

Questions & Answers

Mt. Ellis Academy, MT - Junior Class – Bible III

By Pastor Ed Anderson

Junior Student Q.1:

Is being gay and homosexual okay with God?

The question of whether being gay or homosexual is okay with God is one that is deeply discussed and debated among Christians, theologians, and religious scholars. **Different Christian denominations and individuals interpret Scripture differently on this topic.**

From a **traditional biblical perspective**, many Christians believe that God's design for marriage and sexual relationships is between **one man and one woman** (Genesis 2:24, Matthew 19:4-6). Several Bible passages (e.g., Leviticus 18:22, Romans 1:26-27, 1 Corinthians 6:9-10) are often cited to support the belief that homosexual behavior is not in line with God's original plan for human relationships.

However, other Christians emphasize **God's love, grace, and the importance of individual faith and relationship with Him**. They argue that Jesus' teachings on love, mercy, and inclusion (e.g., John 3:16, Matthew 22:37-40) call for compassion, not condemnation, and that faith communities should be welcoming to all.

At the heart of the discussion is the **character of God**—a God who is holy, just, and loving. The Bible teaches that **all people are sinners in need of grace** (Romans 3:23), and that salvation comes through **faith in Jesus Christ** (Ephesians 2:8-9). **God calls everyone to surrender their lives to Him**, and that journey of faith is deeply personal.

If you're wrestling with this question, **I encourage you to seek God's wisdom through prayer and Scripture** (James 1:5), and to have respectful, loving discussions with mature believers who can provide biblical insight and guidance.

Junior Student Q.2:

How much of the Bible are we supposed to take literally or symbolically?

The Bible contains a **mix of literal and symbolic language**, and understanding how to interpret it requires looking at **context, literary genre, and biblical themes**. Here's a general approach to determining when to take something literally or symbolically:

1. Consider the Literary Genre

The Bible is composed of different types of writing, and each should be read accordingly:

- **Historical Narratives (Genesis, Exodus, Gospels, Acts)** – Generally literal accounts of real events.
- **Poetry & Wisdom Literature (Psalms, Proverbs, Song of Solomon)** – Often uses **figurative language** (e.g., “The Lord is my shepherd” in Psalm 23).
- **Prophetic & Apocalyptic Books (Daniel, Revelation, Ezekiel, Isaiah)** – Heavy use of **symbols, visions, and metaphors** to convey spiritual truths.
- **Epistles (Paul’s Letters, Peter, John, James)** – Teachings meant to be applied practically but sometimes include cultural references that require deeper study.

2. Look at the Context

- **Did the original audience understand it literally?** (e.g., the resurrection of Jesus is described as a real event, not symbolic).
- **Is there an explanation given in the passage?** (e.g., Jesus explains some of His parables in Matthew 13).
- **Are there other biblical passages that clarify the meaning?** (e.g., many prophecies in Daniel are explained later in the book).

3. Identify Symbolic Language

Some passages clearly use **symbolism or metaphor**, even if they describe real events:

- **Jesus’ Parables** (e.g., The Good Samaritan – Luke 10:25-37) – Stories with a deeper moral or spiritual lesson.
- **Apocalyptic Visions** (e.g., The Beast in Revelation 13) – Symbolic imagery representing kingdoms and powers.
- **Figures of Speech** (e.g., “If your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off” – Matthew 5:30) – Jesus was emphasizing the seriousness of sin, not instructing literal amputation.

4. Recognizing When to Take Things Literally

- **Historical events** (e.g., the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus).
- **Direct commands and teachings** (e.g., “Love your neighbor as yourself” – Mark 12:31).

- **Fulfilled prophecies** (e.g., Jesus' birth in Bethlehem as predicted in Micah 5:2).

5. The Role of the Holy Spirit and Study

- **The Bible interprets itself** – many symbols in Revelation, for example, are explained in Daniel or other Old Testament books.
- **Prayer and guidance from the Holy Spirit** are key in understanding Scripture (John 16:13).
- **Studying biblical culture and language** helps clarify meanings (e.g., understanding Jewish customs in the Gospels).

