



Inspire

Celebrating His Goodness

Worship Idea/Devotional

Look at the Stars

In honor of Space Day, which is May 3, spend some time looking at the stars one evening. Have you ever tried to count the stars? I know I did as a child, but soon I lost count, and I am sure I counted many of the stars more than once. And although I tried to find the Big Dipper and Little Dipper and other constellations, they all just looked like stars to me.

According to the NASA website, our galaxy, the Milky Way, has approximately 100 billion stars in it (not sure how they managed to count them all). But, the Milky Way is not the only galaxy in the universe. There are 10 billion galaxies in the observable universe! The number of stars per galaxy varies, but if 100 billion stars is the average per galaxy, there are about **1,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 (that's 1 billion trillion)** stars in the observable universe! That is a lot of stars.

Despite the fact there are so many stars, God's Word gives some beautiful assurances about the numerous stars. Psalm 147:4-5 says, **He determines the number of the stars and calls them each by name. Great is our Lord and mighty in power; his understanding has no limit.** Not only does God know the exact number of stars, He knows them by name. Each star has a unique name, and it is known by God. Isaiah 40:26 says something similar: **Lift up your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one and calls forth each of them by name. Because of his great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing.**

What is even more amazing is to think that if God cares enough to name each and every star, and hold them in their specific place, He cares even more for us. Even the number of hairs we have on our head are numbered (Matthew 10:30). David writes this about how God knows and cares for us: **You have searched me, Lord, and you know me. You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar. You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways. Before a word is on my tongue you, Lord, know it completely. You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain.** (Psalm 139:1-6)

Psalm 19:1 says **The heavens declare the glory of God: the skies proclaim the work of his hands.** As you gaze at the stars tonight, spend some time praising God because He is the Creator, Preserver and Governor of all things.

**Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory in the heavens. When I consider your heavens,
the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars,
which you have set in place, what is mankind that you are mindful of
them, human beings that you care for them?**

(Psalm 8:1, 3-4)

Things to Celebrate

Education Ideas

May is National Blood Pressure Month. Arrange for a medical professional to come to your WM group and offer blood pressure checks and education on healthy blood pressure and ways we can lower our blood pressure. May 31 is World No Tobacco Day as well as Save Your Hearing Day. Have someone teach a class about the dangers of tobacco use or ways we can prevent hearing loss.

May is also National Photograph Month. Have a photographer come and teach a class on how to take great photos, lighting, etc.

Fellowship Ideas

May is National BBQ, Hamburger and Salad Month. Have a WM BBQ with burgers and ladies bring all the fixings and the sides, and include lots of salads. Or perhaps have a salad potluck with recipe exchange.

May 15 is National Chocolate Chip Day.

May 25 is National Brown Bag it Day.

Service Ideas

May 6 is National Nurses Day, May 7 is National Teacher's Day, May 10 is National Military Spouse Day. Make a gift of some kind and deliver to groups of these people on their day. The third week of May is National Police Week and the 4th week is Emergency Medical Services week think of a way to honor these individuals who serve your community.

For more holidays to celebrate go to www.holidayinsights.com/moreholidays/

Commissioner Jolene K. Hodder—Territorial President of Women's Ministries
Colonel Colleen R. Riley—Territorial Secretary for Women's Ministries
Major Beth Desplancke—Territorial Women's Ministries Program Secretary

INSPIRATIONAL IDEAS from the Territory

INSPIRED Service Projects:

Imiej cleans the church building monthly. May 10 is "Clean up your room day." Have WM clean thoroughly the meeting room or storage closet.

Jabor's Home League picks up and removes trash from the main community road.

Pocatello, ID is emphasizing "Hands of An Angel" and focuses on service projects they can do with their hands in order to bless others.

In **Tempe, AZ** women are learning to play instruments so they can help with the worship team at the corps.

INSPIRED Program Ideas:

Apache Junction, AZ did a table game day for a WM program.

Bellingham, WA started a weekly cooking group for women which focuses on living a healthy lifestyle.

Coeur D'Alene Kroc, ID started "YARMY" a knitting group that serves a valuable purpose of fellowship and service to their community. As they fellowshiped together they made 250 hat/scarves sets for the KROC's "Dress a Child" event.

Denver Red Shield, CO started a "Create Night" where once a month a different creative activity/project is taught.

Eastside, WA women's program have been focusing on praying, by name, for the ARC women to attend their corps.

Eugene, OR did a book study on *Growing: Experience the Dynamic Path to Transformation* by Josh & Sean McDowell.

Tucson Temple, AZ have many women who are gluten-free. They are preparing and sharing gluten-free recipes and dishes each week.

Vancouver, WA started a group "Sisters Seeing the Sights" as an outreach for women who would normally just sit at home.

Bible Quiz

Birds of the Bible

Celebrate Bird Day, May 4th, by seeing how many birds in the Bible you know. Scripture references are provided so you can find the answers.

1. On which day of creation did God create birds? **Genesis 1:20-23**
2. What bird did Noah send out of the ark first? **Genesis 8:6-7**
3. Who had a dream about birds eating from a basket on his head? **Genesis 40:16-17**
4. What bird did God provide for the Israelites to eat in the wilderness? **Exodus 16:11-13**
5. To whom did a Philistine say, "Come here, and I'll give your flesh to the birds and the wild animals"? **1 Samuel 17:44**
6. What type of bird did Solomon import? **1 Kings 10:21-22**
7. What kind of birds brought Elijah food while he was in the wilderness? **1 Kings 17:1-7**
8. Job said he has become a companion of what kind of bird? **Job 30:29**
9. According to Job, which foolish bird lays its eggs on the ground, left to be warmed by the sun? **Job 39:13-18**
10. David wrote, "Oh, that I had the wings of a _____! I would fly away and be at rest." **Psalms 55:6**
11. Proverbs says that anyone who scorns his parents will have his eyes pecked out by what type of bird? **Proverbs 30:17**
12. Which bird's song, in Song of Songs, is a sign of spring? **Song of Songs 2:12**
13. According to Isaiah, "those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like _____; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." **Isaiah 40:31**
14. Zechariah had a vision of two women who had what kind of wings? **Zechariah 5:9**
15. What was the value of two sparrows in Jesus' day? **Matthew 10:29**
16. Jesus said, "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a _____ gathers her chicks under wings, and you were not willing." **Matthew 23:37**
17. What kind of bird did Peter hear early in the morning after he denied knowing Jesus three times? **Matthew 26:74-75**
18. Jesus said to his disciples, "Consider the _____: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds!" **Luke 12:24**
19. Which bird was being sold at the temple when Jesus drove out the money-changers? **John 2:14**
20. The first of the four beasts in Revelation was like a lion, the second beast was like an ox, the third had a face like a man, and the fourth was like what kind of bird? **Revelation 4:7**



The Lord is good to all;
he has compassion on all he has made.

Psalms 145:9