



**MONTHLY**  
DEVOTIONAL



## DAY ONE

## NEVERLAND

*"He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death. And there will be no more sadness. There will be no more crying or pain. Things are no longer the way they used to be." **Revelation 21:4 NIRV***

How do you get to Neverland? Why it's easy if you try! Just set your course for the second star to the right, and straight on 'till morning! And while Neverland is a wonderful place of dreams, it can never be better than the reality that is Heaven. It's a breathtaking place that's waiting for all of us. And Jesus wants to lead you there!

Do you want to go? Sure you do, and it's easy if you try! To get to Heaven, just let Jesus into your heart, and follow Him, the Morning Star. He'll make a smile in your heart – there's no better time to start! Seek Him with all your heart, straight on 'til morning. Don't be tempted or distracted to follow anything else, and you'll surely make your way.

All it takes is faith and trust, and soon enough, you can fly! Think of this happy thought: some day soon we'll all be flying high. Up you go with a height and ho, to the stars beyond the blue. There's a Heaven that's waiting for you, where all your happy dreams come true. Our Bibles tell us we'll be taken up in the clouds where we'll meet the Lord in the air, and we will be with Him forever! Please don't let anything on this earth hold you down from that incredible moment!

It is a place that God wants everyone to be, including you and me. He doesn't want anyone to perish, but instead wants all of us to join Him in Heaven. And it really is a Neverland. You'll never grow old! There's never death, never sadness, never crying and never pain. Think of all the joy you'll find when you leave the world behind, and bid your cares goodbye!

Peter Pan once said, "To die would be an awfully big adventure." And the truth is, because of what Jesus has done for us – and is still doing for us now – we don't have to fear what happens next. Just trust and follow the Morning Star. Someday we'll all be in Heaven, which is truly a Never Neverland.



## DAY TWO

## NEVERLAND

*"Finally, my brothers and sisters, always think about what is true. Think about what is noble, right and pure. Think about what is lovely and worthy of respect. If anything is excellent or worthy of praise, think about those kinds of things." **Philippians 4:8 NIRV***

Want to learn to fly? It's easier than pie! If you take Peter Pan's advice, all you have to do is think of the happiest things. It's the same as having wings!

There's a lot of truth in that. In our Bibles, Paul wrote something very simple: think of a wonderful thought – any merry little thought! He said, "Always think about what is true. Think about what is noble, right and pure. Think about what is lovely and worthy of respect. If anything is excellent or worthy of praise, think about those kinds of things."

God wants us to keep our minds pure, using our brains to think about only those things He would be pleased with. But sometimes there's a battle, isn't there? Negative thoughts of fear and doubt like to sail into our minds, pillaging our peace and joy. And terrible temptations are blasted in your direction, just like cannon fire! Be on guard, and be ready to fight off those thoughts that want to plunder your minds!

You see, unhappy thoughts bring you down, but when you think on what God is pleased with, you can fly! You have to be one thing or the other, because you can only have room for one feeling at a time. So why not choose to fly?

So, are you ready to take to the air? Focus on our Heavenly Father and be the best you can be. You'll find yourself soaring over many of life's challenges, for to have faith is to have wings. God's perspective is higher, and when you join Him, all those things that used to bother you will now be far, far below – and much smaller too!

So... do you want to fly? Of course you do, and it's easy if you try! Just think a happy little thought, any happy little thought! Whatsoever is true, honest, and just, think on those things. Think about what is noble, right and pure. Think about what is lovely and worthy of respect. If anything is excellent or worthy of praise, think about those kinds of things.



## DAY THREE

## NEVERLAND

*"When you sin, the pay you get is death. But God gives you the gift of eternal life. That's because of what Christ Jesus our Lord has done."* **Romans 6:23 NIRV**

You'll have to fly, have to fight, have to crow... Hook is back! In the stories of Neverland, the villain sailing in is the legendary Captain James Hook. He's a dark and sinister man, always scheming against our heroes. One of his dastardly plans seems harmless on the surface: why not tempt the Lost Boys into joining his crew?

"You'll love the life of a thief. You'll relish the life of a crook. There's barrels of fun for everyone, and you'll get treasures by the ton. So come and sign the book. Join us with Captain Hook!"

It's a tempting offer, for sure. But all of this has happened before. And it will all happen again. In our lives we'll face a temptation to do things we know God isn't pleased with. It's a pull to do the wrong thing, one that comes from an all too real enemy.

That villain wants more new recruits. And from time to time, sure enough we all want to be like a pirate. There's a temptation for all of us to become rogues and scoundrels, making seriously bad choices in life.

But you'd better watch out for the hook. Doing things you know are wrong might seem fun at first, and there might not be any sign of trouble on the horizon. But sin always, always, always has a price! There are real consequences to each thing we do.

The best strategy is to follow Wendy's example: jump. Despite all the peer pressure and screaming of those all around, and despite the sweet call of Captain Hook's voice, she made the best choice: she walked the plank.

Those who know the story know what happens next: No splash! Someone was there to catch her! And if you flee from sin, you won't have to worry either. Just jump away from a sinful lifestyle as soon as you can. Don't worry, Jesus will catch you!

In the end, and every time, the villains and scoundrels always are the losers. Trust us, that's not something you want to be. Sin may seem tempting at first, but you must always look out for the Hook!



