

## LESSON 3

# SEEK TO DO GOD'S WILL, AND BE THANKFUL AT ALL TIMES

### Worksheets

- Bible Discovery Worksheet #1: My Day as a Leper
- Bible Discovery Worksheet #2: Seek to do God's Will
- Life Application Worksheet #1, Pages 1 and 2: Putting God's Will First
- Life Application Worksheet #2, Pages 1 and 2: Submit to God's Will
- Activity Worksheet: Song of Thanksgiving
- Homework

## MY DAYS AS A LEPER

### ENTRY A

Today, I was brought to the priest because of a bright spot on my skin. People thought that it could be a \_\_\_\_\_ sore (Lev 13:2). It is \_\_\_\_\_ on the skin and does not appear to be \_\_\_\_\_ than my skin, and its hair is not white (13:4). To be safe, the priest is isolating me for \_\_\_\_\_ days (13:4). He said that he would check on me again after seven days and then decide if I am unclean. I am so worried! Leprosy is a scary disease; it's painful and disfiguring. It gets worse and worse as the sores spread all over the body until the person dies. I don't want to be a leper!



### Entry B

Today is the seventh day since I got isolated and the priest came to examine me. Since the bright spot has not gotten any better, he decided to keep me isolated for another \_\_\_\_\_ days (13:5). I am starting to have a bad feeling about this... If the spot is just a scab, it should have healed by now. I really miss my family, and I want to go home!

### Entry C

Two days have passed, and I feel hopeless. The hair on my bright spot has turned \_\_\_\_\_, and the sore appears to be \_\_\_\_\_ than my skin (13:3). It also has spread to other parts of my skin. I know already that this is leprosy. In five more days, the priest will come and pronounce me \_\_\_\_\_ (13:3) and keep me isolated for as long as my leprosy lasts. What should I do? I can only wait to die—to die in pain and loneliness.



### Entry D

It's been a month since I was first isolated. There are nine other men here who also have leprosy. Even though they are all \_\_\_\_\_ and I am the only \_\_\_\_\_, they don't seem to care. The loneliness and despair of being lepers binds us all together in spite of prejudices. Anyhow, I really miss my family. I am so afraid that I will never see them again, not to mention I want to hug my wife and children so much. Still, even if I could see them, I wouldn't be able to stand close to them because leprosy is extremely contagious. I am afraid my children won't recognize me anymore because of these sores that have spread all over my body. Leprosy is taking away everything from me—my family, my health, my happiness, my future, and my life! There is no hope in my life anymore.



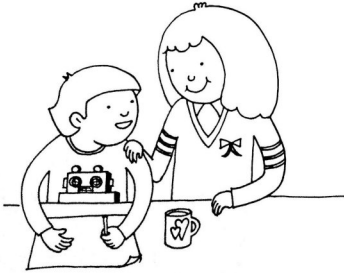
### Entry E

I am home with my family right now as I am writing this diary entry... I have been healed from \_\_\_\_\_! I'll never forget this day. God is so good to me; He gave me the opportunity to meet \_\_\_\_\_ who healed me, as well as the other \_\_\_\_\_ lepers. At first, we weren't exactly sure why He wanted us to go to the \_\_\_\_\_, but as we began to walk towards the village, we began to feel the difference on our skin. I then knew that He had healed us! I ran back to \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus and fell on His feet to say \_\_\_\_\_. words could not express how grateful I was, and I wanted to thank Him personally (Lk 17:11-19). If God didn't give me the chance to meet \_\_\_\_\_; if He wasn't so merciful and kind; if He didn't stop and help me... I would be waiting to die without any hope! I'm so glad to be with my family right now, and I won't take God's healing for granted. I will be kind to others just as He was to me. May all the glory be unto Jesus' name!



**SEEK TO DO GOD'S WILL**

Pretend that you are saying the prayers below. Which answer would you expect God to give each of your prayers—"Yes," "No," or "Wait"? Circle which answer you think God would give, and explain why.



