



God's In Control

Joshua 1:9 • Cadets 2021 • 2022

2021-2022 Theme Lessons

Lesson 1 • B Lessons

GOD'S IN CONTROL

Joshua 1:1-9

Theo was sure glad his mom told him to pack his rain jacket for the camping trip. Theo had put his jacket on right as Counselor Mike was getting them to head out on a short hike. Part way through the hike it started to rain, and only Counselor Mike, Theo and one other boy had raincoats to protect them.

At first the rain came down lightly – not much more than a drizzle. But soon it rained harder and harder, and they heard thunder in the distance. Counselor Mike said that they better turn back to camp to get out of the rain. As the rain continued to pour down on them Theo was a little worried about his friends without rain jackets. He knew they would feel miserable getting all wet and cold from the rain. Eventually they got back to camp and were able to put on dry clothes and remain sheltered in their tent.

Theo crawled out of the tent once the rain stopped. He looked up at the sky and saw a beautiful double rainbow. It was the perfect thing to see after a tough hike in the rain.

1

Why do you think God had to tell Joshua three times to be strong and courageous?

2

Read Genesis 9:8-16. Why did God give the sign of the rainbow?

3

Describe a time when God reminded you of His promises.

4

Read Psalm 139:7-10. What are we promised in these verses?

5

Describe how your answer to question 4 can help you be strong and courageous.

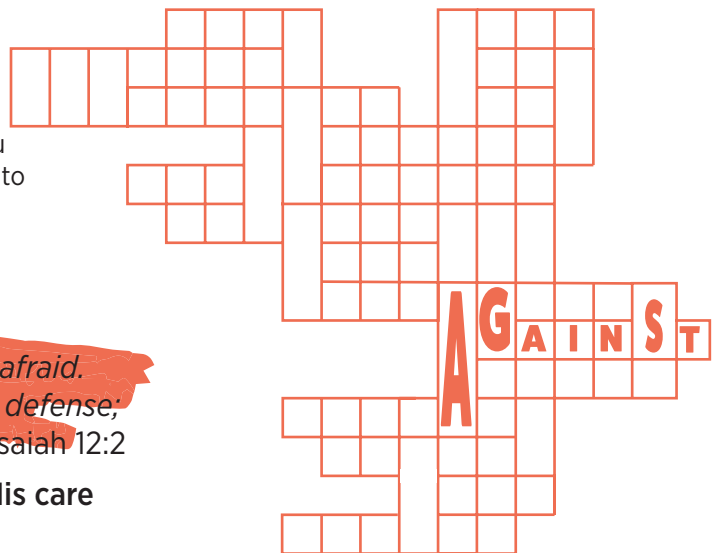
6

Knowing that God is always watching over you and taking care of you—what can you now do to show Him your thanks?



Use the list of words from today's scripture to fill in the stretch puzzle. One word has been started for you.

- | | | |
|------------|-------------|------------|
| AFRAID | DISCOURAGED | PEOPLE |
| AGAINST | FORSAKE | PROMISED |
| CAREFUL | LEAD | PROSPEROUS |
| COMMANDED | LIFE | STRONG |
| COURAGEOUS | LORD | SUCCESSFUL |
| DEAD | OBEY | |



REMEMBER

Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The LORD, the LORD himself, is my strength and my defense; he has become my salvation. — Isaiah 12:2

Say a prayer of thanks to God for His love and His care for you. (Be specific in your prayer!)

GOD'S IN CONTROL OF OUR FRIENDSHIPS

Joshua 1:6-9

Theo had a big problem. He and Bill got into a fight at the church right before leaving for the campout, and now Bill was going to be sleeping next to him in the tent. Every cadre had to set up their own tent and Bill and Theo had argued over where the tent should be. Then they couldn't agree on how best to put the tent together.

As the arguing continued, Theo thought to himself, "This is going to be a long, long campout if Bill is going to keep on arguing with me all the time." Theo didn't think there would be any way to fix this problem — it was too big.