## DAY FOUR

## NEVERLAND

*"So He decided long ago to adopt us. He adopted us as His children with all the rights children have. He did it because of what Jesus Christ has done. It pleased God to do it." **Ephesians 1:5 NIRV***

Hidden on Neverland is the secret hideout of a legendary gang known as the Lost Boys. Have you heard of them? Don't tell Hook, but right around Hangman's Tree, you'll find these adventurous youths. They're crazy characters with names like Nibbs, Slightly, the Twins, Curly, Tootles, Thud, Pockets, Ace, and Rufio. They live by their own rules, have lots of pretend battles, eat imaginary food, and shout "Bangarang!"

Yes, these are the things the Lost Boys do. They seem to have it all together. But the truth is that there's one thing they desperately want: to hear a story from a real mother.

Far from Neverland, we too know of some who are lost. They're all around us, and they're just like the Lost Boys. They might think they've got it all together, but there are two things they are desperate for.

The first thing is a story. Wendy was so good at telling stories that Peter Pan traveled all the way to London to hear them. The Lost Boys lined up for story time, and even the pirates on their ship the *Jolly Roger* wanted to hear a story. You too have a story to tell, and it's easily the greatest story ever told: it's the story of Jesus and the indescribable love of God. It's so incredibly important to share!

The second thing that the lost want is to be adopted. The Lost Boys wanted to be part of a family more than anything. But even more than that, God wants to adopt all of us into His family. He doesn't want anyone to perish. He wants all the lost boys and lost girls to be a part of His family, where they can live happily ever after.

In order to do that, we must first find the lost. Reach out and tell them the story, the most wonderful story ever told. Let them know they can be adopted into a family of love. What was lost can now be found, and a new adventure is just getting started!



## DAY FIVE

## NEVERLAND

*"There are different kinds of gifts. But they are all given to believers by the same Spirit. There are different ways to serve. But they all come from the same Lord."*

**1 Corinthians 12:4-5 NIRV**

In Pixie Hollow, all the fairies are known for their own unique talent. There are animal talents, water talents, light talents, garden talents and tinkering talents too. And that's just to name a few! Each fairy is created with a specific ability that can help everyone in the Home Tree.

In the same way, God has created all of us uniquely, giving each of us different – but very important – talents to help change the world. That's right, you have a glowing gift that's stirring inside you, something special – the only one of its kind!

But how do you use it? Time and again, the fairies of Pixie Hollow endure, and it's only because they work together. It's no different here with the church. The very reason we've been given our gifts is to help and serve one another. Some fairies are a bit too proud about their giftings, like Vidia. Others are more humble though, and that's the way we ought to be. In our Bibles, Paul said, "be reasonable when you think about yourself." You're important, but so is everyone else, and only when we work together!

So are you ready to use your gifts to help the world? Don't waste your talent. Don't bury it, and don't sit there doing nothing! Just as with Tinkerbell, it may take some time to find what your gifts actually are. But there's fun in the discovery! Just keep trying new things and new ways to help and serve. You'll find your calling soon enough. Until then, the important thing is to get out there, and get busy serving.

We've all been given a gift, and that came from God Himself. So don't misuse it or get too prideful about it. And whatever you do, don't bury it. Our Heavenly Father wants you to use your talents!



## DAY SIX

## NEVERLAND

*"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." John 3:16 NIRV*

Never smile at a crocodile; no you can't get friendly with a crocodile. Don't be taken in by his welcome grin! In the realm of Neverland, if you hear the ticking of a clock, you'd best be careful: it could be the one that's still inside a very large crocodile!

Captain Hook never smiles at that crocodile. That's because it's always after him! Villains and scoundrels can flee all they want, but Tick-Tock... time will catch up with all of us. But the wonderful news is you don't have to be afraid of that clock ticking down. There are two easy things to do, and you'll be flying free!

Firstly, don't give sin a hand. Once that crocodile got a taste of Hook, he's been after him ever since. You don't want to be a codfish! If you're doing things that don't please God, you're making yourself a moving target for judgment, and the consequences of sin.

But even though we all have sinned, there's a simple way to stay out of trouble. Yes, you can escape the jaws of death! Have you ever noticed how the crocodile only follows Captain Hook? It's true! There's a grace that seems to protect many others in Neverland.

And there's a grace that protects you from judgment as well. It's a wonderful place of safety, and it's easy to get to: just ask forgiveness, believe and accept Jesus into your heart. His grace is amazing, his forgiveness unimaginable, and his love so wonderful!

In fact, you can smile at this crocodile. Thanks to Jesus, Tick-Tock doesn't have the bite he used to!



## DAY SEVEN

## NEVERLAND

*"Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being sure of what we do not see."*

**Hebrews 11:1 NIRV**

God told Abraham to look at the dust. Dust? Dust! God said that He would take Abraham to this new land, and make his descendants more numerous than dust! Can you picture Abraham imagining all of the merry little thoughts of a wonderful future? Can you picture him happily trying to count each piece of dust?

This happiness can happen for you too. All you need is a little faith, trust – and no, not dust. You need the Holy Ghost!

First, let's talk about faith. That requires a bit of imagination and a bit of dreaming. Neverland is a place of imagination, picturing things before you actually see them. For Wendy, John and Michael, it was a mermaid lagoon, a pirate cave, and an Indian brave. For the Lost Boys, it was a magnificent feast! You see, faith is the substance of things not seen, of things hoped for. God has a dream for you, something beyond your imagination. So despite all you see around you, keep your faith in the One who can make the most wonderful thoughts come true.