Bottom Line:

Some parts of the Bible are **literal**, some are **symbolic**, and others are **a mix of both**. Careful reading, study, and prayer help us discern which is which. **When in doubt, look at the passage's genre, context, and how it fits within the whole Bible.**

Junior Student Q.3:

Will I have a family on the New Earth and New Heaven if I don't have the chance on Earth?

The Bible gives us **glimpses** of what life will be like on the **New Earth and in the New Heaven**, but it does not specifically state whether those who never had a family on Earth will have one in eternity. However, there are several **biblical principles** that can help us think about this question:

1. The Family of God Will Be Fulfilled in Heaven

- In eternity, **our relationships will be perfected** and centered on God. Jesus said that in the resurrection, people will not marry as they do on Earth:
- **"At the resurrection people will neither marry nor be given in marriage; they will be like the angels in heaven."** (Matthew 22:30, NIV)
- This suggests that while family relationships will still exist in some form, they may be **different from earthly marriage and parenting as we know them**. Instead of individual family units, **all believers will be part of God's eternal family**.

2. God Fulfills the Desires of the Heart

- **Psalms 37:4** says, **"Delight yourself in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart."**

- If your heart longs for the love, companionship, and connection of a family, **God will not leave that desire unfulfilled in eternity**. The New Earth will be a place of **joy, completeness, and perfect relationships** where no one feels lonely or lacking.

3. The New Earth Will Be a Place of Perfect Fulfillment

- The **New Heaven and New Earth** are described as places of **unimaginable joy, peace, and fulfillment** (Revelation 21:3-4).
- If you don't experience family life as you desire on Earth, **you can trust that God will provide something even better in eternity**—whether that means deep spiritual family connections or something beyond what we can understand now.

4. We Will Be One Eternal Family

- **Jesus redefined family** when He said:
- **“Whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.”** (Matthew 12:50)
- This means that, in the New Earth, **we will all be part of one great family**, living in perfect love and unity. No one will feel left out or alone.

Conclusion

If you don't have the chance to have a family on Earth, **you will not be deprived of love, companionship, or belonging in the New Earth**. God has something even **greater planned**, where every longing will be fulfilled in **ways beyond what we can imagine**.

1 Corinthians 2:9 reminds us:

“No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no human mind has conceived the things God has prepared for those who love Him.”

Trust in God's promise that eternity will be filled with joy, relationships, and fulfillment beyond anything we experience now. 🙏❤️

Junior Student Q.4:

How can I be more mindful of God and not get distracted by the world so much?

Staying **mindful of God** and not getting distracted by the world is a **daily spiritual practice** that requires intentional effort. The Bible encourages us to **fix our eyes on Jesus** (Hebrews 12:2) and to **renew our minds** (Romans 12:2), but how do we do this in

a world full of distractions? Here are some practical ways to **stay focused on God** and cultivate a stronger spiritual awareness:

1. Start and End Your Day with God

- **Morning:** Begin each day with **prayer, gratitude, and Scripture** before looking at your phone or engaging with the world.
- **Evening:** End the day by **reflecting on how you saw God** in your life, thanking Him, and praying for guidance.
- **Verse to Remember:** *“Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.”* (Matthew 6:33)

2. Meditate on God’s Word Daily

- Reading the Bible **deepens your connection** with God and keeps your mind focused on Him.
- Meditate on **a single verse** throughout the day.
- Use a **Bible app** to get daily reminders or listen to **audio Scripture** while driving or exercising.
- **Verse to Remember:** *“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”* (Psalm 119:105)

3. Pray Continually

- Keep an **ongoing conversation** with God throughout the day. Prayer doesn’t have to be long—just **simple moments of talking to God** as you go about your activities.
- Example: Before a meeting, say **“Lord, guide my words.”** Before making a decision, ask **“Lord, give me wisdom.”**
- **Verse to Remember:** *“Pray without ceasing.”* (1 Thessalonians 5:17)

