

AUGUST DAILY SCRIPTURE WRITING PLAN

Learning: Prompts for thought

BY HEATHER BANKS

- 1. Proverbs 9:1-12-** Let's start off our month of learning, with an understanding of what learning is. The fear of the Lord is what brings about wisdom. What strikes me the most is the characterization of wisdom being a woman. I think about the wisdom that my Mom passed down to me. What is the best piece of wisdom you got from your Mom?
- 2. 2 John 1:4-11-** Learning rarely happens without teaching. In this case John is warning an elect sister of the teaching that some people bring. It is a good reminder for us to keep in mind. That those who do not teach the whole gospel, teach no gospel at all. John says that love is to walk in His commandments. That is important for us to remember.
- 3. Isaiah 28:9-13-** This passage is part of a chapter that is a judgement. Part of the issue was that there was no one learning and growing in faith. Isaiah speaks of people needing to wean off of milk and grow up. That is hard for all of us. It is important to remember that none of us are ready for steak as soon as we are saved, but we should always be growing. I love verse 10, "here a little, there a little." Remember that any time and any place is a learning experience.
- 4. 2 Timothy 3:1-9-** This is a good reminder. In verse 7, Paul talks about people who are always learning, but never arriving at knowledge. Isn't that us so often? We have learned so many things but it never turns into practical knowledge that we apply in our lives. So let's make a concentrated effort to learn, not just to learn, but learn to apply.
- 5. Hosea 4:1-6-** These are the words that our world needs now! This year we have seen so much bloodshed. Hosea is here to remind us that healing of the land and the people can only come from God.
- 6. Romans 10:5-13-** One of the things we need to learn is the difference between living under the Law and living under Grace. Paul lays it out for us in Romans today. For me that is tough sometimes. I want to put myself and others under the rule of the law. But thankfully, God extends His grace to me and to you.
- 7. Psalm 32:1-11-** In your Bible this chapter is possibly labeled as a Maskil. Most Bible scholars agree that maskil refers to the composition of the Psalm for instruction. So this month our Sunday's will be filled with these instructional Psalms.
- 8. John 6:25-40-** This month we are learning. I thought that we should learn not only how to handle the world in our "war room" verses, but also learn about the Father and the Son themselves. So today we are starting with Jesus and his "I am" statements. This is His first, and it comes right after feeding a multitude. Which means that they were following Him because of that act of meeting a physical need. Jesus calls them on that and tells them that He is about more than their lunch.



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9. **Exodus 17:8-16**- This is a favorite story for me. Joshua is bravely fighting a battle. Moses is watching over it, but to win the battle he needs help. Aaron and Hur literally have to hold up Moses' arms up for him. In the end Moses names the place Jehovah Nissi- the Lord is my Banner. It was a reminder that without acknowledging the Lord being over them, failure was sure. So today, check your actions. Are they ones that go under the banner of the Lord?

10. **John 8:12-20**- Here Jesus is speaking in the temple and there was quite a stir. The Pharisees called Him a liar. He answers them that His testimony is true because He knows where He came from and where He is going. That is a comfort for us. Gos has a plan. We can testify about where we have been and He knows where He is taking us. But the other comfort in the passage is Jesus' statement, "I am the light of the world." I don't know about you, but I rejoice that we walk in light instead of darkness.

11. **Exodus 15:22-27**- Jehovah Rapha, the Lord that heals. The Israelites were faced with death when they came upon undrinkable water. The Lord healed the water for them, and also offered protection against diseases if they followed His commands. I have seen many times that the Lord has healed land in drought and He has healed people. Isn't it wonderful that He is able to heal us according to His will.

12. **John 9:1-12**- Jesus again proclaims that He is the light of the world. When I was studying to write this month's plan, it struck me that He proclaimed this twice. Why was this so important? The first time Jesus proclaimed this statement, he was in the temple. This time he was in the street, with a man that needed him desperately. This man could never go to the temple. So this was a timely reminder for me to go to the people that will not come to the church. To go be His light in the world.

13. **Ezekiel 48:23-35**- This might be a passage that you would normally overlook. But it stands out to me. The Lord is handing out the inheritance for the tribes of Israel. What strikes me is that He states specifically that sizing for each tribe and all of the inheritances were equal. But the last verse is what I love the most. He names the city, Jehovah Samma, **The Lord is there.**

14. **Psalms 42: 1-11**- This is another maskil, a learning Psalm. So today let's focus on learning to long for God like we have just run through the desert and He is water.

15. **Acts 8:26-35**- This passage is always convicting to me. Phillip was willing to RUN alongside a complete stranger, then hop in the chariot with him. I think the takeaway from this was that Philip had learned about his faith and that enabled him to teach another about the same. Our learning isn't just for us, we learn so that we can teach others about Him.

16. **Proverbs 1:1-7**- This whole book was written by the wisest man in the world. We could do well to learn from his successes and failures. In Proverbs it is Solomon and his wife writing for their son so that he might learn.

17. **Titus 2:1-10**- This is a great passage for us to learn. It has instruction for men and women, young and old. But most of all it reminds us to learn sound doctrine and practice self-control. My mom and I were talking some time back and she was talking about this passage and said she wasn't sure when she crossed to the other side of the room to be an older woman. So where are you in the room?