Trust comes next. Certainly there will be challenges along the way. Abraham faced them, and we'll have our adventures too. When trouble comes, the best thing to do is have trust, and let God lead the way.

In Neverland, John, Michael and the Lost Boys played a wonderful game of "Follow the Leader," wherever he may go. And that's just how it works with our Heavenly Father. Sometimes it seems as if our lives are being led in a direction we don't understand. Abraham experienced this first-hand on several occasions, especially on one difficult journey with his son Isaac. During those times, don't depend on your own understanding. Just trust the Lord with all your heart, and He will guide you to a place unlike any other.

All you need is faith and trust! Oh, and there's something I forgot. The Holy Ghost! He's far better than pixie dust, that amazing stardust that enables Wendy, John and Michael to fly. The Holy Spirit is a guide, a Protector, and a Source of Power that gives us strength to make it to that special place God wants to take us to.

For Abraham, that was a breathtaking land where he would become the Father of many nations. And for us, it is that hope and future that God has for all of us. So don't quit believing, because you can make it there too. All it takes is faith, trust, and the Holy Ghost!





## DAY EIGHT

## NEVERLAND

*"But God chose you to be His people. You are royal priests. You are a holy nation. You are God's special treasure. You are all these things so that you can give Him praise. God brought you out of darkness into His wonderful light." 1 Peter 2:9 NIRV*

In the movie "Hook," Peter Banning is told these words: "You've forgotten who you are." This is especially hard to hear after his life has been turned upside down. He had no idea that he was really Peter Pan! No longer able to fly or crow, he feels powerless. As a result, he allows the enemy to walk all over his life.

Does that sound like you? It can happen. Some time ago, another Peter was struggling with who he was. Jesus had called him a rock, but Peter had run away from all that. And now he'd been gone for too long. Peter found out the hard way, as we do, that sin and distractions in life can keep us away from our real purpose in life.

In the movie "Hook," Peter had to throw away the cell phone, and his focus on just getting more money. He had to return to the place where he was reminded of his true potential, and what really mattered. And in our Bibles, Peter made a leap of faith right out of his boat, leaving it all behind to chase after Jesus. That's where he found grace, forgiveness, purpose, and a new sense of confidence.

Like Peter, we should never be away for too long. Throw off those hindrances, and leave it all behind. Return to the Bible, to prayer, to worship, and that place of wonder in your life. You'll find purpose, and a fearless courage, just like Peter.

When that happens, someone's about to eat crow. Peter Pan is famous for his crow, which is a confident shout-out that taunts his enemies, and lets them know they're about to lose! In our Bibles, to begin with, the only crow Peter heard was from the devil, reminding him of his past failures. But that didn't last for long. Throughout the book of Acts, Peter was the one crowing!

And you can too, because greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world. Remember who you are, and throw off those things that keep you from God's remarkable plans for your life. You can soar when you remember to love one another, and help rescue others from the hook of sin and death. You're more than a conqueror, so let your purpose take flight, and let out a crow!



## DAY NINE

## NEVERLAND

*“Do not let wise people brag about how wise they are. Do not let strong people boast about how strong they are. Do not let rich people brag about how rich they are. But here is what the one who brags should boast about. They should brag that they have the understanding to know me. I want them to know that I am the Lord. No matter what I do on earth, I am always kind, fair and right. And I take delight in this,” announces the Lord.” **Jeremiah 9:23-24 NIRV***

Vidia is a fast-flying fairy. She’s also been a rather self-centered one. If you are just quick enough, you can recognize this fairy easily by her long black hair, that purple outfit she wears, and of course the smirk across her face.

Vidia may be fast in the air, but to begin with, she was also too quick to judge others. She was so confident in her own abilities that she didn’t think much of anyone else. To make matters worse, she was also a little too speedy with her mouth as well! As you might suspect, this got her into a whirlwind of trouble.

We can find ourselves in a similar whirlwind of trouble when we think too much of ourselves. And yes, it gets worse when we start putting down the value of others. The simple truth is that whatever our talent is, we need to remember where we got it from. It all comes from our Heavenly Father.

In the end, Vidia learned a lesson, although it was a hard one for her. It’s okay to be fast, but we should never be so quick to judge others. And once she saw the real value of those around her, that’s the moment she began to have something she’d never really had before: real friends.



## DAY TEN

## NEVERLAND

*"Instead, gather for yourselves riches in heaven. There, moths and rats do not destroy them. There, thieves do not break in and steal them. Your heart will be where your riches are."* **Matthew 6:20-21 NIRV**

Sir J.M. Barrie was famous for creating the world of Neverland, but for children at the Great Ormond Street Hospital, he is known for creating something even more wonderful. He and his wife loved children, and although they were childless, they were always quick to support the hospital for many years.

In 1929, he was invited to join a committee that would help gather money to buy land for the hospital. They desperately needed that extra space to build a new wing for all the patients coming in. Yet Barrie didn't join the committee, telling the hospital board members that he "hoped to find another way to help."

Just two months later, the hospital staff was absolutely stunned. Sir J.M. Barrie had given all the rights to "Peter Pan" to them. That meant anytime a Neverland book was printed, any time a Neverland movie was made, any time a Neverland play was done, any time a Neverland toy or product was sold, the Great Ormond Street Hospital received more money to help with their children.

