The God of Details
By Shari Miller

Faith Talk: Discuss the following phrases and their meaning with a partner or in your small group. “It’s a God thing” and “The devil is in the details.”

Introduction: Have you ever had a time in your life when you could see how God had worked out the details and ultimately a solution to any given situation? In our Bible study, we will consider our awesome and wonderful God of details in biblical history, in His plan of salvation, and in our daily living.

Opening Prayer: Heavenly Father, You are our awesome God! We thank You for sending Jesus to be our Savior from sin, death, and the power of the devil. We praise You for the gift of the Holy Spirit. Please bless our study of Your Word. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

Detailed History
Read Joshua 6:3–27, the Old Testament account of the fall of Jericho at the hands of the Israelites. Note the details of this battle below:

verse 3 – verse 8 –
verse 9 – verse 10 –
verse 15 – verse 16 –
verse 17 –

Read Joshua 6:1. What condition is Jericho in even before the battle?

What is the significance of the Lord’s words to Joshua in 6:2?

Since the outcome of the battle at Jericho was already assured by the Lord, why do you suppose God insisted on the details of the battle? Were the details for Himself or for the Israelites? Why?

Faith Talk: Share with a partner or the group a time in your history when you could see God at work in the details of the event or situation.

If time permits: Identify additional biblical accounts in the Old Testament that show God’s attention to detail.

Detailed Salvation
Read Luke 2:1–7. What details are included in this account?

What is the message?

During the time of Jesus’ birth, life and death, the Roman rule brought about a world peace known as the Pax Romana. This peace was evident by increased protection and improved road conditions, both which contributed to easier travel and better communication. How could this world situation contribute to making Jesus’ birth, life, and saving work the “right time” — God’s time?

Read John 20:1–8. What details did God include for the disciples in verses 6–7?

Faith Talk: Jesus fulfilled all the Old Testament Messianic prophecies made concerning Him (over 300). What is the importance of this godly attention to detail?

If time permits: Identify additional details of Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection from your knowledge of the New Testament Gospels.

Detailed Living
Read Psalm 119:169–176. These words ask the Lord to help the Psalmist remember and delight in His statutes (His Law). Does God’s Word give us a detailed guide, or curb, to live our daily lives? What do we call this guide? (See Exodus 20:1–21.)
What does God through Peter detail for us to “put away” in 1 Peter 2:1–3? What are we to long for? What is God’s pure spiritual milk?


Read Colossians 3:12–16. Write down the specific details for Christian living included in this list.

Faith Talk: Is your heavenly Father interested in the details, perhaps even what we consider the trivial details, of our lives? Why or why not? Support your answer with specific examples from your life.

Faith Walk: Share in detail or make a list of ways that you are daily in the Word.

Living “The Chocolate Life”
Savoring and Sharing the Rich Indulgence of God’s Grace
By Deb Burma

Open with prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to lead and guide you in God’s Word as you learn what it means to live “the chocolate life.”

Savoring
Imagine you have just received the most incredible, exquisite chocolate indulgence: a rare, foil-wrapped delicacy waiting to be gently opened. Go ahead; unwrap it! Move it slowly toward your mouth; take in the beautiful color and the rich aroma. Lay this pure chocolate perfection on your tongue and gently close your mouth around it, allowing your taste buds to dance with joy as you savor this morsel of exquisite chocolate. Hold its delicate richness on your tongue for as long as possible, taking in the indescribable flavor and the smooth, creamy texture. And then note how ever so slowly, the delicacy melts, trickles down your throat, and disappears. Finished. A memory. Fleeting, wasn’t it?

That’s how it is with chocolate. And that’s how it is with most precious things we savor. We hold onto them as long as we can. We revel in joys and friendships of our school years only to part ways upon graduation. We delight in the years of our children’s youth; before we know it, the nest is empty. We relish the time spent with a loved one who lives far away; all too soon, we say goodbye again. We treasure our favorite pastimes and value our greatest accomplishments; we savor the best things of life as long as possible because, far too quickly, they disappear. Finished. A memory. Fleeting, weren’t they?

What precious “things of life” do you savor the most? How might they be fleeting?

As Christians living “the chocolate life,” we savor something so much greater: the rich indulgence of God’s grace in

Identify one person to share God’s Word of salvation with this week.

Look for ways that God works daily in the details of your life.

Closing Prayer (based on Psalm 139): O Lord, You know me! You know every detail about me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up, and You discern my thoughts. You know what I am going to say even before I do! You hem me in, behind and before, and lay Your hand upon me. You created me and made me, and I praise You. O Lord, You are everywhere, and You watch over and protect me. Search me, O God, and know my heart and lead me in the way everlasting. In the precious name of Jesus. Amen!

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