18. **Daniel 1:8-17**- Daniel obviously has a back story of great learning about and trusting in God before he was captured. His history with God enabled him to honor God even in captivity. The Lord also honored him, giving the guards compassion towards them, enabling Daniel and the others to prove the might of God. Daniel's past learning is put into practice, and the Bible tells us that he continued to learn.



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19. **Acts 17:10-15**- Berea is a city probably many of you have never heard of. The people of that city are recounted as noble. They had learned that many teachers would come proclaiming falsehoods. So they did what was right and examined the Scriptures daily to determine if what they were being taught was true. How I wish more people around the world did that. Bible teachers and preachers are wonderful, but it is our job to examine the Scripture to determine if what they are teaching is truth.

20. **Joshua 24:14-18**- One of the most important things we have to learn is to obey God. In this chapter Joshua reminds the Israelites that serving God requires you to lay down idols and past gods. So how will it be in your home? Is the god of electronics, of sports teams, of cable TV or anything else ruling your home? Or does your household serve the Lord first and let that mold and change everything else?

21. **Psalms 54:1-7**- David is hiding in the midst of his enemies and prays for God to uphold him. Later he wrote it down so that we could learn from his struggles. So let's make it a point to learn. Sometimes it will feel like we are surrounded by enemies. Now you have a prayer for when that happens.

22. **Jeremiah 23:1-8**- This is SO interesting to me. This is a prophecy about Jesus. One of my favorite things is to look through the Old Testament and read the prophecies about Jesus. In this case we learn that God sends His righteousness to us through Jesus in His physical form. The Lord is my Righteousness, Jehovah Tsidkenu!

23. **John 8:48-59**- We can learn something from the Jews here. These people were stuck on Abraham and the past, when their salvation and future was right in front of them in the form of Jesus. These people prayed daily for deliverance from Roman rule and for God to speak with them again. But because Jesus wasn't the warring soldier they thought they needed, there was an unwillingness to listen to Him. Isn't that us sometimes? We pray and pray, only wanting the solution our sin sick souls crave. Instead, God sends us His righteous judgement, and we ignore it or call it names.

24. **Exodus 31:12-18**- If ever there was a story of redemption it is Moses. We can learn so much from him. He came back from murder, whining to God, and destroying God's own words by demolishing the tablets of the 10 Commandments in a fit of rage. Here, God is re-affirming His covenant with the people of Israel. The Lord tells him here that He is, Jehovah Mekoddishkem, The Lord Who Sanctifies You.

25. **John 10:7-18**- Jesus lays out two statements about who He is, as well as insight into His power. He is the door and the good shepherd. The good shepherd you probably understand, he guides and protects his sheep. But do you understand what is meant when Jesus says He is the door? In Bible times sheep were kept inside a fence at night to prevent wandering and protect from predators. The shepherds would sleep in the opening of the fences, literally making themselves the door, so that all who would come in or out had to do so with His permission. Jesus is there keeping us safe in His pasture.

26. **Genesis 22:9-14**- Jehovah Jireh- God our Provider. This story strikes real to me. My husband and I are in the process of adopting and we have identified a sibling group of 3 that we believe the Lord led us to. However, we are not the only family interested in them. We have had to pray that we can accept God's decision even if that means we are not to be the parents of these children. Every Mom faces some of this terror, sending their child out into the world. Thankfully we can see His provision in Scripture and in our daily life.

27. **John 11:17-27**- Lazarus is the brother of Mary and Martha and friend of Jesus. Here we learn that every circumstance can be used to bring glory to God. New life was given to Lazarus, and it is given to us when we repent and accept forgiveness.



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28. **Psalm 78:1-8**-This is another reminder to us of how important it is to teach our children about the faith that we have. So take some time today and talk with your kids or someone you are mentoring. Share something God has taught you lately, or a principle that you learned as a child that still holds true today.

29. **Judges 6:11-24**- This is a long one today, but it is worth it! Gideon is mentioned in many Bible stories. The fleece, his shrinking army, and according to Veggie Tales- free flashlights. But this is the story of his calling, where he met God for real. I love what Gideon learned about God in this one. Jehovah Shalom, God of Peace. He is the God our world needs today. And we have the privilege of sharing the God of Peace with everyone we encounter, sometimes without even speaking a word.

30. **John 14:1-11**- This is our last “I am” statement for this month. There is one more as you read through the book of John where Jesus states, “I am the true vine...” We covered that one in July, so I didn’t repeat it here. In this passage Jesus teaches us that He is THE way, THE truth, and THE life. We often struggle, looking for more ways or more anything, but in the end we need Jesus, only Jesus.

31. **1 Samuel 1:9-20**- Hannah is a barren woman. She has a loving husband who gives her a double portion. She has so much but still longs for a child. When she can bear waiting no more she goes to God in prayer. She is so broken and so deep in prayer that she sees nor hears anything else, causing Eli (the priest) to think her drunk. But she becomes the first recordance to call upon, The Lord of Hosts or Lord of all, Jehovah Sabaoth. She recognized that only the God of everything could help her. What a good lesson for us to end this month with.



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