Sir J.M. Barrie asked one thing, that the amount of money that goes to the hospital never be revealed. And when asked why he did such a remarkable thing, he said that Peter Pan himself had been a patient in the Great Ormond Street Hospital, and that "it was he who put me up to the little thing I did for the hospital."

Adding to the joy that year, at his suggestion, the "Peter Pan" cast of actors and actresses came to entertain the children at the hospital. It's something they still do to this day.

We will never know the impact of this one man's imagination on the world. It is impossible to measure, when you consider the lives saved by this hospital, and are still being saved to this very day. And even though he's passed on, Sir J.M. Barrie is affecting positively generation upon generation of children through his creativity and generosity.

Like him, we will all leave this earth someday. We'll go off to a place like Neverland, where there's never any sorrow and never any pain. And when we fly off to that heavenly destination, there's a very important question worth asking: what have you left behind? Ninety years from now, will your life be one known as a blessing?

It can be. With imagination and generosity, your life can change the world.



## DAY ELEVEN

## NEVERLAND

*"Honor your father and mother. Then you will live a long time in the land the Lord your God is giving you." Exodus 20:12 NIRV*

Just before bedtime, Mary Darling tells her son Michael about his father, and how brave he is. Michael doesn't really believe it though. Compared to the world of Indian braves battling pirates, his father's world at the bank... is rather dull. Yes, his father George is a bank clerk, and not an entirely wealthy one either. This much should be obvious, given the fact that they have a dog as a nanny.

Still, Mary Darling explains it only as a mother could:

MARY DARLING: "There are many different kinds of bravery. There's the bravery of thinking of others before one's self. Now, your father has never brandished a sword nor fired a pistol, thank heavens. But he has made many sacrifices for his family, and put away many dreams."

MICHAEL: "Where did he put them?"

MARY DARLING: "He put them in a drawer. And sometimes, late at night, we take them out and admire them. But it gets harder and harder to close the drawer... He does. And that is why he is brave."

Their father had given up so many dreams, and sacrificed so much to make sure his children were safe, healthy and happy. And though he couldn't be with his children all the time, he faithfully went off to work at a place that perhaps was not a dream job, doing it just so his family could live in peace.

That's the very nature of a father. In your home, if that sounds slightly familiar, perhaps it's time to realize what Michael did: your father is in fact very brave. That's why we should honor him, and of course show him love. He's put away many dreams, and thought of others before himself. And that is why he is brave.



## DAY TWELVE

## NEVERLAND

*"He had to carry his own cross. He went out to a place called the Skull. In the Aramaic language it was called Golgotha." **John 19:17 NIRV***

Skull Rock is an island not far off the coast of Neverland. It's a mysterious place, a looming, cavernous rock that looks just like a large skull resting in the water.

In Peter Pan's adventures, this is a place of destiny, where the vile Captain Hook held Tiger Lily hostage. She was tied to that rock, and in her distress, she saw the water level rising around her. Soon Tiger Lily would be sinking beneath the waves.

It's a good thing Peter Pan came to the rescue! Despite being ensnared and doomed, Tiger Lily looked up and said the one word we all need to say: "Help!"

In the Disney cartoon version of "Peter Pan," this is the only word she says during the entire movie. And yet there is such wisdom in that one word. You see, in order to get help ourselves, we must first cry out for it. Peter flew to Skull Rock, saving Tiger Lily and others with a thrilling adventure.

Not long ago, there was an even more thrilling rescue, and it too was at a place called "The Skull." In the Aramaic language, that word is Golgotha, an awful site that Jesus had to carry his own cross to.

Golgotha was a horrible place where we should have been. After all, each and every one of us was ensnared by our own sins, those things we've done that don't please God. Our own actions bound us, and chained us to sin and death. As a result, each of us had been doomed to sink beneath the depths.

That's why what happened next is so wonderful. When Jesus took our place, the devil thought it was all over. But Jesus reminded everyone very quickly that the devil is weaker than a codfish. You see, nothing could stop Jesus from flying out of there! He swooped in and saw us chained and bound, and right there at the place of the skull, he saved the day once more.

Do you feel like you're sinking down, chained and bound to those things you know you shouldn't be doing? Do you want to fly away from it all and be free to do those things God has called you to do? Just call out to Jesus in prayer today. Use that one word that Tiger Lily said: "Help." Jesus will swoop in to the rescue.



## DAY THIRTEEN

## NEVERLAND

*"A friend loves at all times. They are there to help when trouble comes."*

### **Proverbs 17:17 NIRV**

TIGER LILY: "When you're took away by Captain Hook..."

PETER PAN: "I'll just send for Tiger Lily!"

TIGER LILY: "I'll send for Peter Pan."

PETER PAN: "Well be coming willy nilly, Lily. Send up a flare."

TIGER LILY: "And I'll be there."

BOTH: "And you know you got a friend. We'll be true blood brothers till the end!"

Isn't it nice to have friends that will be there for you, no matter what? Time and again on Neverland, Tiger Lily and Peter Pan have always been there to rescue each other from traps and terrors. Even when threatened with death, Tiger Lily refuses to give Captain Hook the location of Peter Pan's hideout. Now that's loyalty!

