

# JUNE DAILY SCRIPTURE WRITING PLAN

## *Searching: Prompts for thought*

BY HEATHER BANKS

1. [Matthew 6:25-34](#) Searching ... we all do it consciously and unconsciously. But are we searching for the right things? Perhaps we get caught up in searching for reasons to worry, or searching for answers that we don't need right at this moment. This passage is a fantastic way to start our month of searching. It isn't bad to search, as long as we are searching for God and not ourself.

2. [Deuteronomy 4:25-31](#) This may not start off so happy, but as a part of our week of war room verses, this is important to consider. And after all of the warning, there is a promise. This is very much how we talk to our kids about a bad decision. We lay out the decision and the consequences, but usually end with an affirmation of love. Do you have a special phrase or way that you end a tough time? My mom used to end all discipline or tough stuff with a hug and a song. How does your family handle it?

3. [2 Chronicles 30:17-22](#) This is another one of those tough passages. This was before Christ's sacrifice for all, so the forgiveness of sin in the Old Testament is very tricky. But here, without the ceremony usually required, God heard the prayer of Hezekiah, and accepted it. I love what Hezekiah prays, about those who "sets his heart to seek God."

4. [Acts 17:24-31](#) God made us to seek Him out. Paul assures us of that in this passage. I *love* that so very much. So often, we feel guilty searching for God in our lives. But this passage reassures me that my finite mind is always searching for His infinite presence around me. Comfort in the searching is what I found today, what about you? Isn't it good to know that we are valued and loved even when we struggle with doubts?

5. [Psalm 14:1-7](#) David was a man of conflicted heart. Here he realizes that there is no one who is good. What a relief that we don't have to measure up to someone else who is "good." What or who is it that you have to fight to not measure yourself against? Do you feel you don't measure up somewhere? Housekeeping is one that I always feel behind in. Remember that we were not meant to walk through this life with a ruler in hand.

6. [Luke 15:1-7](#) We are spending a few days with Jesus and his parables about when things are lost. My favorite thing about this passage is that all of heaven celebrated every puny little human. Isn't that such a great image? So often when we search we feel that we are insignificant. But *all* of heaven is waiting to celebrate us, that is a good feeling!

7. [Luke 15:8-10](#) This woman is diligent! She lost a coin and doesn't just say, "I'm a hot mess, who cares." She realizes that she is a hot mess and she still goes after that coin with great determination. She lights lamps, and sweeps until she finds it. Then my favorite part... she calls her friends and they celebrate with her. That is community! Celebrate the little things with your people. Have you done that recently?



JOIN THE DISCUSSION IN [THE MIDDLE PLACES COMMUNITY!](#)

8. [Luke 15:11-24](#) Haven't we all been this son at some point? Wanting what the world assures us will be fulfilling, only to find out it is a lie and we end up eating with pigs. When we seek the world, it will always end that way. But when we come to our senses and seek God instead, we receive the lavish love that we see in this parable. God is always waiting for us with compassion.

9. [1 Kings 22:5-14](#) So, here we have two kings seeking a word from the Lord. However, when it is time to consult with the prophet, some whining surfaces. Ahab is a very evil king, and he hates God's prophet because Micaiah doesn't say pretty things to him. But Micaiah stands his ground and declares that he will only say what God sends to him. Isn't that all of us sometimes though? We want to only hear pretty things, instead of the truth.

10. [Isaiah 6:1-8](#) "In the year King Uzziah died ...". That probably means nothing to you. It didn't to me until I studied this passage for my preaching class in college. But it did matter to Isaiah. Isaiah was a scribe to King Uzziah, but it wasn't as fun a job as it might seem. King Uzziah overstepped his bounds in the temple and was struck with leprosy as a result. Isaiah was his scribe, and was also quarantined with the King. But God's call on him started only when Isaiah was released of his duties to the King. Sometimes I think that we get discouraged when we are in a position like Isaiah's when we have to stay home with sick kids, or are stuck in that job that makes us feel quarantined. But we have to remember that when God releases us, He calls us to something new. He is searching us for a willing heart like Isaiah's.

11. [Genesis 3:1-11](#) We are not the only ones who are searching. The Bible tells us in Job that Satan roams the Earth, searching for people to deceive. This is the first instance we see of that. Satan searched for a weakness in Eve and Adam. My favorite point in this story is that God knew that they had sinned, but he came searching for them anyway. Isn't that wonderful to know, that even though He knew of the sin, He still came for them?

12. [Psalm 63:1-11](#) David wrote this when he was in the wilderness. He was searching for safety and guidance. These words resound with me so much, we have all had our wilderness moments. My favorite part is, "In the shadow of your wings I will rejoice." For a man living in the desert, shade and shadows are a big deal. What was your favorite part of this passage?

13. [Romans 3:9-20](#) Paul has a good reminder here that we don't seek God. He first seeks us, and then we seek His will. That takes a lot of stress off of me. To know that God seeks me. And you. Let's just revel in that today. The creator of all, perfect King, loving father, and so much more seeks us out.

14. [Hebrews 11:1-6](#) This is the beginning of the Hall of Faith chapter. If you have the time, I encourage you to read it! But these words are important for all in the Hall of Faith and those not. "He rewards those who diligently seek Him." Diligence is tough for all of us, but when we are in that pattern of diligence, the rewards are so great!

