



# Inspire

## Celebrating His Goodness

Devotion/Worship Idea

### God Uses Left-Hand for His Purpose

August 13 is National Left-Handers Day. In honor of that day, try doing everyday tasks with your non-dominant hand: brushing your teeth, writing, cutting, dialing your phone, etc. What is easy with a person's dominant hand, can be quite difficult and challenge when a person switches to the other hand. In Judges 3:12-30 the Israelites have been under the rule of Eglon king of Moab for 18 years. They cried out to God for help, and God sent an unlikely deliverer, Ehud. The Bible is sure to note that Ehud was a left-handed man.

During that time in history hands represented two things—weakness and power. The right hand represented power (thus the Bible always refers to the Lord's right hand) and the left represented weakness. Ehud, whose name means "powerful," would be viewed as one having a disability for his left-handedness.

Swords are difficult to pull up and out and for that reason, military men wear swords on the side opposite their strongest hand. Ehud, due to the fact he was left-handed, had his sword concealed on his right thigh. Because people were not expecting a sword to be hidden on the right side, Ehud is able to get up close to Eglon and kill him with the concealed weapon and then escape unnoticed and unharmed. Because of Ehud, Israel experienced peace for 80 years!

Not your typical Sunday school Bible story, but we can learn some important lessons from it. First of all, God hears our cries and He responds. He was aware the Israelites were in a tough situation; they cried out to God and He acted. He provided Ehud to help in their situation. Whatever struggle you are facing, the first and best place to turn is to the Lord. Call out to Him; He is listening. (Read Psalm 40:1-2)

Secondly, God specifically fashioned Ehud the way he was for a specific purpose. There are no accidents or mistakes when it comes to how God formed and shaped you. Celebrate your uniqueness. (Read Psalm 139:13-16)

Finally God can use anyone for His purposes. There is no useless skill, gift or talent. Whatever God has given you, use it for His glory and His purpose. What we view as weakness, God can make into a strength. (Read 1 Corinthians 1:25-31, 2 Corinthians 12:9-10).

### Things to Celebrate

#### Education Ideas

August is National Eye Exam Month. Have a medical professional come and talk about the importance of eye health.

August 9 is Book Lover's Day. Take a field trip to a local library.

August 17 is National Honeybee Awareness Day. Visit a local beekeeper and learn about how important bees are to our ecosystem.

#### Fellowship Ideas

August is Family Fun Month. Plan a fun event for the entire family to enjoy at the corps.

August is National Golf Month. Go play a round of golf or mini-golf.

Food is always a good way to fellowship on these August days: 2—National Ice Cream Sandwich Day, 3—National Watermelon Day, 4—National Chocolate Chip Cookie Day, 10—National S'mores Day, 14—National Creamsicle Day, 21—National Spumoni Day, 31—International Bacon Day & National Trail Mix Day.

August 17 is National Thrift Shop Day. Spend the day as a WM going thrift shopping.

#### Service Ideas

August 21 is Senior Citizens Day. How can you honor them?

August 22 is Be An Angel Day. Do a service project for the social services office at the corps, thrift store customers, or kids preparing to go back to school.

For more holidays to celebrate go to [www.holidayinsights.com/moreholidays/](http://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*

Be sure to check out our website for more resources: <https://usw-womensministries.org/>

## INSPIRATIONAL IDEAS from the Territory

### Inspired Book Studies

**Albany, OR** is using the book *"The Broken Way"* by Ann Voskamp. The book encourages you to allow your brokenness to be a gift of grace.

**Moreno Valley, CA** did the Bible Study *"In the Middle of the Mess"* by Sheila Walsh.

**Santa Ana Temple, CA** held a weekly parenting workshop for a quarter using *"Raising Highly Capable Kids"* from Focus on the Family.

**Tustin Ranch, CA** is using *"Lioness Arising: Wake Up and Change Your World"* by Lisa Bevere in a new WM Bible study they started.

### Inspired Program Ideas

**Caldwell, ID** recently hosted a nutrition class led by the University of Idaho (in English and Spanish). The ladies left with cooking utensils and recipes.

**Centre City, CA** Home League participated in the Community Health Fair by managing the Corps sponsored booth as well as with set up/clean up.

**Denver, CO** collected used handbags for their "Sisterhood Project." Each lady brought a handbag with personal toiletries, a New Testament and a special prayer and note. They then went out and distributed them to homeless women, and also asked if they could pray for the women (many of them said yes).

**Eugene, OR** enjoyed "National Goof off Night" and everyone wore their PJs to WM.

### Make Me A Lighthouse

by Dot Wilson

I want to be a lighthouse  
For those who don't know God  
So I might lead them to You, Jesus  
While here on Earth we trod.

Like a ship out on the ocean,  
When storms toss it off the trail.  
That they might see my light  
And know just where to sail.

Help me to show my light, Lord,  
So others can plainly see,  
Your love is real and good.  
Let them see that in me!

Lord, I know that I'm not worthy,  
Of even feeling Your great love.  
But I know, too, that You love me.  
And will make me a place above!

Lead me every day, dear Lord,  
For while I'm here I want to be,  
The lighthouse that sinners use,  
To draw them close to Thee!

August 7 is National Lighthouse Day

### INSPIRED Back to School Favor Ideas for Students & Teachers



Jolly Ranchers in a Reusable Mug  
FREE PRINTABLE on TrishSutton.com



OH! RUBBISH! BLOG !!



You, Lord, are forgiving and good,  
abounding in love to all who call to you. Psalm 86:5

August 27 is Global Forgiveness Day