**a. Help me obey my parents.**

God's answer:    Yes    No    Wait

Why would God answer in this way? \_\_\_\_\_

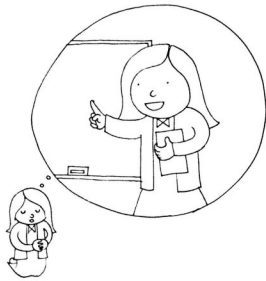
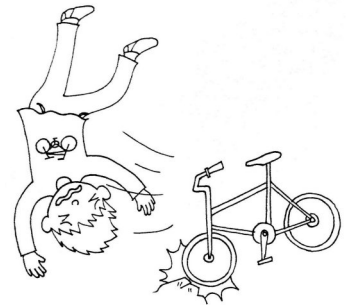
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**b. Make that mean Patrick fall off his bike and get hurt.**

God's answer:    Yes    No    Wait

Why would God answer in this way? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**c. Let me be a teacher in church.**

God's answer:    Yes    No    Wait

Why would God answer in this way? \_\_\_\_\_

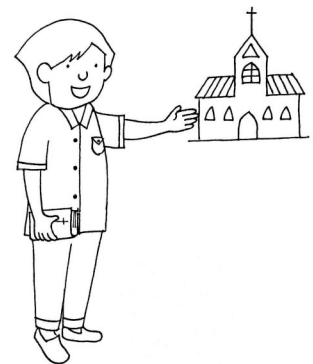
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**d. Help me invite my friends to church.**

God's answer:    Yes    No    Wait

Why would God answer in this way? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**e. Don't let my mom find out that I told a lie.**

God's answer:    Yes    No    Wait

Why would God answer in this way? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### SCENARIO: PUTTING GOD'S WILL FIRST

Stephanie was especially happy to go to school one day. This was going to be her day to shine. She was supposed to play the flute in front of the whole school. "Wow!" She thought blissfully. "I still can't believe that Mr. Pollack wanted me to do a solo performance in front of the whole school!" Stephanie remembered how thrilled she was when Mr. Pollack, the band instructor, told her that she would be performing for the whole school during a special student gathering. The mayor of the city was visiting the school and Mr. Pollack decided that Stephanie would perform. Stephanie knew what a big deal it would be to have the mayor come to the performance!



The whole event was scheduled to take place after lunchtime. During lunch, as Stephanie was practicing her flute, a group of fellow band members gathered around to listen to her. Stephanie started to get nervous. "Do you guys mind? I'm trying to practice here!" As Stephanie grew more and more panicked, she started playing a few notes off key. Then, Maria came up to Stephanie. Maria was Stephanie's substitute; she would play if Stephanie became sick or couldn't make it to school for the performance. Maria and Stephanie were close friends. Maria came to wish Stephanie the best, but Stephanie thought she was coming to make fun of her. "Don't even say anything, Maria. I know what you think, but I'm not going to do badly in the most important performance of my life! I'm going to shine!" Maria thought Stephanie was talking a bit weirdly ever since Mr. Pollack had asked her to perform, but now she understood that Stephanie was just under a lot of pressure. "Why are you saying that, Stephanie? I just came to wish you the best before your performance." Stephanie stormed off shouting, "I can do without your wishes, Ms. Perfection! I just know that God is going to help me. I have been praying this whole week! Now all of you just leave me alone!"

Stephanie found a quiet place in the schoolyard and began to cry uncontrollably. Why did she act that way to her friends? There was no reason for her to be so mean. After all, Stephanie was sure God would help her in the performance. But then, why did she feel so badly? Was it because she skipped two Sabbaths to practice her flute? "No, it couldn't be that," thought Stephanie.

Soon, the big moment had arrived. The mayor was probably ten feet away from Stephanie. The principle announced to the whole school that Stephanie was going to perform. Everyone clapped and then there was silence. Stephanie began to get nervous again. She whispered, "God, You better have listened to all my prayers," as she stepped on stage. Stephanie began to play the flute beautifully. People clapped loudly during the performance. But near the end, she blew one note too hard and made a funny noise. A few people began to laugh. Stephanie didn't find it so funny, and she made more mistakes.

