



Rainforest VBS Volunteer Devotions

Day 1: God Is Our Creator

Good morning, friends!

Today we're talking about God as our Creator. And honestly, one of the coolest examples of that is our Bible Buddy, the quetzal.

Have you ever looked at a picture of a quetzal? Bright colors. Long flowing tail feathers. It's the kind of bird that makes you stop and think, "Wow, God really didn't have to make that look so amazing."

God could have made a world that's strictly practical and functional. Instead, He filled it with beauty, color, creativity, and surprises. He made waterfalls, rainbows, tropical flowers, and birds like the quetzal that seem almost too beautiful to be real.

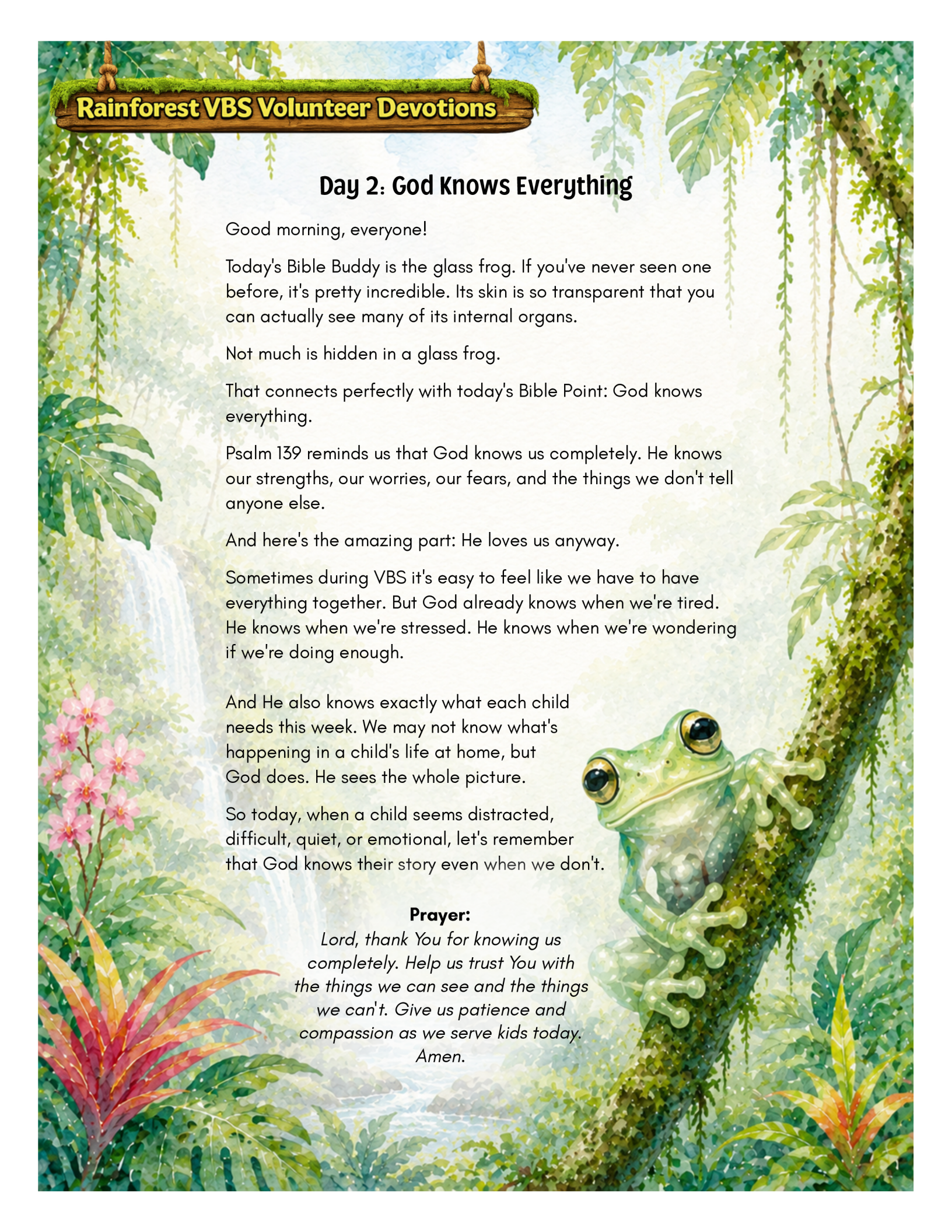
And He created people, too.