4. Limit Worldly Distractions

- **Social media, entertainment, and news** can easily consume your thoughts. Set **boundaries** on how much time you spend on them.
- Replace **excessive screen time** with worship music, sermons, or Christian books.
- **Verse to Remember:** *“Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.”* (Colossians 3:2)

5. Surround Yourself with Godly Influences

- Spend time with **Christ-centered friends** who encourage your walk with God.
- Attend **church, Bible studies, and small groups** for spiritual growth.

- **Verse to Remember:** *“As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.”* (Proverbs 27:17)

6. Serve Others and Be the Hands of Jesus

- **Actively look for ways to serve.** When you focus on loving others, you reflect God’s love and stay mindful of Him.
- Volunteer, help a neighbor, or simply offer kindness wherever you go.
- **Verse to Remember:** *“Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.”* (Matthew 25:40)

7. Be Intentional About Worship

- Worship is not just **singing in church**—it’s an **attitude of gratitude** throughout your day.
- Thank God **for little things**—sunshine, a good meal, or a kind interaction.
- **Verse to Remember:** *“Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.”* (1 Corinthians 10:31)

8. Fast from Distractions

- Take **intentional breaks** from social media, TV, or other worldly distractions to **refocus on God**.
- Use fasting not just for food, but **for anything that consumes too much of your mind and heart**.
- **Verse to Remember:** *“Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.”* (Matthew 4:4)

9. Practice Gratitude Daily

- Keeping a **gratitude journal** can help you focus on how God is working in your life.
- Even in difficult moments, ask, **“What is God teaching me?”**
- **Verse to Remember:** *“Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”* (1 Thessalonians 5:18)

10. Remind Yourself That This World Is Temporary

- The **world’s distractions** can seem important, but they are temporary. Our **eternal home is with God**.
- Keep your heart focused on **eternal things** rather than temporary pleasures.
- **Verse to Remember:** *“For this world in its present form is passing away.”* (1 Corinthians 7:31)

Final Thought

Staying mindful of God **takes intentional effort**, but as you build these habits, **your relationship with Him will grow deeper**. Every day is a chance to **draw closer to Jesus** and keep your heart focused on Him.

Take **one step at a time**, and trust that **God is guiding you**. 🙏🌟

Junior Student Q.5: How would God want me to treat my spouse?

God has given **clear biblical principles** on how we should treat our spouse, reflecting **love, respect, sacrifice, and faithfulness**. Whether you are **married or preparing for marriage**, God's design for a healthy and God-honoring relationship is found throughout Scripture.

1. Love Your Spouse as Christ Loves the Church

- **Ephesians 5:25** – *“Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her.”*
- **Ephesians 5:33** – *“Each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.”*
- **God's model for love is self-sacrificing**. Jesus gave **everything** for His bride (the Church), and **husbands and wives are called to love each other with that same level of commitment and care**.

2. Be Faithful and Committed

- **Hebrews 13:4** – *“Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.”*
- **Malachi 2:16** – *“For the Lord, the God of Israel, says that He hates divorce, for it covers one's garment with violence.”*
- **Faithfulness is a reflection of God's own covenant-keeping character**. In marriage, commitment is not just emotional but **spiritual and lifelong**.

3. Show Respect and Honor

- **1 Peter 3:7** – *“Husbands, in the same way, be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers.”*

- **1 Peter 3:1-2** – *“Wives, in the same way, submit yourselves to your own husbands so that, if any of them do not believe the word, they may be won over without words by the behavior of their wives.”*

- **Respect is a two-way street**—husbands and wives should honor and uplift one another in word and action.