Are you that kind of friend? Hopefully you are! God puts friends in our lives, and these are the kinds of people that stick with you no matter what. In fact, the Bible tells us "a friend loves at all times. They are there to help when trouble comes."

Trouble does come, doesn't it? We're not talking about the kind of trouble that comes with pirates. No, trouble can be all sorts of different things. And if you're a real friend, you'll be there to show love, and to help save the day – just like Peter Pan and Tiger Lily.



## DAY FOURTEEN

## NEVERLAND

*“Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God’s wrath, for it is written: ‘It is mine to avenge; I will repay,’ says the Lord.”* **Romans 12:19 NIV**

“I could sail away to far Cathay and live a life of ease, turn my back on all I’ve known and learned. But the thought of Peter flying free would bring me to my knees, no matter where I roam. So what’s the point?” - Captain Hook

Captain Hook says it himself. He could leave Neverland any time he likes, along with all his crew in fact. They could have all kinds of adventures out on the high seas, living the life of a pirate and chasing that horizon.

But he is consumed with one thought: vengeance. He wants to get Peter Pan back for the hook he has to wear, and if it comes down to it, he’ll stay on Neverland the rest of his life in order for that to happen.

Of course, you know how that turns out. Time and again, his plans are foiled, with poisons, time bombs, hostages and delicious cakes. And as a result, he’s imprisoned himself on Neverland. He won’t leave until he gets his vengeance!

Notice who suffers the most when he just doesn’t let go: himself! Peter Pan taunts him, and Captain Hook could have a life of ease if he’d just walk away. Not only would he be better off, but his crew would be happier too!

Let this be a lesson to you, and hopefully one not learned the hard way. When we don’t forgive someone, we make ourselves prisoners. When we don’t let go of something that someone did to us, no matter how long ago it was, we won’t be able to sail free. And even worse, we’ll make our own crew - our friends and family - miserable in the process.

No, the best strategy is the obvious one. If someone has ever wronged you, let them off the hook. Even when you’re really, really wanting to get someone back, there is something sweeter than vengeance: it’s forgiveness.



## DAY FIFTEEN

## NEVERLAND

*"Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows." James 1:17 NIV*

Shadows tend to follow you around, unless you're Peter Pan! On one very interesting visit to the Darling House, Peter Pan lost his shadow. He was there at the house when the Darling's dog, Nana, startled him, barking at an intruder. In his haste to escape, Peter lost his shadow. Fortunately, Wendy found it, and stored it safely in a drawer.

Don't you wish you could do that with your own shadow? There's a darker side to all of us, a part of us that wants to do the things that God doesn't like. Everyone has that shadow. In our Bibles, Paul was a great man who shared the Good News of Jesus to one new land after another. He was one of the Bible's greatest heroes.

And yet he himself couldn't shake that shadow. He wrote that he himself tended to do the things he knew he shouldn't. And just as bad, he didn't do those things that he was supposed to. Isn't that just like a shadow?

Peter Pan tried using soap on that shadow, but we've got something better. Our Bibles tell us when we ask for forgiveness, Jesus himself can make us whiter than snow. He's the Light of the World, and in him there is no shadow of turning.

Until we fly off from this world, we'll always have that mischievous shadow to deal with. Like Wendy, you can't put it into a drawer. But you can certainly make it weaker, by spending more time with the Light of the World. That's Jesus.





## DAY SIXTEEN

## NEVERLAND

*"My sheep listen to my voice. I know them, and they follow me."* **John 10:27 NIRV**

Poor Smee and Mr. Starkey. These two pirates followed Captain Hook's orders precisely, taking Tiger Lily and tying her down to the rocks. But then suddenly they hear Captain Hook's voice calling out, asking them to release her. Release Tiger Lily?

Smee tells Mr. Starkey, "Well, at last, Captain Hook's coming to his senses!"

But he wasn't coming to his senses at all, because it wasn't really his voice! It was the voice of Peter Pan! As you can imagine, these two are about to get into serious trouble. If only they knew for certain it was the voice of Captain Hook. If they really knew his voice, perhaps they'd still have Tiger Lily all tied up.

But they're villains, of course. See, those who don't do right generally follow the wrong voice. If that's you, the best advice to be given is this: follow the right voice. That's the voice of Jesus, who leads us and guides us along the straight and narrow.

If you aren't sure how to recognize His voice, the best thing to do is spend more time with Him. You do that with prayer, reading His word, and worship. You do that by going to church, serving others, and listening to your pastor. The more you do all of this, the more you'll know His voice. And the more you know his voice, the more you'll come to your senses, and stay on the straight and narrow.



## DAY SEVENTEEN

## NEVERLAND

*"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."*

**Matthew 5:14-16 NIV**

Iridessa is pretty bright! Although she is smart, she really shines when she goes out to do her job as a light talent fairy. She lives in Pixie Hollow, a close friend of Tinker Bell. If you're wondering what a light talent fairy is, it's quite a bit! "In the stories of Neverland, they assist with creating rainbows..." They assist with creating rainbows, shift light around to help growing plants, and even give lightning bugs their glows.

There are plenty of light talent fairies, but they aren't the only ones who handle the light. That's our job too! No, we don't make rainbows. But Jesus did tell us that we are the light of the world. And it isn't going to do anyone any good if it is hidden under a bushel, basket, or a teapot. Instead, we're supposed to share it with everyone, and let them know about the love of Jesus.

