



Internet Resources

There are dozens of quality places on the Internet that feature daily devotionals. These frequently have downloadable audio files. There are many places that also feature devotionals for children. Download the story at Keys for Kids, for example, and play it for a morning break. The following examples are a few of the types of resources available on the WWW.

For a wonderful list of many devotional resources check this website:

www.gospelcom.net/ . Another very rich website by an Adventist author is this one by Rod Wright: "Life Equals Jesus" at <http://life-equals-jesus.org/> . Our Daily Bread, <http://www.rbc.org/odb/odb.shtml>, is another well-done devotional website.

In His Steps by Michael Ullrich



The squirrels have returned to the tree outside my study window. Apparently they like to winter close to our house because of the availability of stolen dog food and birdfeed. They also like having a deck near their winter home where they can do other squirrely antics in their spare time.

It's amazing how squirrels jump from limb to limb. Every now and then one will fall, but those events are rare. As a rule they safely take leaps that I would be afraid to try on the ground!

Are squirrels brave, crazy, or stupid? None of those, they are prepared. God prepared them with a balance tail, sharp claws, good eyesight and impressive judgment when it comes to jumping.

God's people are often called on to take little leaps as well. Like the squirrel you and I are prepared by God to handle what limbs hang in front of us. ***Psalm 139:14 observes, "I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; wonderful are Your works, and my soul knows it very well."***

"I am fearfully and wonderfully made . . . " The Psalm reminds us that God made us. We are not deficient in God's eyes. He has given us every ability and tool we need to be all He wants us to be.



We are made for so much more than a squirrel. We can praise God and worship Him. We can have a relationship with Him and trust Him when He shows us it is time to leap to where He wants us.

From: "Circuit 'Riter Ministries" at <http://inhissteps.gospelcom.net/>



Power to Meet and to Give Thanks by Elisabeth Elliot

Often I pray for someone whose circumstances or needs are unknown to me. There are many prayers in Paul's letters which may be used for almost anyone. One of my favorites is in Colossians 1:9-12. A part of this prayer asks ***"May He strengthen you, in His glorious might, with ample power to meet whatever comes with fortitude, patience and joy, and to give thanks to the Father" (NEB).***

That seems to cover every possibility. It does not ask for instant solutions or reversals. It does not call on God for miraculous deliverance out of any trouble that might come. It asks for a truly Christian response, by the sufficient power of God: to meet whatever comes as a true Christian should meet it, with the Holy Spirit's gifts of fortitude, patience, and joy. It asks for the power to give thanks. It takes power, doesn't it, to thank the Father when everything in us protests? But we find in Him (not always in what happens to us) plenty of reason to thank Him and plenty of power.

From: "Back to the Bible" at www.backtothebible.org

3-D Under the Sea by Dennis Fisher

God created . . . every living thing that moves, with which the waters abounded.
~ ***Genesis 1:21***



My wife and I went to see a large-screen 3-D documentary on life in the sea. We put on plastic eyeglasses that created a 3-dimensional effect and then marveled as one surprise after another jumped out at us from the screen.

Predatory sharks swam dangerously close to us. Giant turtles tumbled and swirled so close we felt we could reach out and touch them. One exotic sea creature



dangled what looked like a lure in front of its mouth to attract smaller fish. The narrator marveled that the life-forms that produce coral reefs inexplicably spawn on only one night out of the whole year. Their offspring then catch currents that carry them to other parts of the ocean.

As I sat there, I thought, How can anyone think all of this happened by chance? The fingerprints of a Designer are on every sea creature we've seen! As Christians we know that time and random chance could never result in such perfectly designed sea creatures. Instead, we accept the witness of God's Word that "God created . . . every living thing that moves, with which the waters abounded" (Gen. 1:21).

The more we learn about life in our world, the more we recognize God's eternal power and worship Him as Lord of creation (Rom. 1:20).

The greatness of our God is seen
In sky and sea and forest green;
And living creatures great and small
Reveal the God who made them all. —D. De Haan

All creation sings God's praise.

From: " Our Daily Bread " at www.rbc.org/odb

Keys For Kids

What a lot of cool cars, Nate thought to himself as he looked at the model cars on a shelf at the store. He picked up a bright red one and admired it. Wish I had enough money to get this one. He glanced around. No one's looking, he thought, and quietly he put the red car under his jacket. I'll take this out to the car and put it under the seat so Mom doesn't see it.

Nate was hurrying out the door when he felt a hand on his shoulder. "I think you had better come with me, young man." Nate looked up to see a big security guard looking down at him. "Let me have the car." Frightened, Nate pulled out the car and handed it over.

The guard took Nate to the manager, who questioned him. When the manager learned that he had come to the store with his mother, he paged her over the loud speaker. Nate cringed when she came hurrying in. When they finally left the office, he was relieved that the manager had agreed not to call the police, but he also knew Dad would hear about it. Nate knew he would not go unpunished.





As they left the store, Nate noticed big mirrors near the ceiling. They can see down the aisles and watch for shoplifters, he thought. He pointed to the mirrors. "It's like a big eye is watching you from up above," he murmured.

Mom nodded. "Never forget that Someone is always watching you from up above," she replied. "Even if no one here had seen you, God did. He sees everything you do. He also sees your heart and mind. He knows your thoughts. He knows if you're sorry for what you did or thought."

Nate was quiet as he got into the car. "I really am sorry, Mom," he said after a moment. He was a Christian and knew he had sinned. "I felt guilty about taking the car even before the guard stopped me."

"Have you told God you're sorry?" asked Mom.

"No, but I will," said Nate.

Dear God, Nate prayed silently, I know taking the car was stealing. I'm sorry I disobeyed You and took it. Please forgive me. I don't want to do it ever again. Amen. As they started home, he felt much better. He was actually glad the clerk had seen him in the mirror, because now his heart was once again right with God.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

Have you ever taken something without paying for it? Perhaps you think no one saw you and so you got away with it. You didn't. God saw what happened. Are you sorry? God also sees your heart, and He takes that into account. Talk to God about it. Tell Him how you feel, and ask Him to forgive you. Then go to the person from whom you stole something, confess what you did, and return it or pay for what you took.

TODAY'S KEY VERSE: *The eyes of the Lord are in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good. ~ Proverbs 15:3*

From: "Keys For Kids" at <http://cbh.gospelcom.net/kfk/home.php>

