



JANUARY

You will seek Me and find Me when you
search for Me with all your heart.

—Jeremiah 29:13 (NASB)

January 1



Get Ready for the Adventure!

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

—Jeremiah 29:11

It’s a new year, and I have a great adventure planned for you. Come to Me with a heart that is willing to be changed. Don’t make the same mistakes you made last year. This year, try doing things *My* way.

I know that trying something new can be frightening. But I also know *you*, and I understand you completely. You can trust Me to wrap you up in My Love—a love that never ends.

Whether you are at home or at school, talking with your friends or doing homework, keep Me in your thoughts. Let Me guide you. I will take you on a journey that will change who you are and how you see the world and the people around you. Yes, I have great plans for you, and I will be with you every step of the way!

READ ON YOUR OWN

Romans 12:2



JESUS CALLING FOR KIDS



January 2

Choose Me

But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are getting worried and upset about too many things. Only one thing is important. Mary has chosen the right thing, and it will never be taken away from her."

—Luke 10:41–42 (ICB)

You are so very busy. But I want you to stop for a minute. Put down the game, hang up the phone, turn off the computer. Spend some time with Me.

Even now your thoughts are racing ahead to today's plans and problems. But put those thoughts and worries aside. Just think about Me and how much I love you. I know exactly what is going to happen in your life today. Don't worry. I will give you everything you need to face your day.

Please don't skimp on our time together. The computer and the telephone and the homework will still be there when our time is through. Choose Me first—and the blessings I give you will not be taken away.

READ ON YOUR OWN

Psalm 105:4; Luke 10:39-42

JESUS CALLING FOR KIDS



January 3



I Am Bigger Than the World

*I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace.
In this world you will have trouble. But take heart!
I have overcome the world.*

—John 16:33

Think about how wonderful it feels to dive into a cool pool of water on a hot summer's day. That is what My Peace is like. It will refresh you and strengthen you. And that peace can be yours at all times.

As you go through your day, you will face problems and troubles. But you *never* have to face them alone. I am *always* with you. I am the best Friend that you will ever have. I walk beside you, to give you comfort and strength. I also walk ahead of you, so that I am ready to help you face whatever is coming. And I am within you, giving you a secret ability to think and act without fear.

There will be problems and hard times, but don't let them get you down. I have already overcome all the problems of this world. In Me you can find Peace.

READ ON YOUR OWN

Psalm 31:19–20



JESUS CALLING FOR KIDS



January 4

A New Habit

The Lord takes care of his people like a shepherd. He gathers the people like lambs in his arms. He carries them close to him. He gently leads the mothers of the lambs.

—Isaiah 40:11 (ICB)

Everyone has habits—some are good and some are not so good. Starting today, I want you to learn a new habit. Try saying, “I trust You, Jesus,” no matter what is happening around you. Choose to remember that I am in control of the universe, and that I love you with a love that is higher than any mountain and deeper than any ocean.

By saying, “I trust You, Jesus,” you are saying that you *know* I am in control of all things and that nothing can defeat Me. It is then that fear loses its grip on you. So when you are facing tough times, trust Me to guide you through them and use them to grow your faith. Trusting Me is a habit you won’t ever want to break.

READ ON YOUR OWN

Psalm 63:2; Isaiah 40:10; Psalm 139:7-10

JESUS CALLING FOR KIDS



January 5



Winning My Way

But we live by faith, not by what we see.

—2 Corinthians 5:7 (CEV)

What does it mean to *win*? Your friends—and maybe even some grown-ups—may say that winning means never messing up, never failing. It is being the best, better than anyone else, and being in total control. That is how this world sees winning.

But I have another definition. Winning—for all eternity—is about letting *Me* have total control. It is admitting that you need *Me*, and then trusting *Me* to lead you.

Don't just ask *Me* to bless what you have already decided to do. Ask *Me* what I want for you. I may fill your heart with a dream that seems impossibly far beyond your reach. And that dream will be bigger than anything you can do on your own. But remember, nothing is beyond *My* reach.

Yes, you will mess up sometimes, and you will make mistakes. But when you depend on *Me*, I will use your mistakes to grow your faith and to help you win—*My way!*

READ ON YOUR OWN

Psalm 34:17–18



JESUS CALLING FOR KIDS



January 6

Dare to Dream My Dream

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

—Ephesians 3:20–21

Dream your biggest, most incredible dream—and then know that I am able to do far more than that, far more than you could ever ask or imagine. Allow Me to fill your mind with *My* dreams for you.