Counselor Wayne noticed Theo was not his cheerful self and asked him about it. After listening, Counselor Wayne said, "I am sure that you have already prayed to God about this, asking Him to give you a good campout; but have you prayed for Bill to have a good campout too?" Theo didn't know what to say to this. He had never really considered praying for a person he was upset with. With nothing to lose, he decided to try it, and was surprised to find his attitude getting better and better.

1

When was the last time you got into an argument with a friend?

2

Arguing isn't fun and the more we argue the more miserable we feel. What is one thing we could do to stop ourselves from arguing?

3

Read 2 Timothy 2:23-24. What do these verses tell us to do?

4

It isn't easy to stop arguing and change our attitude about the other person. Read Luke 6:27-28. Explain how you might do this.

5

What do you think it means to be merciful? Luke 6:36.

6

Re-read the verses from Joshua. How can we have the strength to change our attitudes and better our relationships?



Use the code to see what this verse has to say about friendship.

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8 9,10 6,7 9,10 8 10 4,5 6,7 9

2 5 8,9 9 1,2 6,7 9 5,6 6 5 7,8 1

7 1,2 6 4 4,5 2,3 2 5 7,8 11 10,11 7,8 5,6

10 9 1,2 1 10,11 2 3 11 1,2 9,10

10 6 10,11 7,8 4 3,4 9,10 3 6,7 5 3

8,9 9 6 4,5 3 6,7 7 1,2 6 4 5 2,3 2

11 10,11 9,10

REMEMBER

When I am afraid, I put my trust in you. In God, whose word I praise— in God I trust and am not afraid.

What can mere mortals do to me? Psalm 56:3-4

Think of a person who you could have a better relationship with but you disagree with them about something.

Show that person mercy this week.

GOD'S IN CONTROL OF OUR FAMILIES

Genesis 45: 4-7, & 12-15

Theo looked everywhere for his pocket knife. Two days before the campout, his grandpa had given him the knife, telling Theo it was his to sharpen and to take care of. Theo knew that he had it with him at lunch time, when he had shown it to his brother Mike, but now he couldn't find it. Mike was excited to see it and had asked Theo if he could borrow it. Theo lent Mike the knife, as long as he put it on the table when he was done with it.

Mike said that's exactly what he did, put it on the table when he was done. After five more minutes of frantic searching, Counselor Jerry asked Mike to empty his pockets. Sure enough, there was the pocket knife.

Theo was upset was upset for hours. His brother had tried to keep the knife for himself and lied about it. Counselor Jerry said that if Mike asked for his brother to forgive him, then Theo should forgive him. "Forgiveness doesn't come easy," said Counselor Jerry, "but you must also remember all the times that God has forgiven you."

1

Why do you think Joseph was able to forgive his brothers?

2

Describe a time when you knew you should forgive someone, but you didn't really want to. Did you eventually forgive them?

3

If you continue to stay upset with someone and you keep anger in your heart — who are you really hurting?

4

Sometimes a person we forgive hurts us again. What would have been your response if Jesus gave you the answer in Matthew 18:21-22?

5

Read Colossians 3:12-14. What do we learn about forgiveness and love from these verses?

6

Remembering the Bible passages about Joseph from the beginning of the lesson - describe how we know that God is in control of our family relationships?



Solve the puzzle to see what the Bible says about Family.

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REMEMBER

The LORD is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid? Psalm 27:1

This week, forgive someone whom you have forgiven before and they have wronged you again. God's in control, you don't need to be afraid.

GOD'S IN CONTROL OF OUR NEEDS PART 1

1 Kings 17:1-16

The boys were excited because they knew Counselor Steve was in charge of the food for the campout; he was known to be really good at cooking over a campfire. At the last Cadet meeting he told everybody that he was planning a special supper for them, he was bringing steaks and a special butter to put on each person's steak. But before the campout started, Counselor Steve broke his leg and couldn't come to the campout at all.