That day, Stephanie went home an extremely sad girl. She had finished the performance with a messy ending. Stephanie thought to herself. "Why did I make such a fool out of myself? Why did God let this happen to me?" The more Stephanie thought about her humiliation, the angrier she became. She began to blame God and cried. When Stephanie's mother came home, she saw the tears all over Stephanie's face. "What's wrong?" She asked Stephanie. All of a sudden, Stephanie burst into tears. "God never helps me when I need Him. I prayed for a whole week for today's performance." Stephanie's mother replied, "Stephanie, of course God loves you! Now calm down and think about it. Do you remember when I told you that God didn't want you to skip the Sabbath because of this performance? Maybe God wanted you to learn something from this experience!"



As Stephanie wiped away her tears, she understood what her mother meant. "I've been under too much pressure and I let that get in the way of my faith. I put too much emphasis on my own success and not enough attention on obeying God's commandments." Her mother agreed, "You're totally right. God, in His wisdom, sometimes allows us to be laid low so that we do not come to trust too much in our own abilities. We are prone to rely too heavily on ourselves and on our own ability to work things out the way we want them to go. When we are successful, we tend to forget God and take the credit for ourselves." Suddenly, Stephanie brightened up. She said, "I understand now! If God didn't love me, He wouldn't have given me this humbling experience. He didn't want me to lose sight of Him because of my own pride." Stephanie's mom nodded and chuckled at Stephanie's happy face. She said to Stephanie, "Lesson learned! Sometimes, God allows us to make mistakes and feel discouraged, but only because He wants us to grow through these bad experiences. He is always there for us when we turn back to Him. He wants to restore us and help us get back on track."

In the end, Stephanie learned that God's grace is enough in all situations. In one of her prayers, Stephanie asked for God's forgiveness for all the things she said. Suddenly, Stephanie felt the Holy Spirit come down upon her powerfully. Stephanie was happy in the joy of the Lord.

### **Discussion Questions**

**1. Why did Stephanie get so angry with everybody? What do you think she was thinking about?**

**2. Stephanie prayed all week for God to bless her even though it seems that He didn't bless her. Why do you think things happened like they did?**

**3. Do you ever feel like God isn't listening to your prayers? Share an experience. How can we always be thankful to God in all situations?**

### SUBMIT TO GOD'S WILL

Christians often wonder what God wants them to do concerning their desires and plans. It seems as though God's will is hidden in a buried treasure chest, and we have only small portions of the map to find its location. But is this true? In the Scriptures, we have all the guidance we need in order to live for Jesus Christ. God wants us to follow Him so that He can lead us step by step.

**Reference Verse:** 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

**Scenario:** Lisa and her family moved to another state because of her father's new job. Lisa was having a tough time adjusting to her new school, and she missed her friends from her old school terribly. Even though Lisa didn't understand God's purpose for her to go through such a difficult change, Lisa remained joyful and prayed continually, giving thanks to God every day for keeping her family together safe and sound.



God has a perfect will for us. Even though at times we cannot see or understand it, we believe that with continuous \_\_\_\_\_, God will reveal it to us in His timing. Therefore, we should always be \_\_\_\_\_ and give \_\_\_\_\_ to God in all circumstances.

\*This is today's memory verse.

**Reference Verse:** Ephesians 5:17

**Scenario:** Jorge was really tempted during the exam to glance at Jeremy's last answer since it was the only answer of which he was unsure. Jorge really wanted to get all the answers right. He said a silent prayer to ask God to help him overcome his temptation. As Jorge realized that true wisdom is not reflected on his exam but on his decision to be honest, his urge to glance at Jeremy's answer disappeared. Jorge gave thanks to God.



We know that true wisdom from God allows us to understand and submit to God's will. It is \_\_\_\_\_ to choose our own path rather than follow God's directions. We should always pray for God's \_\_\_\_\_ so that we may understand His plan and perfect will for us.



**Reference Verse:** Romans 12:2

**Scenario:** Sophie's uncle served some fruit after dinner. Knowing that he was a fervent Buddhist, Sophie bravely asked her uncle if the fruit being served had been used for worshipping. Not surprisingly, he replied yes. Sophie politely rejected the fruit and explained to her uncle that she was a Christian. Surprised at Sophie's faith, her uncle began to find out more about God from Sophie.