Don't be discouraged if your prayers are not answered right away. Time is a great teacher. It teaches you to be patient and to trust in My perfect plan—even when you don't know what is going to happen next.

When everything seems way too hard, that is when you can truly see My Power at work in your life. Don't let this world's craziness drag you into worry. Instead, choose to see all that I am doing around you. Remember, there is no limit to what I can do.

READ ON YOUR OWN

Romans 8:6; Isaiah 40:30–31; Revelation 5:13

JESUS CALLING FOR KIDS



January 7



I Love That!

*Give thanks whatever happens.
That is what God wants for you in Christ Jesus.
—1 Thessalonians 5:18 (ICB)*

It is not possible to thank Me too much. I love your praises. Sometimes your praise is an unplanned, in-the-moment, you-just-can't-help-yourself sort of thing. Perhaps you have just received one of My blessings or have been overwhelmed by the beauty of My creation, and you are just bursting to tell Me about it. I love that!

Other times, you stop to think about My blessings, about My Presence in your life. And you decide to thank Me. I love that kind of praise too.

When you are struggling with a problem, pray about it. Then go ahead and thank Me for the help you know I will give you. This kind of praise means you know I am in control—and I love that!

Fill up the spare moments of your life with praise, and you will find that your life is filled with Me.

READ ON YOUR OWN

Psalm 22:3; Psalm 146:1–2



JESUS CALLING FOR KIDS



January 8

Sometimes I Whisper

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

—Psalm 46:1

I am *always* with you. Even now, I am here with you. That soft whisper in your mind? That's from Me. That gentle tap on your heart? That's from Me too. I have all the Power in heaven and on earth. With My Might, I can control the very wind and the waves, but with you I am quiet and tender. And the more you are hurting, the more tender I am.

When others leave you feeling worthless and alone, hope in Me. My hope is not just a wish for things to be better; it is My promise to you that I will always help you. I will carry your troubles for you and lighten your heart. I am your ever-present Help, so you are never alone.

READ ON YOUR OWN

Romans 12:12; Romans 15:13

JESUS CALLING FOR KIDS



January 9



Never Give Up!

Nothing is impossible for God!

—Luke 1:37 (CEV)

I am always with you and for you. I am your biggest fan. When you decide to do something that fits My plans for you, nothing in heaven or on earth can stop you. You may face some problems along the way to your goal—that is part of living in an imperfect world. But never give up! With My help, you can conquer any problem.

But don't just rush headlong toward your goal, trying to make things happen when you want them to. First, come to Me. Ask Me to guide you every step of the way, minute by minute. Let Me set the pace. Sometimes I may ask you to wait, or to slow down, or even to stop for a while. But remember, My timing is perfect. Trust Me and enjoy sharing the journey with Me.

READ ON YOUR OWN

Romans 8:31; Psalm 46:1–3; Luke 1:37



JESUS CALLING FOR KIDS



January 10

A Treasure of Trust

*But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven,
where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in
and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*

—Matthew 6:20–21

Every time you choose to trust Me, it's like putting a coin into My treasury. Like a bank, I keep these coins of trust safe for you. Over time, these coins add up, creating a wealth of trust for you to use when you need it. The more you choose to trust Me and My teaching, instead of just following your friends, the more I will help you trust Me.

Trusting takes practice. Start on quiet days, when nothing much seems to be happening. You will see that I really am faithful. Then, when trouble comes, you will know how to trust Me—because you have practiced. You will have saved up a heavenly treasure of trust that will see you through whatever troubles come your way.

READ ON YOUR OWN

Psalm 56:3–4

JESUS CALLING FOR KIDS



January 11



Let Go

Jesus has the power of God. His power has given us everything we need to live and to serve God. We have these things because we know him. Jesus called us by his glory and goodness.

—2 Peter 1:3 (ICB)

Imagine that your life is a video game. Now, let go of the controls and let Me have control instead. That is what trust looks like. It is letting go and remembering that I am God. This is My world: I made it and I control it. You show your love for Me by letting Me have control in your life.

When you pray, I want you to share everything with Me: your joys and heartaches, your struggles and triumphs, your worries and questions. I am your best Friend—pour out your heart to Me. And then thank Me for the answers that are already on the way. When you trust Me to be in control, you can let go of your worries and live closer to Me.

READ ON YOUR OWN

Psalm 46:10; Colossians 4:2; 2 Peter 1:4



JESUS CALLING FOR KIDS