4. Communicate with Love and Patience

- **Colossians 3:19** – *“Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them.”*

- **Proverbs 15:1** – *“A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.”*

- **Ephesians 4:29** – *“Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up.”*

- **Healthy communication is key in marriage.** Be patient, kind, and understanding, even when there is conflict.

5. Serve Each Other with Humility

- **Philippians 2:3-4** – *“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.”*

- **Galatians 5:13** – *“Serve one another humbly in love.”*

- A strong marriage is built on **mutual service**—each person looking to **bless and support** the other.

6. Forgive Quickly and Extend Grace

- **Ephesians 4:32** – *“Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.”*

- **1 Corinthians 13:5** – *“Love... keeps no record of wrongs.”*

- **Forgiveness is essential in marriage.** God forgives us, and we are called to **forgive and extend grace** to our spouse, even when it’s difficult.

7. Pray for and with Your Spouse

- **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18** – *“Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”*

- **James 5:16** – *“Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed.”*

- **Praying together builds spiritual intimacy** and invites God into your marriage.

8. Build a Marriage that Reflects Christ

- **Genesis 2:24** – *“That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh.”*
- **Ecclesiastes 4:12** – *“Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.”*
- A **Christ-centered marriage** is strong because it is built on the foundation of **God’s love, grace, and guidance.**

Final Thoughts

God’s desire is that your marriage be a **reflection of His love**—filled with **faithfulness, respect, service, forgiveness, and prayer.**

By **putting God at the center**, you can have a marriage that is not only **strong and fulfilling** but also brings **glory to Him.** 🙏💛

Junior Student Q.6: Why first God allow suffering?

Why Does God Allow Suffering?

This is one of the most profound and difficult questions in faith. If God is **all-powerful and loving, why does He allow suffering?** While the Bible does not give one simple answer, it provides many truths that help us understand **God’s purpose in allowing suffering.**

1. Free Will and the Consequence of Sin

- **God created humanity with free will**, meaning we can **choose** to love Him or reject Him.
- Suffering entered the world through **sin**, beginning with Adam and Eve’s disobedience (Genesis 3).
- **Romans 5:12** – *“Sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way, death came to all people because all sinned.”*
- Many forms of suffering are the **direct or indirect result of human choices**, such as war, crime, or environmental destruction.

2. The Great Controversy Between Good and Evil

- The Bible teaches that there is a cosmic battle between **God and Satan.**
- **Satan’s rebellion** (Isaiah 14:12-14, Ezekiel 28:12-17) and his deception of mankind introduced evil and suffering into the world.

- **Job's story** (Job 1-2) shows that suffering is sometimes a spiritual battle.
- **Revelation 12:12** – *“Woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has gone down to you! He is filled with fury because he knows that his time is short.”*
- God allows suffering for a time, but **evil will not last forever.**

3. Suffering Can Refine and Strengthen Faith

- Sometimes suffering **draws us closer to God** and **builds character.**
- **Romans 5:3-4** – *“We also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.”*
- **James 1:2-4** – *“Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.”*
- Suffering can **remove spiritual complacency** and **help us rely on God's strength.**

4. Suffering Can Lead to a Greater Purpose

- **Joseph's story** (Genesis 37-50) – He was **betrayed, enslaved, and imprisoned**, yet later **saved many people** from famine.
- **Genesis 50:20** – *“You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.”*
- **Jesus' suffering** on the cross brought **salvation to the world.**

5. God is Not the Author of Suffering, but He Redeems It

- **Lamentations 3:33** – *“For He does not willingly bring affliction or grief to anyone.”*
- **Romans 8:28** – *“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him.”*
- God does **not cause suffering, but He can use it** to bring about good.

6. Suffering Will Not Last Forever

- The **hope of the Christian faith** is that God will **end all suffering.**
- **Revelation 21:4** – *“He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”*
- **2 Corinthians 4:17** – *“For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.”*
- God has **promised a world without suffering** in eternity.