That means every child who walks through our doors this week is someone God intentionally made. Every personality. Every laugh. Every endless question. Every shy kid and every energetic kid.

Today, let's remember that we're not just running a program. We're spending time with people God lovingly created. As we help kids discover God's world, let's point them back to the One who made it all.

Prayer:

Lord, thank You for being our Creator. Help us notice Your creativity all around us today and help every child know they were wonderfully made by You. Amen.

A vibrant rainforest scene with a waterfall on the left, lush green foliage, and a glass frog perched on a mossy branch on the right. The frog is transparent with visible internal organs and large, golden eyes.

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Day 2: God Knows Everything

Good morning, everyone!

Today's Bible Buddy is the glass frog. If you've never seen one before, it's pretty incredible. Its skin is so transparent that you can actually see many of its internal organs.

Not much is hidden in a glass frog.

That connects perfectly with today's Bible Point: God knows everything.

Psalms 139 reminds us that God knows us completely. He knows our strengths, our worries, our fears, and the things we don't tell anyone else.

And here's the amazing part: He loves us anyway.

Sometimes during VBS it's easy to feel like we have to have everything together. But God already knows when we're tired. He knows when we're stressed. He knows when we're wondering if we're doing enough.

And He also knows exactly what each child needs this week. We may not know what's happening in a child's life at home, but God does. He sees the whole picture.

So today, when a child seems distracted, difficult, quiet, or emotional, let's remember that God knows their story even when we don't.

Prayer:

Lord, thank You for knowing us completely. Help us trust You with the things we can see and the things we can't. Give us patience and compassion as we serve kids today. Amen.

The background of the page is a vibrant, detailed illustration of a rainforest. On the left, a waterfall cascades over rocks into a stream. Lush green foliage, including large monstera leaves and hanging vines, frames the scene. In the bottom right corner, an ocelot with distinctive spotted fur is perched on a mossy log, looking towards the viewer. At the top, a wooden sign with a rope knot at each end holds the title.

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Day 3: God Is Our Safe Place

Good morning!

Today's Bible Buddy is the ocelot. Ocelots are excellent at finding shelter and staying hidden when danger is nearby. They know where to go when they need protection.

That reminds me of David in today's Bible story. David wasn't hiding for fun. He was hiding because King Saul was trying to kill him. David was scared and uncertain, but he kept turning to God.

He said, "You are my place of refuge."

I love that David didn't say God was *one of his safe places*. He said *God was his safe place*.

This week, some kids may walk into VBS carrying things we know nothing about. Family struggles. Loneliness. Anxiety. Fear.