15. [1 Corinthians 3:18-23](#) We search out wisdom from many sources. But this is a good reminder to filter all of the things that we are absorbing. Search out wisdom from Godly sources, not worldly. Also, don't let yourself become ensnared in only one teacher's opinions. Just like this passage says, "whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas...", we can take it as, "whether Jen Hatmaker or Lisa Harper, or Beth Moore." These are not bad teachers, but they are not God. Focus on His word, search His truths. Pull in other wisdom from good sources, as needed.

16. [Jeremiah 29:4-14](#) Most of us know verse 11 in this passage. But do we remember the context? These words were spoken for a people in captivity. God had allowed the people to experience their consequences. Here He tells them to seek peace in the city where He has placed them. Isn't that difficult? Seeking peace in captivity. Thankfully that is accompanied by a promise. That He has good thoughts for us, and they will be revealed when we seek Him with all of our heart. What are you in captivity to right now?



JOIN THE DISCUSSION IN [THE MIDDLE PLACES COMMUNITY!](#)

17. [Matthew 7:7-12](#) Sometimes we are afraid to search out God's will for us. But this passage is a good reminder that God wants us to seek Him, to ask questions. Just like you wouldn't give your child a stone instead of bread, God will not give you a snake instead of a fish. He will be there to sustain you in all things and His plans for you are always good (see yesterday).

18. [2 Corinthians 4:1-6](#) Searching for our new life in Christ is tough. This passage is a good reminder that we have to put away our old lives and search out ways to shine Jesus everywhere! Just don't be discouraged that this is a daily thing we have to do. We don't get to decide *one* time to kick our old self to the curb.

19. [Psalm 78:32-41](#) How like Israel we all are! We pray for God's deliverance and the day after it comes, we forget it. We fret over things that we should know He has handled. This passage is such an important reminder for us. Even though we test Him, God has compassion on those that earnestly seek him.

20. [1 Samuel 16:4-13](#) Samuel was searching for the man God has chosen as the next King of Israel. Saul was the current king and Samuel was expecting another man like him in physical appearance, tall and handsome. But God had him search until he saw with God's eyes and not man's. I love that God didn't choose the oldest, tallest, or loudest. God chose the baby, the dreamer, the musician, and stinky shepherd to do his work.

21. [Luke 19:1-10](#) Zacchaeus was searching so hard for Jesus. He didn't let his body determine his outcome either. Because he needed Jesus so badly, that short little man climbed right up a tree. I don't know about you, but that wouldn't be easy for me! His determination in seeking Jesus led to his salvation. So today let's not let our body or the crowd around us determine whether or not we see Jesus.

22. [Genesis 12:1-9](#) **Go.** That's a scary word to some of us and exciting to others. But I don't know that any of us would have been ready to go like Abram went. God sent him to the land He would show Abram. No map, no destination, no plan. But Abram followed God. Abram sought the promise God had given him, even though it had to be scary. Where is God leading you?

23. [John 3:1-15](#) Nicodemus had religion, but in Christ he found faith. Nicodemus came searching at night. Perhaps he was afraid of ridicule or persecution, or maybe his brain is like mine and works best at night. I love this story of Christ patiently explaining to Nicodemus the things of God. A man of power and most likely wealth, he still sought the truth that is found in Christ.

24. [Genesis 18:22-33](#) The outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah was great, and God heard it. Out of love, God told Abram what He was about to do. Abram also had love, and begged God to search for righteous people. He agreed and said that if He found even 10 in both cities that He would spare them destruction. Of course, 10 could not be found and God would later destroy the cities. But God searched the people's heart. What will He find when He searches your heart?

25. [2 Chronicles 15:1-9](#) In their distress they sought God and He was found by them. Oh what a wonderful promise that holds for us! This passage tells us that the people had been without God for a long time, but were still able to seek and find Him! Take some time today and pray for someone that has been away from God, pray that they will seek and find Him soon.

26. [Psalm 23:1-6](#) When we are searching for rest, provision, or justice. This is the passage for all of those things. Take time as you write today and really absorb each word that you are putting down.



JOIN THE DISCUSSION IN [THE MIDDLE PLACES COMMUNITY!](#)

27. [Matthew 2:1-12](#) The wise men! They searched out Jesus at their own risk and cost. Have you ever wondered how they knew about the birth of the Hebrew King? Well, it traces back to Daniel. He became a chief among the scribes in Babylon and shared the word of God with them as he was in captivity. Isn't it wonderful to see how God's plan came together? These wise men brought gifts that gave Mary and Joseph the money they needed to flee to Egypt. All these events happened in God's timing, but the wise men had to be ready and willing to search for the child. Are you keeping yourself ready to search out God's will each day and spring to action when you see it?

28. [2 Peter 1:16-21](#) Sometimes we are searching for a "why". Why do we believe and how can we believe in Christ? Today is a verse to help with that. Go over it in your head a few times before you write it out.

29. [John 17: 9-19](#) Every time I read this passage it just wrecks me. Jesus is praying for us in this passage, and I love to see His heart. So store this verse in your heart and when you are searching for assurance of His love for you, look over this passage again and again.

30. [2 Timothy 2:14-21](#) Sometimes we need to search our own hearts and remove the filth and junk that accumulates. It is important for that to happen so that we can be set apart for Him.



JOIN THE DISCUSSION IN [THE MIDDLE PLACES COMMUNITY!](#)