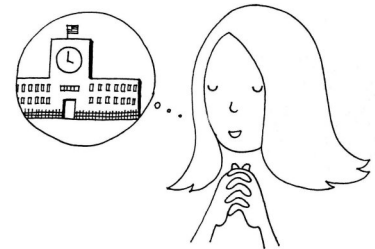
To say "no" to someone is not always easy. It may strain the relationship, at least for a while. It may hurt. We may seem rude.

Friends may even exclude us. However, there are times when we

have to firmly say "no." A very good example for us today is that of Daniel's three friends: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego. The king, Nebuchadnezzar, had built a golden statue and wanted all his subjects to bow down to it. Everyone in the country was doing it. But, these three youths knew that they should not conform to the \_\_\_\_\_. They refused to bow down to the statue, even at the risk of their lives. Their bravery to defy the king was \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ and in accordance with the perfect \_\_\_\_\_ of God. In the end, although they were thrown into a fiery furnace for holding on to their faith, God delivered them and they walked out of the furnace unscathed.

**Reference Verse:** Proverbs 3:5-6

**Scenario:** Natalie's parents couldn't afford to send her to a private school even though Natalie was so sure that she would have a much better learning experience there than in a public school. However, Natalie acknowledged that God had a perfect plan for her and that she should always rely on God. She knew that she needed to let Him guide her paths instead of leaning on her own understanding. She prayed that God could give her faith to trust in Him with all her heart.



We don't know our future, but if we \_\_\_\_\_ in the Lord with all our \_\_\_\_\_, we can rest assured, knowing that He will Himself \_\_\_\_\_ all our paths. The key is to \_\_\_\_\_ Him in all we do and believe that His will, even at times beyond our own \_\_\_\_\_, is the best for us.

**After this lesson, how would you change the way you pray?**

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\_\_\_\_\_’s Song of Thanksgiving

I thank the Lord for \_\_\_\_\_,  
for \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

My heart is filled with joy and praise,  
Because He guides my way.

Thank you, Lord, for \_\_\_\_\_;

Thank you, Lord, for \_\_\_\_\_;

Thank you, Lord, for \_\_\_\_\_;

Thy will is always the best for me.



## E2 Year 2 Book 2 Lesson 3—Seek to Do God's Will, and Be Thankful at All Times

# Homework Assignment

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Weekly Bible Reading:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Bible Reading:** Check each box when you complete that day's reading.

**Prayer:** Check each box after you pray to God that day.

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Read							
Pray							

### What I Learned from the Bible This Week

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Memory Verse

Please write down this week's memory verse. **(1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)**

\_\_\_\_\_

### Fill In the Blank

1. When the ten lepers saw Jesus passing by, they lifted up their voices and said, " \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_!" (Luke 17:13)
2. One of the lepers, when he saw that he was healed, returned, and with a loud voice glorified God, and \_\_\_\_\_. He was a \_\_\_\_\_. (Luke 17:15-16)
3. Paul pleaded with the Lord \_\_\_\_\_ times that his affliction might depart from him. And God said to him, "My \_\_\_\_\_ is sufficient for you, for My \_\_\_\_\_ is made perfect in weakness." (2 Corinthians 12:8-9)

### Multiple Choice

4. \_\_\_\_\_. When the lepers realized that they were healed, they \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Thanked Jesus immediately
  - b. Went towards the village immediately so that they could show themselves to the priests
  - c. Asked Jesus from where His power had come
5. \_\_\_\_\_. Before God answered Paul's prayer, Paul prayed that \_\_\_\_\_ concerning his affliction.
  - a. God's will be done
  - b. He could glorify God with his physical suffering
  - c. God take away his pain
6. \_\_\_\_\_. God did not heal Paul because \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. His will was for Paul to endure his pain and glorify His name through his suffering
  - b. Paul sinned against God before by persecuting Christians
  - c. It was not His timing yet