Theo was extremely disappointed. He had seen the menu for the campout, and next to Saturday's supper the word "steaks" was crossed out and the word "hotdogs" was written. In fact, this was the third meal where they were going to have hotdogs. Hotdogs were not Theo's favorite food. Theo was complaining to his friend Thomas, when Thomas said, "Apparently you have never had to miss a meal because there was no food for you to eat. It has happened to me, and now I am grateful for every meal I get - no matter what is being served." Theo remembered this at suppertime and gave an extra special prayer of thanks to God for the food He provided.

1 Describe a time when you felt really hungry. Can you think of anything besides food when you're like that?

2 Where does the food that you eat come from?

3 What situation have you been in where you didn't think God would provide what you need?

4 What did God provide for His people in Exodus 16:11-15?

5 Read 1 Timothy 6:17. Who provides for our needs? How are we supposed to handle these gifts/blessings?

6 Why is it easy to forget that God being in control includes Him providing all we need?



Use the code to determine what the verse says about God taking care of your needs.

	1	2	3	4	5
●	I	F	V	T	E
■	R	S	D	G	K
▲	A	U	L	O	H
▲	I	N	W	H	Y

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4 ▲ 5 3 4 1 3 1 ▲ 3

5 5 ▲ ▲ 3 3 4 1 3 5

▲ 4 2 4 ▲ 5 3 5 2 1 1 5 2

4 2 ▲ 4 2 1 5 5 1 1 4

REMEMBER

The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing.

Psalm 23:1

Read Psalm 23 together, saying "God is in Control" after each verse.

GOD'S IN CONTROL OF OUR NEEDS. PART 2

Luke 12:22-26

"What's your favorite bird?" asked Jeff, as he and Theo hiked side by side.

"Probably the woodpecker," said Theo. "You can hear them pounding on a tree and then you know where to look for them. You can watch them hammer their beaks so hard against the wood that it practically scrambles their brains."

"My favorite bird is the canary," Jeff continued. "We have a canary in a cage on our porch and, every morning when the sun comes up, it sings and sings its morning song."

"There sure are a lot of different birds in the world; all different shapes, sizes and colors. It is pretty awesome that God would create such a variety of birds," said Theo.

"I wonder if God notices each and every one of them?" asked Jeff.

"The Bible tells us that God takes care of all the birds," responded Theo.

"Who knows," continued Jeff, "since He takes care of all the birds, he might take extra special care of you and me."

"I like the way you think," said Theo.

1

Describe your favorite bird. Why it is your favorite?

2

Who feeds the birds and how do the birds get fed?

3

Do you think the birds know this? Does it matter?

4

Read Luke 12:6-7. What does this tell us about God's watchful care of us?

5

God watches over and loves all of His creation, especially His people. How do we know this to be true? Romans 8:31-32, 38-39.

6

Read Luke 12:22-26 again and describe how these verses show that God is in control.



Find the words relating to worry in the wordsearch below.

Anxiety	Fear	Rest	Uneasy
Awkward	Friendship	School	Upset
Bullies	Prayer	Talk	Worry
Devotions	Presentation	Troubled	

F E A R J E X O C E Q L N J Z
 T B I M X P J V S B F Y Y H L
 X Z K Z B R A Q F K K U M A G
 T N N Y Y E A N R Y M T V T H
 R L W D E S W B I P M A C S A
 O N O H P E K M E R H L T I R
 U U R V R N W U N E B K E J P
 B P R X E T A N D M U S R B R
 L S Y Q A A R E S N L Z E C A
 E E D Q N T D A H N L S S A Y
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 C F D V I O D Y P V E H M J R
 W E R A E N B H U F S O P T A
 D E V O T I O N S P G O N X H
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REMEMBER

For I am the LORD your God who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you.

Isaiah 41:13

Pick one thing you often worry about, even though you don't need to. Find a way to trust God for his provisions, instead of being anxious, this week.

Lesson 6 • **B Lessons**

GOD'S IN CONTROL OF OUR LEARNING

Mark 8:22-25

Counselor Tom knows a lot about trees, bushes and plants. When he leads hikes, he explains what he sees. Theo and the other cadets hear how some plants and berries can be eaten in nature, while other plants and berries are poisonous and you need to stay away from them.

