

Summer Theme: Let the "SON" Shine In

DEVOTIONAL/LESSON STARTERS & WORKSHOP IDEAS

Add in your own points, illustrations, explanations, and relating Bible verses.

- *Letting the SON Shine in* – Giving Christ first place in our lives. Allowing the Lord to have preeminence. Soaking up His promises. Soaking up His wisdom.
- *A Taste of Summer* – Bearing the fruit of the Spirit even when we go through the heat of summer.
- *Beat the Heat* – Keeping your cool. Dealing with anger.
- *Making Waves* – Not standing still. Moving on for Christ. Splashing into service. Leaving ripples in the water by acts of love. Turning the world "upside down" for Christ (Acts 17:6)
- *Sink or Swim* – Concentrating on keeping your head above water. Matthew 11:28-30; Matthew 14
- *Soak in the Son* – Allowing the Word of God to penetrate. Getting to know the Lord more.
- *Sand in your Shoes* – What bugs you? What are the little things that get in the way of serving Christ? What are the little things that cause you to get angry and frustrated?
- *Protecting your Heart from the Heat* – What do you put on like sunscreen? Are you concerned about your heart protection as much as you are with protecting your skin in summer? What things of the world are you allowing to scorch you or even dehydrate you spiritually? Proverbs 4:23
- *Sandcastles in the Sun* – Building our houses and our spiritual lives to stand strong. Matthew 7

- *Dive into the Word* – The importance of spending time in the Word of God. To dive off a diving board you have to allow your body to follow you. Don't do it half-hearted. One tip I've always heard is to bend your knees before you dive. So bend your knees in prayer and dive right into the Word!
- *Head in the Sand* – Do you have your head in the sand when it comes to the reality of your Christian life? Are you really spending the time in God's Word that you would like? Are you really as close to the Lord as you wish you were? Do you allow things and "friends" around you to influence you in the wrong ways? Are you allowing things in your life that doesn't match up to God's Word because you just don't want to deal with it?
- *Swimming Against the Tide* – What forces are closing in on you? We need the strength of the Lord to manage the rough water. Example – David was swimming against the tide - Psalm 35:1; Psalm 3:1; Psalm 27:3
- *Everything Under the Sun* - Ecclesiastes 3
- *Before the Sun Sets* – Ephesians 4:26 "Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath:"
- *A Sun and Shield* - Psalms 84:11 "For the LORD God is a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good *thing* will he withhold from them that walk uprightly."

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I ask for the sake of the women's ministry leaders and pastor's wives that gather ideas here, that you do not print your finished devotionals online. It will help keep a fresh take for the ladies that attend our women's ministry events (banquets, conferences, retreats, etc.). We don't want what you share in person to be something your guests have already read on Facebook or a blog somewhere or saw on Pinterest. Let's keep it fresh!