Final Thoughts

- **God does not delight in suffering**, but He allows it for a time so that **free will, love, faith, and His greater purpose can unfold.**

- **Jesus Himself suffered**, showing that God understands our pain and walks with us through it (Hebrews 4:15).
- **One day, suffering will end**, and God’s justice and love will fully restore creation.

Until then, **we trust that God is sovereign, present in our pain, and working all things for good.** 🙏 ✨

Junior Student Q.7:

Why is Satan sometimes described as a lion and other times as a snake?

Satan is described in different ways throughout the Bible to illustrate various aspects of his nature and tactics. The **lion** and **serpent** metaphors reveal different aspects of how he operates in his opposition to God and His people.

1. Satan as a Lion – A Roaring Predator

- **1 Peter 5:8** – *“Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.”*
- This portrays Satan as **aggressive, powerful, and dangerous**—seeking to **intimidate, devour, and destroy**.
- Lions hunt the **weak and vulnerable**, just as Satan **targets believers who are unprepared or spiritually weak**.
- The **roaring** symbolizes fear and intimidation, as Satan often uses persecution, temptation, and trials to **shake a believer’s faith**.

◆ **Meaning** – Satan as a lion represents **his power, aggression, and open hostility** against God’s people.

2. Satan as a Serpent – A Deceptive Tempter

- **Genesis 3:1** – *“Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, ‘Has God indeed said, You shall not eat of every tree of the garden?’”*
- **Revelation 12:9** – *“The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray.”*

- In the Garden of Eden, Satan appeared as a **serpent**, deceiving Eve with **subtlety and cunning** rather than force.
- A serpent moves **quietly and unnoticed**, just as Satan often **works behind the scenes, planting doubt and twisting God's truth**.
- **Jesus called Satan the "father of lies" (John 8:44)** because deception is one of his primary weapons.

◆ **Meaning** – Satan as a serpent represents **his cunning, deceitfulness, and ability to twist God's words**.

Why Two Different Symbols?

- **As a Lion:** Satan is a **predator** who tries to destroy people through persecution, fear, and oppression.
- **As a Serpent:** He is a **deceiver** who tries to lead people astray with lies and subtle temptation.
- **Together, these images show that Satan attacks both outwardly (like a lion) and subtly (like a serpent).**

How to Defeat Satan?

- **Against the Lion:** Be **strong in faith** and resist him (1 Peter 5:9, James 4:7).
- **Against the Serpent:** Know and trust **God's Word** (Ephesians 6:11, Matthew 4:1-11).

Satan uses **both direct attacks and subtle deception**, but **God has given us the armor to stand against him** (Ephesians 6:10-18). In the end, **Satan is a defeated enemy**, and his destruction is certain (Revelation 20:10). 🔥

Junior Student Q.8:

What are God's words or thoughts regarding the growth of the world in areas of science and technology?

God's View on Science and Technology: A Biblical Perspective

The Bible does not directly mention modern **science and technology**, but it provides **principles** that help us understand how God views human progress. **Science and technology** are gifts from God that can be used for **good or evil**, depending on how we apply them.

1. God Gives Knowledge and Wisdom for Discovery

- **Daniel 12:4** – *“But you, Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book until the time of the end; many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase.”*
- This verse suggests that **knowledge will increase in the last days**, which aligns with the rapid growth of **science and technology** we see today.
- **James 1:5** – *“If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all.”*
- **God is the source of true wisdom**, and He grants understanding for advancements in medicine, engineering, space exploration, and more.

2. Science Glorifies God When Used to Discover His Creation

- **Psalms 19:1** – *“The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.”*
- Science reveals the **complexity and beauty** of God’s creation, from the vast universe to DNA structure.
- **Colossians 1:16** – *“For by Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible.”*
- Studying the world through science **can strengthen faith** by showing God’s **intelligent design** in creation.