There's a lot of darkness in this world, but you have a light inside you, and a talent to share it. Don't hide it, or keep it to yourself. Let your light shine before everyone, so they can glorify our Father in Heaven!



## DAY EIGHTEEN

## NEVERLAND

*"I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you."*

**Psalm 119:11 NIV**

"Bad form!" Captain Hook is quite fond of pointing out the rules when they suit him. If things aren't going the way they should, he'll be quick to accuse someone of bad form. Be careful, because that could earn you a free trip to the Boo Box!

Captain Hook is also quick to point out what he thinks is good form too. This happens especially when things seem to be going his way. The curious thing about it all is this: whether it is good form or bad form, the rules are up to Captain Hook. He's captain, and there's not much you can do about it!

Fortunately, we don't live in a world where Captain Hook makes the rules. But consider this: Captain Hook doesn't even live in a world where he makes the rules. The truth is that there's only One who makes the rules, and that is God. He set out the Ten Commandments for us to follow, and His Word is a place to find out how we're supposed to behave. The point is this: ultimately, it is not up to us to say what is good form or bad form. It is up to God. And one of the best ways to find out one way or the other is to simply go to His Word.

So open your Bible, and discover the best way to live your life of adventure. Spending time in His word each day is not only helpful and healthy for you - it's also good form!



## DAY NINETEEN

## NEVERLAND

*“If you can?” said Jesus. “Everything is possible for one who believes.”*

**Mark 9:23 NIV**

Prilla is quite an unusual fairy. There are plenty of other groups of fairies in Pixie Hollow: there are light talent fairies, fast-flying fairies, tinkering fairies, water talent fairies, garden fairies, and more. But there is only one Prilla, and her ability is something like no one else has ever seen: she can blink herself to a child's room. Children are thrilled, and that's where she builds up more belief in fairies!

This is very, very important. The reason is because Pixie Hollow is only as strong as the belief children have in fairies. Peter Pan even said once, “Whenever a child says ‘I don't believe in fairies’ there's a little fairy somewhere that falls right down dead.”

Yes, belief is a very powerful thing to the fairies. But it is to you as well! Jesus once said, “Everything is possible for one who believes.” For starters, according to Romans 10:9, salvation is possible: “If you declare with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.” See? Believing is a big deal!

That's why it's so important to be like Prilla, and encourage others in their belief. People go through seasons of trials, where bad news sweeps in like a herd of sprinting thistles. During those times, it can be tempting to lose faith and trust. But that's where you come in. Act just like Prilla. Lift one another up, and be a source of hope. Be a positive reminder that yes, everything is possible. All you have to do is believe.



## DAY TWENTY

## NEVERLAND

*"They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen." **Romans 1:25 NIV***

If you happen to be in Neverland, there is one thing you should never do: never make a deal with Captain Hook. Wendy's daughter Jane made the trip to Neverland, and sure enough, she did this very thing. But so did Tinkerbell, not long before. In both cases, he got exactly what he wanted. But in both cases, Jane and Tinkerbell were tricked!

Sure, Captain Hook was a man of his word. He promised Jane not to harm a hair on Peter Pan's head. So he picked a hair off of Peter Pan's head, and told everyone not to harm that hair. And when he promised Tinkerbell he wouldn't lay a hand - or a hook - on Peter, he instead put a bomb in the hideout at Hangman's Tree.

As you obviously can see here, there are some deals you shouldn't make. Jane and Tinkerbell knew in their hearts they were dealing with a villainous scoundrel, and yet they somehow thought it would still work out well for them.

And when we start to compromise in our lives, making a deal with the world, just know this: it won't end well. It can't! You know for yourself the right thing to do, and perhaps you may see others doing things that you know do not please God. They might even invite you to join them.

Don't make that kind of deal. It may seem like it will be okay for you, but there's always that hook in the end.



## DAY TWENTY ONE

## NEVERLAND

*"Don't you know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit? The Spirit is in you, and you have received the Spirit from God. You do not belong to yourselves."*

**1 Corinthians 6:19 NIRV**

Tootles and the Lost Boys are so happy to have Wendy visit Neverland, they decide to do something rather sweet. They build a house for her! Of course, this is just after they literally shot her down out of the air. But in their defense, they were told by Tinkerbell that she was a "Wendy Bird," something that had to be shot down.

So how will they build a house for Wendy? Well first, they need lots of wood, need lots of leaves, and need lots of paint. Peter Pan also adds, "Home sweet home upon a wall, a welcome mat down in the hall for Wendy, so that Wendy won't go away."

If you're going to build a home for someone, you want it to be as nice as possible. And if you want to make a place for God in your life, you need to put into it the same thoughtful love and care. For example, how clean is your life? Have you swept away all those areas in your life that need cleaning up? And is it well lit? Is that place you've made for God filled with the Light of the World?

The Bible tells us that our bodies are a temple, a place where the Holy Spirit can reside. As you go about your day, ask yourself this question: is your life a place that He would feel welcome in?

"Peter and the Lost Boys built Wendy's house the best they knew how." They didn't want her to go away. And we don't want the Holy Spirit to go away either. So put that welcome mat down, and hang up the 'Home Sweet Home' sign on the wall. God's Spirit is here to stay!