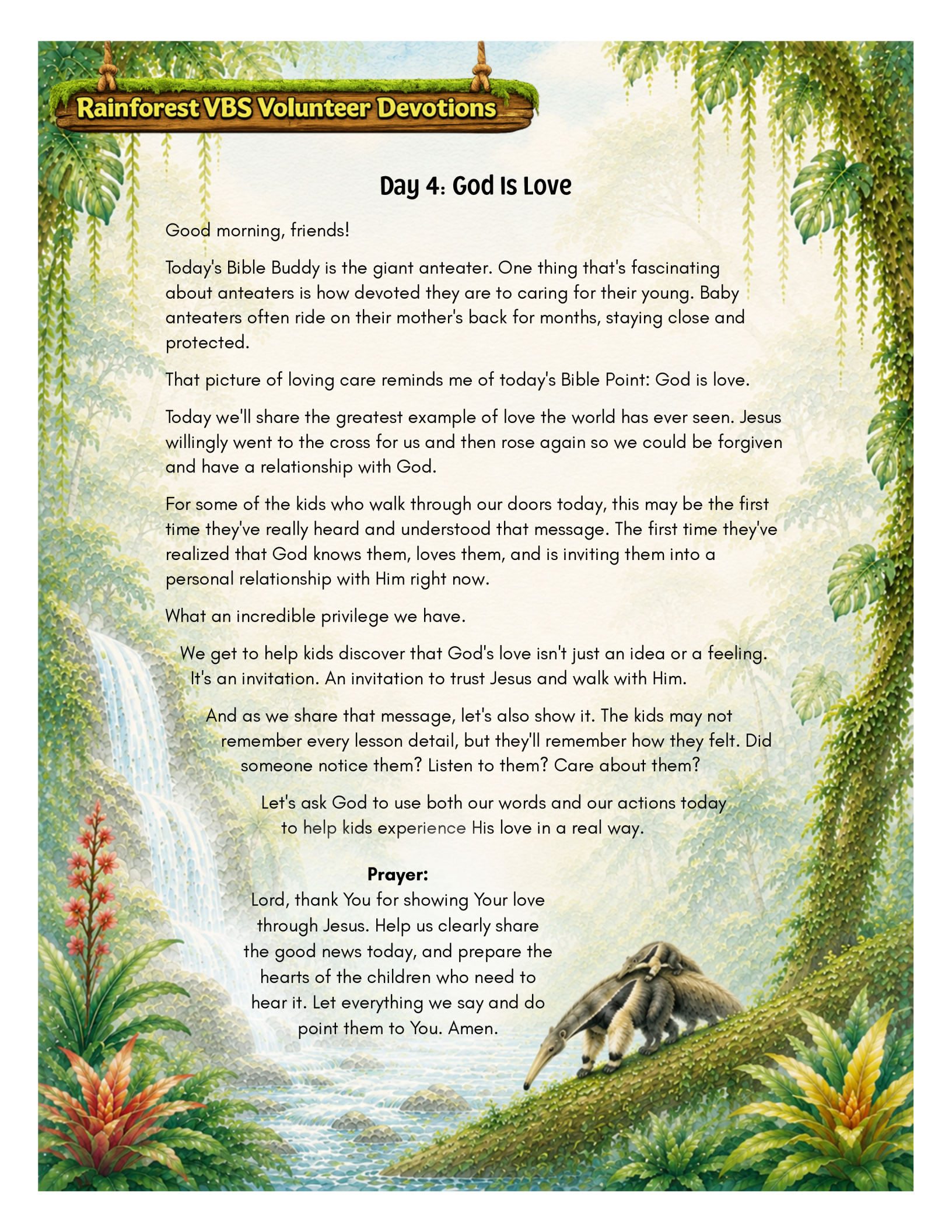
What if one of the ways God provides safety for them this week is through us?

A smile. A kind word. Learning their name. Sitting beside them at snack time. Helping them feel seen and welcomed.

We can't solve every problem, but we can help create an environment where kids experience the love and care of God.

Prayer:

*Lord, thank You for being our refuge.
Help us create a safe and
welcoming place where every child
feels loved and valued today. Amen.*



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Day 4: God Is Love

Good morning, friends!

Today's Bible Buddy is the giant anteater. One thing that's fascinating about anteaters is how devoted they are to caring for their young. Baby anteaters often ride on their mother's back for months, staying close and protected.

That picture of loving care reminds me of today's Bible Point: God is love.

Today we'll share the greatest example of love the world has ever seen. Jesus willingly went to the cross for us and then rose again so we could be forgiven and have a relationship with God.

For some of the kids who walk through our doors today, this may be the first time they've really heard and understood that message. The first time they've realized that God knows them, loves them, and is inviting them into a personal relationship with Him right now.

What an incredible privilege we have.

We get to help kids discover that God's love isn't just an idea or a feeling. It's an invitation. An invitation to trust Jesus and walk with Him.

