

SEASON 28
GODReads!

MONTH 8
I'm A Survivor



SERVING • CONNECTING • SHARING

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DESSERT IDEA:
Campfire Baked Apples

CANDY IDEA:
Lifesavers

ICE BREAKER:

What's in your purse? Have guests answer from memory. They don't have to have their purse with them to play. Give them points for each item they have in their purse.

What would you bring? You are stranded on a desert island and can only bring four things. What are they and why? Give a prize for the most unique answer.

1. FUN: THE PROGRAM

Choose from one of the following or create your own.

1. If weather permits, gather around a firepit and discuss survival life hacks. **Or** discuss what would go into your (middle school, high school, work, mom, etc.) survival kit.
2. Invite a follower of Christ who has a real survival story they would like to share. **Or** invite someone to demonstrate some self defense moves.
3. Make Campfire Baked Apples (or another camping dish) over a fire or in the oven. **Or** put together simple or themed survival kits. **Or** have each guest think of a time when they went through a really difficult struggle. Provide paper and pens for them to write a letter to themselves encouraging them through that difficult time and remembering how you grew through that event. Encourage them to hold on to that letter for future encouragement.

Choose from one or more of these ideas for conversation starters:

- Have you ever watched the show Survivor? How long do you think you would last on a show like that? What would be your biggest struggle?
- What item would you miss the most if you were stranded on an island?

**RESOURCES
& LINKS:**



DEEPER DISCUSSION

We live in a broken world that is full of struggles, but most of us have a survival guide in our homes that is collecting dust. God's Word, when read, studied, memorized and meditated on, can carry us through our struggles and changes us from the inside out to be more like Christ.

Psalm 119:92

If your law had not been my delight, I would have perished in my affliction.

2. FAITHFULNESS:

Our Survival Manual

This month's Scripture is from Paul's letter to Timothy and is found in the New Testament in 2 Timothy.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

The word "epistle" comes from the Greek word *epistolé*, which means "letter," and is a writing directed or sent to a person or group of people. The New Testament book 2 Timothy is the second of two epistles written by the apostle Paul to his mentee and son in the faith, Timothy.

Paul was in prison because of the persecution of Christians going on in Rome at that time. Paul wrote to encourage Timothy to carry on the hard work of spreading the Gospel and to expect difficulty. He told Timothy not to be ashamed of the Gospel and to pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace. He also reminds Timothy that the *Word of God is sacred and able to make a person wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.*

Paul's letter to Timothy and his letters to the early churches found in the New Testament are also an encouragement to modern day followers of Christ. Our instruction and survival manual for following Christ is His Word. God's Word is useful for:

- **Teaching** - giving us divine truth needed for life and godliness.
- **Rebuking** - exposing sin to lead us to confession and repentance.
- **Correcting** - helping us when we stumble.
- **Training in Righteousness** - training us in godly behavior.

If we wish to increase our devotion to God, to grow in godliness, to truly understand the Gospel and to know God's plan for our life, we must read our Bible. The good news is the Holy Bible is readily available, and you don't have to study theology to understand it.

If you own and carry a cellphone, you have God's breathed Word available to you everywhere you go. **Are there ways to rearrange your daily schedule to spend more time in God's Word?**

We are blessed to have tons of resources, like reading plans, devotionals, commentaries and online sermons, to help us study the Bible. **Which ones have you found to be useful?**

SWEET EXTRA

Paul wrote thirteen of the 27 books of the New Testament. All were written to the early church and early church leaders.

3. CLOSING SCRIPT:

Read Your Bible, Girl!

This devotion is a true story featuring real people and comes from one or more of God's 66 books of the Bible. While it's fun to have fellowship with other ladies and to learn new things, nothing has ever changed my life like God's Word.

The Holy Bible tells us that while we were all sinners, Christ died for us. Through the cross of Jesus, God reconciles us to Himself and restores us to how we were meant to be. This gift of redemption promises eternal life and transforms us from the inside-out. But like all gifts, it must be accepted. If you have not accepted this gift from God, please contact me. I'd love to speak with you and answer any questions you may have.

I encourage you to follow along with this month's Scripture Writing, and read the story for yourself. Ask God what He would like to show you in His life-changing Word.

SCRIPTURE WRITING: TIMOTHY



Sweet Scripture Writing

Want to read Paul's letter to Timothy for yourself? Join us in reading and writing God's Word down every day, meditating on it, and writing it on your heart. Look up, read and write each verse of this letter to Timothy and see if you find encouragement in Paul's words.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Day 1 | 2 Timothy 2:1-2 | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 16 | 2 Timothy 2:25-26 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day 2 | 2 Timothy 2:3-5 | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 17 | 2 Timothy 3:1-2 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day 3 | 2 Timothy 2:6-7 | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 18 | 2 Timothy 3:3-5 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day 4 | 2 Timothy 2:8-9 | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 19 | 2 Timothy 3:6-7 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day 5 | 2 Timothy 2:10 | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 20 | 2 Timothy 3:8-9 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day 6 | 2 Timothy 2:11 | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 21 | 2 Timothy 3:10-11 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day 7 | 2 Timothy 2:12-13 | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 22 | 2 Timothy 3:12-13 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day 8 | 2 Timothy 2:14-15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 23 | 2 Timothy 3:14-15 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day 9 | 2 Timothy 2:16 | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 24 | 2 Timothy 3:16-17 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day 10 | 2 Timothy 2:17-18 | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 25 | Colossians 3:16 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day 11 | 2 Timothy 2:19 | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 26 | Hebrews 4:12-13 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day 12 | 2 Timothy 2:20-21 | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 27 | Psalms 119:105 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day 13 | 2 Timothy 2:22 | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 28 | Romans 15:4 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day 14 | 2 Timothy 2:23 | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 29 | John 20:30-31 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day 15 | 2 Timothy 2:24 | <input type="checkbox"/> Day 30 | Psalms 19:7-8 |