On the last hike, Counselor Tom told them how some medicines are made from plants. He explained how God has put these plants on the earth, and how God has given humans the minds to be able to determine how to use the plants for healing. This sounded amazing to Theo. He already knew it was good to eat fruits and vegetables, but he had not thought about companies taking plants and making them into medicines.

1

What actions did Jesus do to give sight to the blind man?

2

How do you think God is doing miracles in people's lives each and every day?

3

Why is it so amazing that human beings can use their minds to figure out how to make medicines that heal?

4

How does it show God providing for us every time we take our medicines or get a vaccination?

5

Many of us are blessed with schools and teachers and parents that help us understand our wonderful universe. How does learning this way show us that God is providing?

6

For some boys school is very difficult. Does this mean God doesn't provide for these people? Why or why not?



Solve the puzzle to see what the Bible says about knowledge.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	K	L	N	O	Q	R	S	T	U	V

REMEMBER

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction. Proverbs 1:7

Look for ways in which God allows you to learn this week. Thank Him for these opportunities.

GOD'S IN CONTROL OF OUR HEARTS

Acts 9:1-19

It was the last night of the campout and Theo was in his sleeping bag. He was thinking about all the activities of the day. Their youth pastor had driven to camp and joined them for the evening. Youth Pastor Jeff had led them in evening devotions, challenging them to check their hearts. He said each person needed to decide if they wanted a relationship with Jesus.

Theo grew up knowing about Jesus from the Bible stories, but now he realized he had to think about what he wanted in a relationship with Jesus. Basically, he was asking himself if he should accept Jesus' offer to be his Lord and Savior. Theo knew that this could be the biggest and best decision he ever made. Could he really put Jesus as the number one person in his life? It was time to pray about this and, if he didn't decide tonight, he would keep praying.

1 Why is it so important to decide if Jesus has the #1 place in your heart (life)?

2 Describe how God showed that He was in control when he called Saul (Paul) to be His follower.

3 Has God showed His control over your life by calling you this way?

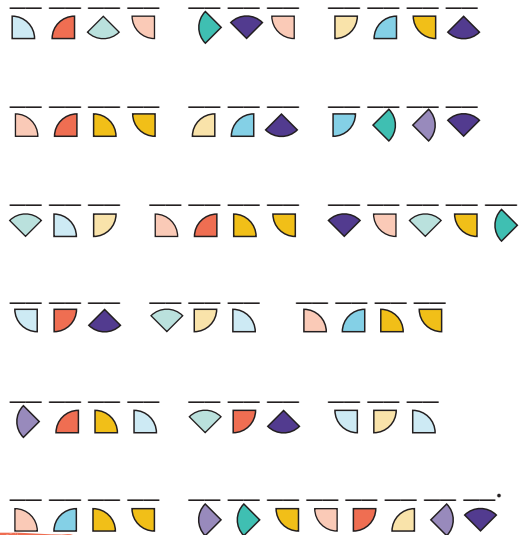
4 If someone says that Jesus is #1 in their life - how might you tell if that is true? See John 14:15 and Exodus 20:1-17.

5 Matthew 22:37-39 is a good summary of the 10 Commandments. How is Jesus helping us in these verses?

6 What makes it hard for you to follow this first commandment?



Use the code to figure out what this verse has to say.



REMEMBER

Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. — 1 Peter 5:6-7

The second greatest commandment involves how we relate with others. Choose someone you don't always treat properly and do something that puts this command into action.

GOD'S IN CONTROL OF OUR BATTLES

1 Samuel 17:41-50

It was time to pack up camp and go home. Theo wished he could stay longer; for him camp had been fantastic. Theo loved being out in God's nature, and he knew that when he got home there were a lot of things for him to do. Theo had chores and homework to catch up on. It always felt like he was too busy and had so many responsibilities without enough time to do everything.

Maybe this camping trip had taught him something about how to handle his struggles, some of which seemed like large "Goliath" problems. Maybe he needed to look at these struggles the way that God saw them. He remembered how David defeated Goliath even though David was much, much smaller. David trusted God would be with him in battle and he got that trust by being close to God. David was known as "a man after God's own heart". David's relationship with God meant he knew God would watch over him, no matter what the big problems were. Theo needed to keep building that kind of relationship with God.