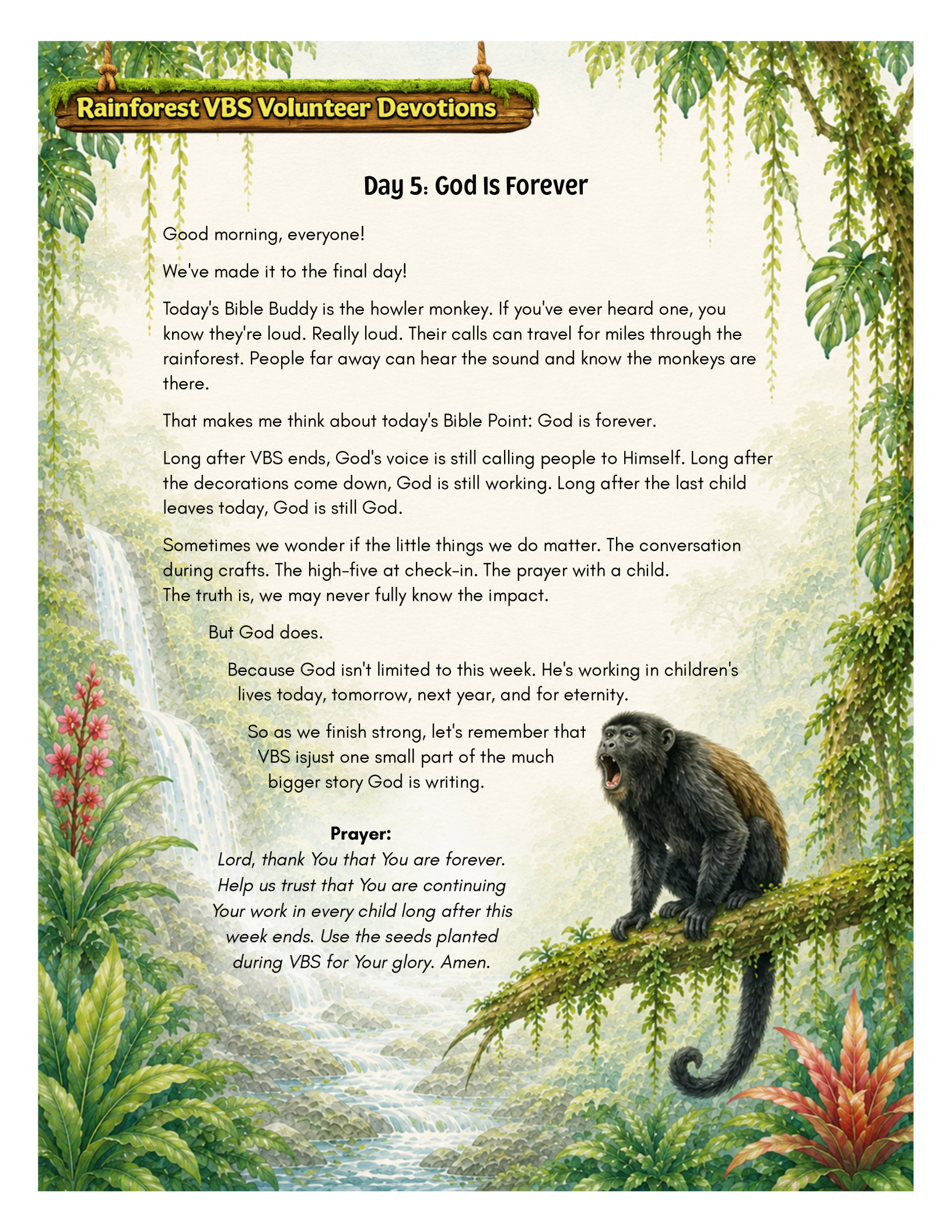
And as we share that message, let's also show it. The kids may not remember every lesson detail, but they'll remember how they felt. Did someone notice them? Listen to them? Care about them?

Let's ask God to use both our words and our actions today to help kids experience His love in a real way.

Prayer:

Lord, thank You for showing Your love through Jesus. Help us clearly share the good news today, and prepare the hearts of the children who need to hear it. Let everything we say and do point them to You. Amen.





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Day 5: God Is Forever

Good morning, everyone!

We've made it to the final day!

Today's Bible Buddy is the howler monkey. If you've ever heard one, you know they're loud. Really loud. Their calls can travel for miles through the rainforest. People far away can hear the sound and know the monkeys are there.

That makes me think about today's Bible Point: God is forever.

Long after VBS ends, God's voice is still calling people to Himself. Long after the decorations come down, God is still working. Long after the last child leaves today, God is still God.

Sometimes we wonder if the little things we do matter. The conversation during crafts. The high-five at check-in. The prayer with a child. The truth is, we may never fully know the impact.

But God does.

Because God isn't limited to this week. He's working in children's lives today, tomorrow, next year, and for eternity.

So as we finish strong, let's remember that VBS is just one small part of the much bigger story God is writing.

Prayer:

*Lord, thank You that You are forever.
Help us trust that You are continuing
Your work in every child long after this
week ends. Use the seeds planted
during VBS for Your glory. Amen.*