## DAY TWENTY TWO

## NEVERLAND

*"If you love me, keep my commands." John 14:15 NIV*

Kate, Mia, Gabby and Lainey are four girls who share a spectacular secret. Get this: they each know about a secret entrance to the wonderful world of Neverland! They call themselves the Never Girls!

Since their discovery, they've had many adventures in Neverland. But there's always one rule: never go there alone. This rule is partly to protect Gabby, who is the youngest one in the group. She might not know what to do if she gets into trouble, and her older sister Mia feels responsible looking after her. Lainey and Kate agree: the best thing to do is to arrive in Neverland together so they can be there for each other if needed.

It's one simple rule, and for the most part, they follow it. It might seem like this rule is there to keep them from having fun. After all, wouldn't it be great to sneak away to Neverland any time you choose? And yet the rule isn't there to keep them from having fun. It's there to protect them, and keep them safe.

Not too long ago, God gave us some simple rules to follow. These were the Ten Commandments. A lot of people think rules are there to keep us from having fun, or that rules were meant to be broken. But the reason these rules were made is simple: they are there to protect us, and keep us safe.

Rules were not meant to be broken. For the most part, and especially if God Himself made them up, the reason rules are in place is to help us live in peace.



*"Don't do anything only to get ahead. Don't do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves." **Philippians 2:3 NIRV***

Throughout the movie "Hook," Peter Banning can't find his happy thought. All it takes is a happy thought to fly, but he's been so distracted by work and that irritating cell phone that he's completely forgotten where his joy flew off to.

When he walks into his old hideout, it's there that he remembers who he was: Peter Pan. And then he remembers why he left: a new family. He remembers Moira, the girl he'd go on to marry. And then he remembers his children, Jack and Maggie.

The next thing he discovers is that he's ten feet off of the ground. He's flying! Peter found his happy thought! He flies right up to his son Jack, and tells him, "Do you know what my happy thought was? It was you."

There's a secret to finding joy, to finding happy thoughts, and it starts with thinking of other people first. It's not the fun times, food fights, mermaids, or pirate battles that bring the greatest peace and joy to your heart. It's not thinking of yourself first. Instead, your happiest thoughts will come when you put others before yourself.

Of course, that's what Jesus did when he came to be with us. He showed us how to serve, live a life of love, and put others first. He put you and me above all else. Yes, he knew what his happy thought was. It was you!





## DAY TWENTY FOUR

## NEVERLAND

*"The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."* **1 Samuel 16:7 NIV**

Mermaids in Neverland might seem lovely, but listen closely to Peter Pan's advice: "Mermaids are sweet, they'll sweetly drown you, if you get too close."

Oh my. The truth is that they're only sweet to Peter Pan, who they all seem to be in love with. Everyone else, especially girls, are probably looking for trouble if they visit their lagoon. Despite their appearance, mermaids can be jealous, vain, and sometimes even dangerous.

In our world, there are many people that have something in common with mermaids like that. From the outside appearance, they might look like they have it all together. They might even look like they are full of love. But on the inside, their hearts aren't right at all.

In the book of 1 Samuel 6:17, the Bible tells us, "The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."

Appearances can be important too, of course. But even more important to God is how your heart is. Do you show love to others? Do you spend time with the Lord in prayer and worship? If you find yourself acting more like a mermaid, then perhaps it is time to do a heart check. Draw close to Him, and He'll draw close to you. Have a heart for Him, and no matter what, don't act like a mermaid!



## DAY TWENTY FIVE

## NEVERLAND

*"Put on all of God's armor. Then you can remain strong against the devil's evil plans."*  
**Ephesians 6:11 NIRV**

There are battles all the time on Neverland, but few can match the one seen at the end of the movie "Hook." In that final conflict, the Lost Boys go up against Captain Hook and his pirates. They battled Hook with globs of colorful paint, blinding lights, and even coconuts. And before leaving their home tree, each one suited up in full armor.

The armor of the Lost Boys may look like bamboo and coconut, but it certainly gets the job done. One thing's for sure: the Lost Boys aren't going out to battle without putting on that full armor.

Are you? As each day starts, are you putting on the full Armor of God? Our Bible tells us to suit up with the full armor: a helmet of salvation, a shield of faith, a sword of the spirit, a breastplate of righteousness, and more. Each day we wake up, we can't just rush out the door to face our day without praying, without reading or thinking about His word, and we definitely can't rush out the door without Him in our lives.

It took the Lost Boys a few moments to strap on that full armor. And likewise, it'll take you a few moments to pray, read, or spend time in worship each morning. Remember who your salvation is, and don't forget the Lord, who protects you each day. Keep His Word in your spirit, and guard your heart. If you do that, you'll be putting on something much stronger than bamboo and coconut. You'll be prepared for just about anything. Bangarang!



## DAY TWENTY SIX

## NEVERLAND

*"She speaks wisely. She teaches faithfully. She watches over family matters. She is busy all the time. Her children stand up and call her blessed. Her husband also rises up, and he praises her."* **Proverbs 31:26-28 NIRV**

What is a mother? If you ask Wendy Darling, she'll tell you a mother is "the helping hand that guides you along. Whether you're right, whether you're wrong."

She doesn't stop there. She continues, "What makes mothers all that they are? Might as well ask, 'What makes a star?'" Ask your heart to tell you her worth. Your heart will say, 'Heaven on earth.' Another word for divine, your mother and mine."