1

How do we know what is important to God?

2

When we know what's important to God, what should we do?

3

What does it mean to be "a man after God's own heart"? Acts 13:22.

4

Read Matthew 22:39. This verse tells us to love our neighbors as ourselves. Who is our neighbor?

5

Can this big (Goliath type) task of "loving our neighbor" (no matter their race) be accomplished with the help of our God? How?

6

What does Paul say loving our neighbor should look like? 1 Cor. 13:4-7.



Follow the arrows to decipher the verse.

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REMEMBER

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength." The second is this: "Love your neighbor as yourself." There is no commandment greater than these.

Mark 12:30-31

Show kindness to anyone who needs it, and start breaking down the walls that separate you from others who are different than you.

GOD'S IN CONTROL OF OUR LIVES

Exodus 3:1-10

Lesson 15 • B Lessons

Theo got up early one morning during the campout. He grabbed some kindling and some sticks and, before long, had a campfire going. He really liked this time of day when he could be all alone with his thoughts. He carefully listened to the sounds of birds and animals as they scurried around. He could see a small pond nearby and on the far side he saw a doe with her two small fawns drinking from the pond. He was able to watch them for about 5 minutes before they walked away. *It doesn't get much cooler than that* - he thought to himself.

Earlier in the year Theo had earned his wildlife badge and, in fact, had done almost all of the Cadet badges dealing with the outdoors. God certainly had given him an interest in the outdoors. He liked backpacking and rock climbing as well. He also liked his science classes. Theo assumed whatever God had planned for him in the future, it would include working and playing in God's beautiful creation.

1

When was the last time you stopped and watched an animal for a few minutes?

2

When was the last time you just sat still and enjoyed God's beautiful creation? What did you see?

3

What plans did God have for Moses? How was Moses prepared for this?

4

Not everyone enjoys being in nature like Theo, but everyone has their own interests, gifts and abilities. Read 1 Peter 4:10. What should you do with the gifts, hobbies and even games that you are interested in?

5

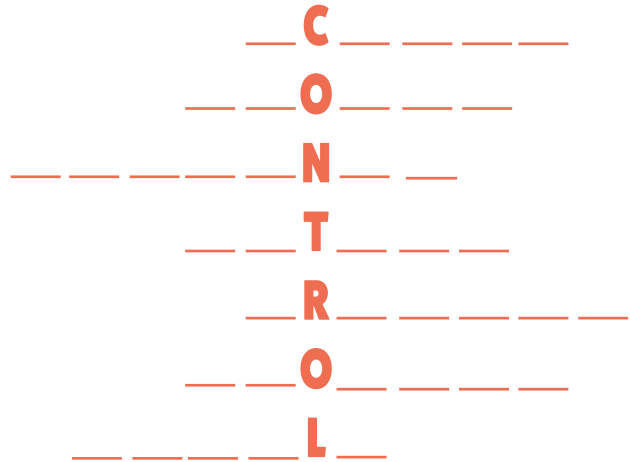
How does Jeremiah 29:11 show us that God is in control of our lives?

6

How is God preparing you for His future plans?



Life can get scary, but take comfort that God has control of our lives. Use the list of things God can help you with and fit them in the puzzle below.



REMEMBER

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Ephesians 2:10

Look for a chance this week to do a good deed, no matter how small. Afterwards, thank God for giving you this opportunity.

**Family
Friends
Future
School
Siblings
Storms
Trouble**

Lesson 18 • B Lessons

GOD'S IN CONTROL OF WATCHING OVER YOU

Genesis 15:1-8

It was almost time for the night hike. Counselor Curt had told everyone to bring a flashlight to the campout. Theo had his flashlight and was turning it on and off, trying to get it to shine brighter. The light was very dim and sometimes when he shook it, the light got a little bit brighter. It still wasn't very bright though. Theo was nervous to go on the hike without a strong light, but he didn't want to tell anybody that he was a bit scared.