3. Technology Can Be Used for Good or Evil

- **Genesis 11:6-7 (Tower of Babel)** – Humans used technology **to build a tower for their own glory**, leading to God confusing their languages.
- **Exodus 31:1-6** – God **gifted craftsmen** with knowledge to create the **Tabernacle** and beautiful works for His worship.
- Technology, like social media, artificial intelligence, and medical advancements, can be used **to help people** or **to harm society** (e.g., cybercrime, surveillance, AI misuse).

◆ **Technology is a tool—it depends on how we use it.**

4. God's Sovereignty Over Human Advancements

- **Proverbs 16:9** – *“A man's heart plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps.”*
- **Isaiah 55:8-9** – *“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the Lord.*
- No matter how much we advance, **God is still in control**, and His **plans** will always prevail.

5. Technology and the End Times

- **Revelation 13:16-17** – Talks about a **global system** of control (possibly using technology) where no one can buy or sell without the mark of the beast.
- **2 Thessalonians 2:9-10** – *“The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with how Satan works. He will use all sorts of displays of power through signs and wonders that serve the lie.”*
- While technology has benefits, it also opens doors for **deception, global surveillance, and control**, which align with **prophetic end-time events**.

Final Thoughts: How Should Christians View Science & Technology?

- ✓ **Recognize** that all true wisdom comes from God. (Proverbs 2:6)
- ✓ **Use science and technology** to glorify God and help others. (1 Corinthians 10:31)
- ✓ **Be discerning** about how technology is used—does it build faith or distract from God? (Colossians 3:2)
- ✓ **Trust that God is in control**, no matter how advanced the world becomes. (Psalm 46:10)

Science and technology **are not evil**—they are tools. The key question is: **Are they drawing us closer to God or leading us away from Him?**

Junior Student Q.9:


How can I have or build a routine with God?

How to Build a Daily Routine with God

A **consistent routine with God** is essential for spiritual growth and a deeper relationship with Him. Just like any relationship, time, effort, and intentionality are needed to strengthen your walk with God.


1. Set a Specific Time for God Each Day

- **Daniel 6:10** – *“Daniel... got down on his knees three times a day and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as he had done previously.”*
- Choose a **specific time** in the day to spend with God. Some prefer **early morning** (Psalm 5:3), while others connect better in the **evening** (Psalm 63:6).
- The key is **consistency**—meeting with God daily like you would with a close friend.

 **Example:** Start your day with 15-30 minutes of prayer and Bible reading.

2. Read and Meditate on Scripture Daily

- **Joshua 1:8** – *“Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night.”*
- Reading the Bible daily **feeds your soul** and **aligns your mind with God’s will**.
- Choose a Bible reading plan or focus on a book of the Bible (e.g., Psalms, Proverbs, John).
- **Write down key verses** that speak to you and reflect on them throughout the day.

 **Example:** Read **one chapter a day** or use a **devotional book**.

3. Spend Time in Prayer and Worship

- **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18** – *“Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances.”*
- Prayer **connects you to God’s heart**—it’s a conversation, not just a ritual.
- Incorporate **worship** (through music or silent reflection) to **praise and acknowledge** God’s goodness.

✓ **Example:** Start with **5 minutes of gratitude**, then **talk to God** about your needs, worries, and desires.

4. Journal Your Spiritual Journey

- **Habakkuk 2:2** – *“Write the vision and make it plain.”*
- Keeping a **spiritual journal** can help you track prayers, lessons, and personal growth.
- Write down your **prayers, struggles, victories, and Bible insights**.

✓ **Example:** Each night, **write one thing God taught you** during the day.

5. Invite God into Your Daily Activities

- **Colossians 3:17** – *“Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus.”*
- Build your relationship with God beyond just **morning devotions**—talk to Him **throughout your day**.
- Play **Christian podcasts or worship music**, pray while driving, or reflect on **Bible verses** in your free time.

✓ **Example:** **Pray before meals, decisions, and activities** to keep God in your thoughts.