Wendy is right: mothers are divine. Read now just a portion of what the Bible says about a good mother: "She speaks wisely. She teaches faithfully. She watches over family matters. She is busy all the time. Her children stand up and call her blessed. Her husband also rises up, and he praises her."

Sometimes you just don't know what you've got until it's gone. The Lost Boys desperately wanted a mother, and this reminded Wendy, John, and Michael of what they had. It was something they had almost forgotten about.

But that happens from time to time. It doesn't take going off to Neverland. Sometimes children forget all their mother does for them just going off to school! Yes, it's a challenging job being a mother. It's a role that requires so much time, and so much love. Despite all this, there are mothers all over this world that joyfully take on the responsibility of watching over a family. What is there to gain from so much work, and why does she even try to do this? The answer is love.

She loves you. If you can, today give thanks for these wonderful heroes who give so much of themselves. Without them, we wouldn't be what we are today. Who is it that we're talking about? Who gives and gives to see their children taken care of?

And who is it that deserves a hug, or the very least a kind word of thanks?  
Your mother and mine.



*"After the Wise Men had listened to the king, they went on their way. The star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them. It finally stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were filled with joy." **Matthew 2:9-10 NIRV***

Pixie dust is interesting stuff. It's a big part of the Neverland story. But where did it come from?

The series "Peter and the Star Catchers" attempts to answer just that question. In these adventures, pixie dust is quite a mysterious substance! They call it "star stuff," mainly because it comes from outer space. Much like a meteorite plunging down to the earth, these bits of star stuff look just like shooting stars.

Enter the Star Catchers, who have been chasing after this space dust for many years. Their calling is a simple one: to seek, find and protect the star stuff.

It's a big responsibility that Star Catchers have. They can't walk away from it, because if they do, there's a world that will be in danger. A dark, shadowy league of villains would like to see the earth fall into darkness. For the Star Catchers, there are many challenges and dangers, but on the bright side, there's usually adventure!

But that's life, isn't it? As Christians, we are a part of a special group of people, always chasing after the Light of the World. Not long ago, there was a star in the night sky that led people to Jesus. Like that star, we too have a similar job to do: just lead people to Jesus. We do that with our actions, our service to others, and the words we share each day.

There are forces of darkness that would love to cover this world in shadows. But you have that light and power within you. Never forget that greater is He that is in you, than he that is in the world!

Like the Star Catchers, we'll face many challenges along the way. But there's a world in the dark and in danger, and you've got just the stuff inside you to face each adventure!



## DAY TWENTY EIGHT

## NEVERLAND

*"So God created human beings in His own likeness. He created them to be like Himself. He created them as male and female."* **Genesis 1:27 NIRV**

"Oh, the cleverness of me!"

Peter Pan says this immediately after Wendy does all the work reattaching his shadow. And of course, when she hears him boast about himself, she mutters, "Of course, I did nothing..."

"You did a little," Peter Pan says.

Of course, he's joking. We know this because right afterwards, he tells her that one girl is worth more than twenty boys!

Later on, he talks about how Lost Boys come to Neverland, by falling out of their prams at a very young age. But why aren't there any girls in Neverland? Peter explains, "Because girls are too clever to fall out of their prams."

Peter Pan may certainly be full of confidence and boldness. If you don't believe that, listen to him crow! But beneath it all, he knows the truth: girls can be just as clever as boys. If not more clever!

The truth is that we're all created in God's image, and no matter what someone else may look like, they're certainly capable of a great many things. So yes, it's okay to feel a sense of confidence about yourself. But it's not okay to go around belittling others, because when you do that, you're poking fun of God's creation.

And that wouldn't be clever at all!



*"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth." Genesis 1:1 NIRV*

One of the most popular rides at the Magic Kingdom is easily "Peter Pan's Flight." If you don't believe this, simply head on over there for yourself and check out the line. By mid-afternoon, the average wait time for the ride is roughly an hour!

It may seem unusual that a ride first created in 1971 could still be this popular. But there's something timeless about going back to Neverland. It's a place where we all can visit, a place where those who are older can feel young again.

At the end of "Peter Pan," when George Darling sees the Jolly Roger flying through the night sky, he remembers his youth too. A look of wonder crosses his face as he tells his family, "You know, I have the strangest feeling that I've seen that ship before. A long time ago, when I was very young."

Like him, many people want to recapture that feeling of being young and full of wonder once more. Some, like Peter Pan, make an inner vow not to grow up at all.

"I won't grow up," he announces. "If growing up means it would be beneath my dignity to climb a tree, I won't grow up. Not me."

The good news is that in some ways, you don't have to grow up, not completely. Sure, there are grown-up responsibilities and decisions to be made. But you don't have to lose that sense of wonder, and that playful creative spirit.

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. And not long afterwards, He created us in His image. And though our Heavenly Father created a wonderful place for all of us, we too spend our time creating. Even now, you're creating a world for yourself, and the question is this: is it a place of wonder and of hope? Is it a place where you can feel alive with purpose? Is it a place where you feel as happy as if you were in Neverland?

Don't lose that spark within. Keep your joy, and yes even your youth. If you find yourself weighed down by the burdens of this world, cast them upon the Lord. His shoulders are certainly big enough, and sure enough, He'll help you find your happy thought once more. He'll help you in finding Neverland.



## NOTES



WRITER:  
**TWO CENTS,  
SCRIBE OF THE LOST BOYS**