Now it was time for the hike. Everyone went outside and saw a full moon shining brightly. Theo tried out his dimly lit flashlight and realized it gave him plenty of light to see the path. Theo thanked God for making all of this work out. He thought of how he sometimes worried too much and forgot that God was in control. For his devotions that night he read Psalm 23, thinking about the Cadet theme of "God's in Control".

1 In verse 1 God told Abram to not be afraid. Why would Abram have been afraid?

2 What types of things might make someone your age nervous?

3 If you ever get nervous, what are some things you can do to make it better?

4 Paul knew about Abraham's belief in God (Romans 4:20-21). How does this example give you hope?

5 What is promised to us, if we put our faith in Jesus Christ (Galatians 3:14)?

6 How can remembering that God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit is in control help to take away our worries?



There can be a lot of things in life that make us anxious. Listed below are in just a few, find them in the word search.

S F I C Y A P S E K H K V Q B
 Y C T Q T O R E T Z O N S U S
 L K H W V P E D I N L S L E I
 I V T O E V S A S O E L M C B
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 A P S S X L N G K E E U A W I
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 S I C K N E S S S I X R V O E
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 B U W Y Z S L E E P O V E R S

**BULLIES
 DARKNESS
 FAMILY
 FUTURE
 GRADES
 GRANDPARENTS
 JOB
 PARENTS
 PETS**

**PRESENTATIONS
 SCHOOL
 SIBLINGS
 SICKNESS
 SLEEPOVERS
 SPORTS
 STORMS
 TEACHERS
 TESTS**

REMEMBER

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:6-7

What are you anxious about? Make sure you pray about this every day for the next week.

Lesson 21 • B Lessons

Theo loved being out in nature. He liked watching the animals and birds moving about, looking for food. Once he even saw a hawk swoop down and catch a mouse. Theo was planning to spend time during the campout looking both down near the ground and up in the night sky. He had been learning about stars and planets at school.

Theo's cadre had finished setting their camp site up, so the boys were allowed to go exploring in the woods. After running around for a while, Theo sat down at the base of a maple tree. It was there that he noticed all the hard-working ants. There seemed to be hundreds of them. The ants were busy finding supplies to bring to their ant hill; it seemed like they never stopped moving. Theo watched them for a while. He was glad he stopped and noticed them.

Later that evening Theo took time to look at the beautiful night sky. He knew those stars were so very, very far away and that what he saw was just a little part of God's immense universe. He remembered the small, little ants that he watched earlier and thought about how God watched over all of nature - big and small.

GOD'S IN CONTROL OF ALL CREATION

Genesis 2:4-9,15

- 1 What are some of your favorite things to sit and observe in nature? Why?
- 2 How can these things show that God is in control?
- 3 Our theme verse tells us to not be afraid. Read Luke 12:4-10. Why do we not need to be afraid?
- 4 Why should we be afraid?
- 5 How can each of us stay strong and courageous?
- 6 Read Psalm 8 as a prayer to finish this lesson.



Do the math to see about God's creation.

R L D U H F E I B O T Y G S O E V N M
 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19

8-2 18-8 3-2 2-5 18-1 10-3 4-3 9-3
 11-6 13-2 9-5 9-5 18-2 11-3 17-3 7-2 2-2 9-1 4-2 7-4
 10-1 15-3 17-3 18-3 16-3 13-3 13-3 14-4 5-2 1-8 10-6 12-1
 14-1 3-7 6-3 10-2 10-4 15-4 8-3 17-1
 11-2 1-3 1-7 5-3 1-2 20-4 5-4 4-6 9-3
 18-2 15-2 17-1 7-6 10-2 16-5 2-3 9-1 10-8 19-6

REMEMBER

Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise! It has no commander, no overseer or ruler, yet it stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest. How long will you lie there, you sluggard? When will you get up from your sleep? Proverbs 6:6-9

Ants don't think about what they do, they just follow God's plan for them. Look for something in your life where you think too much about it and end up not following God's plan. Try to change.