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## God Gives Us the Power to Think



### WORDS TO KNOW

**mind:** What we think with; where our knowledge is stored.

**think:** To use one's mind.

**store:** To keep.

**parable:** A short story that teaches a religious lesson.

**Pharisees:** A group who kept all the rules and tried to make other people keep the rules. They were more often concerned with keeping the rules than with loving God.

**synagogue:** A building where Jewish people pray.

**servants:** Helpers in the house.

**in charge:** Be responsible for something.





Our world is filled with so many fascinating things. Every day we seem to learn something new. In reading we learn new words. With those new words we can read about people we have never met and places we have never seen.

Dogs go to obedience school. But, unlike all of us, they do not use books. Dogs cannot think as we do. Their owners practice with the dogs all of the things the teachers have trained the dogs to do.



God has given us minds to think and to store the special information that we want to keep.



Our minds can be compared to a bedroom closet. At first the closet seems so big. You begin to collect things to fill it. You put so many of your favorite things inside your closet that it becomes overloaded. The closet cannot handle any more, and everything falls out when you open it.

When your closet is cluttered, finding a favorite object becomes very difficult. You dig through all the things you do not need, searching. You throw everything else out of the closet until you've found what you are looking for. You're overjoyed, until you see the pile of objects that need to be placed back into the closet. Oh no, cleaning time!



Carefully, you check through all of the things on the floor and the things left in the closet. You ask yourself, "Which ones do I want to keep? Which ones are not needed anymore?"

After separating your objects into two piles, you begin to place the things you want to keep back into the closet, neatly. What a change! The closet looks great! Things are much easier to find now.

Like our bedroom closet, our minds can become cluttered, too. We continue to learn new things. We need to clear our minds of the things that should not be there and remember only the things that we need to know.

