a career? Or are you more like Nikki, who isn’t quite sure of what she wants to do? Why do you think it is clear to some people what they should do in life, but not as clear to others?

Monday BIBLE ANSWERS ON SPIRITUAL GIFTS AND MINISTRIES

- » Read Romans 12:4-8; 1 Corinthians 12:7-11; Ephesians 4:8.
- » God has given each person a job to do, and He will give each person the ability they need to do what He asks them to do. He promised to send the Holy Spirit to guide and help us, but we need to be willing to follow and do as we are asked.
- » How can you learn and begin to prepare for what God has planned for you to do to serve Him and help others?

- » Unscramble the words in the word-bank and fill in the missing words to complete the verse below.

sretsinim
deifirolg
tfig
sdrawets
deviecer
reverof
selcaro
ytiliba
seilppus

“As each one has _____ a _____, minister it to one another, as good _____ of the manifold grace of God. If anyone speaks, let him speak as the _____ of God. If anyone _____, let him do it as with the _____ which God _____, that in all things God may be _____ through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion _____ and ever” (1 Peter 4:10, 11, NKJV).



Tuesday
REFLECTING

- » Read 1 Corinthians 6:20.
- » The world defines success by how much money you make, how big your house is, how nice your car is, and what type of job you have. God, however, doesn't care much about these things. When God looks down on this planet, what He notices is not shiny cars, big houses, and hundred-dollar bills. No, what catches God's eye on this planet are His children. He values us so much, and works day and night for our salvation.
- » God has called us, as Christians, to join in the most important work of all. We are commissioned to go and make disciples for Him. In the end, all of our material things will be gone and forgotten forever. The things that mattered so much to us—nice clothes, expensive cars, the perfect image—won't matter at all. What will matter are people—our family and friends, the people we love, our neighbors, and the people we work with. Don't you want to see all the people you care about in heaven? Our number-one career in life is to introduce people to Jesus. By bringing people to Christ, we will find true joy, significance, and purpose in our lives, and we will bring a smile to our Father's face.

Thursday
CONNECTING

- » Read Romans 12:1.
- » Review the memory text.
- » Stop and think for a minute about all the amazing things God has done for you. He created you and molded you into a beautiful and unique person. He gave you life so you could feel the warmth of the sun, breathe in the fresh air, laugh until you cry, roll down grassy hills, and most of all, experience His love. He died on the cross for you and forgave all of your sin so you could stand unashamed in your Father's presence. He has adopted you as His child and made you an heir to His throne. He has promised you eternal life. And He has given you a great purpose on this earth that only you can fill.
- » God has given you more than you could have ever dared to ask for or even dream of. God wants the best for you, and He knows that you'll be the most fulfilled and the happiest if you let Him be Lord of your life. So why not join David in affirming God's role in your life. "You will show me the way of life, granting me the joy of your presence and the pleasures of living with you forever" (**Psalm 16:11, NLT**).

Friday
APPLYING

- » Read 1 Corinthians 10:31.
- » God wants you to discover the plan He has for you so you can serve in the place that fits you best. Take some time to discover your spiritual gifts.

Wednesday
BIBLE INSIGHTS

- » Match the following texts from the New International Version (available at www.BibleGateway.com) with the phrases that correspond to them.
- 1. Ephesians 2:10
- 2. Jeremiah 1:5
- 3. Romans 12:6
- 4. Romans 12:1
- 5. 1 Corinthians 6:20
- 6. Mark 8:35
- 7. 1 Corinthians 10:31
- _____ "For we are God's handiwork."
- _____ "Do it all for the glory of God."
- _____ "You were bought at a price."
- _____ "Therefore I urge you . . ."
- _____ "We have different gifts."
- _____ "For whoever wants to save their life . . ."
- _____ "Before you were born I set you apart."

- » Read **1 Corinthians 12:27-31** and take a few moments to reflect on the spiritual gifts that God has given you. Ask yourself about the talents, skills, and gifts that you naturally possess or activities that you enjoy participating in (i.e., singing, playing a musical instrument, fixing things, talking to people, writing, serving others, helping people get well, public speaking, working in the outdoors, etc.). Below, list how God has blessed you and how you can use your spiritual gifts to become a blessing to others for Jesus.