6. Surround Yourself with Godly Influence

- **Hebrews 10:25** – *“Do not neglect meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encourage one another.”*
- Join a **small group, Bible study, or church ministry** to keep growing in faith.
- Surround yourself with **godly friends** who uplift and encourage your walk with Christ.

✓ **Example:** Find a **spiritual accountability partner** or **join a Bible study group**.

7. Be Intentional and Avoid Distractions

- **Psalm 46:10** – *“Be still, and know that I am God.”*
- The world is **full of distractions** (phones, social media, work), so be intentional about setting **undistracted time** for God.
- **Put your phone on silent**, wake up earlier, or find a **quiet place** to meet with Him.

 **Example:** Use a **Bible app** instead of social media in the morning.

A Simple Routine to Start With:

1 **Morning (15-30 min)** – Pray, read a Bible passage, and reflect.

2 **Midday (5 min)** – Say a **short prayer** or **recall a Bible verse**.

3 **Evening (10 min)** – **Journal** what God taught you, thank Him, and pray.

Final Thoughts

- **Start small and be consistent**—quality over quantity.
- **Adjust as needed**—find what works best for your spiritual growth.
- **Keep God involved all day**—not just in devotion time.

The more time you spend with God, the more you will experience His peace, guidance, and strength in your life! 🙏 ✨

Junior Student Q.10:

Why did God tempt Humans to sin by putting fruit in the garden?

God did **not** tempt humans to sin by placing the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the Garden of Eden. Instead, He gave them **free will** to choose obedience or disobedience. The tree served as a **test of love, trust, and obedience**—not as a temptation. Here’s why:

1. God Gives Humans Free Will, Not Forced Obedience

- **Genesis 2:16-17** – *“And the Lord God commanded the man, ‘You may eat from any tree in the garden, but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die.’”*
- God created humans **with the ability to choose**. Without choice, there can be **no true love or obedience**—only programming.
- The tree gave Adam and Eve the **opportunity to trust God’s wisdom or rely on their own judgment**.

◆ If God had removed the choice, there would be no real relationship, only forced obedience.

2. The Tree Was a Test of Faithfulness, Not a Trap

- The tree itself **was not evil**, nor was it placed there to lure humans into sin.
- It was a **symbol of God’s authority**—a reminder that Adam and Eve were to trust **His wisdom over their desires**.
- **Deuteronomy 30:19** – *“I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live.”*

◆ God always gives humans the ability to choose righteousness.

3. Satan Was the One Who Tempted, Not God

- **Genesis 3:1-5** – Satan, appearing as a serpent, **twisted God’s words** and deceived Eve into believing she would become like God.
- **James 1:13** – *“When tempted, no one should say, ‘God is tempting me.’ For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone.”*
- **John 8:44** – *“[Satan] is a liar and the father of lies.”*

◆ God didn’t tempt Adam and Eve—Satan did!

4. The Consequences of Sin Were a Warning, Not a Trick

- God told them **what would happen** if they disobeyed: *“You will surely die.”* (Genesis 2:17)

- He wasn't setting them up to fail; He was protecting them from death and separation from Him.
- **Romans 6:23** – *"The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."*

◆ **God warned them because He wanted them to choose life, not sin.**

5. The Bigger Picture: A Love That Rescues

- God knew that, even though Adam and Eve would fail, **He had a plan of redemption through Jesus.**
- **Romans 5:19** – *"For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous."*
- **John 3:16** – *"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son."*

◆ **God's goal was not to set a trap—but to give us the freedom to choose Him. Even when we failed, He made a way for us to be saved.**

Conclusion: The Tree Was About Love and Free Will

- God placed the tree in the garden **as a choice, not a temptation.**
- The **real tempter was Satan**, not God.
- The tree **allowed for true love and obedience**—without free will, love cannot exist.
- Even though humans failed, **God already had a plan of redemption through Jesus Christ.**

Ultimately, the story of the tree **isn't about a cruel test**—it's about God's **desire for a relationship built on love and trust, not force.** 🙏