Key Bible Verses

Strengthen Your Faith
With Bible Verses
On Key Topics

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Jason A. Krause



Title Page

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Strengthen Your Faith With Bible Verses On Key Topics

Jason Krause

Anewtrek LLC



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Key Bible Verses is a compilation of my previous works, including The Best Bible Verses, Scripture Foundation Guide, Christian Wisdom Guide, and The Christian Daily Prayer, and it includes new work. My previous individual works each have their own Copyright.



$\textbf{Key Bible Verses} \hspace{0.1cm} \text{(Scripture based on the King James Bible)} \\$

DEDICATION

This is dedicated to God, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit.

Thank you God, for your love. I am comforted by the thought that you know my heart, that you are impartial, and that you are my final judge.

Thank you Jesus, for your grace and truth. I confess you are my Lord and Savior, and I believe in my heart that God raised you from the dead. Through you I am redeemed and free.

Thank you Holy Spirit, for your comfort and guidance. I ask you to always reside in my heart.



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DISCLAIMER

The Bible verses in this publication are based on the King James Version Bible. I've just organized them in ways that help me better understand my faith. This publication is only meant as information about Christianity.

This publication is not meant to replace the advice of a certified expert for any physical, mental, emotional, relational, or financial, challenge, issue, problem, or struggle. Each person is unique and so are their circumstances.

This publication is not meant to replace the advice or biblical expertise of any person appointed or ordained as a Christian leader.

This publication is not meant to replace reading the Bible, the power of prayer, or a personal relationship with the Holy Triune.

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INTRODUCTION

Most Christians want to strengthen their faith and help their loved ones. But they don't know what else they can do. Studying the Bible, or at least key Bible verses, might help. Most Christians want to know, and have quick access to the best Bible verses. But they feel like they don't have years to dedicate to study and research the Bible. In over 10 years of studying the Bible I have put together what I believe are important Bible verses on key topics. This publication is meant to help people strengthen their faith, memorize important verses, and get them interested in reading the Bible (I recommend starting with the New Testament, and the book of Proverbs is really good also). This book is not meant to replace advice from people appointed or ordained in Christian traditions, or certified expert advice. These verses, in these different structures, have helped me to better examine and improve my life, and I believe they can help many more people.

Pride could be argued as our biggest challenge, the original sin, which wants to convince us that we don't need to deliberately learn and grow, and that we don't need God, or that there is no God. I believe some of the most important personal growth information in the Bible is 2 Timothy 1:7 that declares God gave us a spirit not of fear, but of power, love, and a sound mind. Pride and fear are the biggest threats we deal with. Pride tempts us to do and say unhelpful things, and fear tempts us to not do or say helpful things. However, often times there is a fine line between fear and wisdom, as individuals we can't help everyone, and it helps to discern our unique situation and how we can best help our community. Galatians 5:16-23 that says the desires of the flesh are against the desires of the Spirit, and provides a list of both. It's interesting that the list of desires of the flesh starts with the category of sexual sin, which could be argued is the most powerful, possibly because of its powerful neurochemical outcomes. The category of anger has the most listings, which could be argued is the most pervasive, possibly because of our ego's natural desire to not be wrong, and not miss out on pleasure. Another key personal growth verse is John 10:10 that explains the strategy of our spiritual adversary and our best strategy (check the Christian Wisdom Guide).

It seems that technology is increasing our ability to engage in our desires of the flesh or the desires of the Spirit, and the deciding factors are often how environments are designed. Our humanity needs to catch up with our technology, and I believe it starts with personal and spiritual growth. One of the most interesting things I've learned about spiritual growth, from a large and very successful (fruitful) Christian nonprofit, is that people who are struggling with their basic human needs are more open to hearing about spiritual growth if we first help them with their basic human needs. There are few things more valuable than helping someone strengthen their identity, mindset, and faith. But people are often not interested in such help and are focused on more physical areas like their health, relationships, and finances.

I enjoy thinking and talking about the past, present, and future, and I have a lot of respect for history. Polybius was an ancient Greek historian whose books, The Histories, include timeless wisdom, and are free to download online, along with other classics. It seems there are some similarities in how the early Christian church grew despite oppression, and how the United States of America won it's independence and quickly became the most powerful nation in the world. I believe some key principles included a belief in God (reference the Declaration of Independence), a heightened sense of responsibility, and a pioneering spirit, that was open to new ideas, truthful, courageous, and disagreeable on important topics. They also believed strongly in having checks and balances on government power, and personal growth. Ben Franklin cofounded the first public library, in hopes that it would help increase the knowledge of anyone who desired to learn and grow. I believe it was no coincidence that just a few hundred years before so many people took an interest in early America, God inspired people to translate the Bible from Latin into English so more people could read it.

There are many smart people who could disagree with many parts of this book, as it takes faith to believe in God, and to not believe in God. However, there are many parts of this book that can be considered first principles that stand alone, with sound logic. What really matters most is our personal beliefs, because after our life is done on this earth we will be held accountable and judged for our actions, and we will not be able to call on any "witness" to defend us or explain our actions. This book is meant to help you better understand Christianity, and if you are a Christian, it is meant to help strengthen your faith and empower you with biblical knowledge that I have found helpful. It is not meant to push Christianity on anyone, I feel that it is important that all people be given the respect to be allowed to make their own choices. This was a major reason many people first came to America, they were fleeing from religious persecution.

I hope this publication helps you to learn well, love strong, and live with meaning.

God loves you.



SCRIPTURE FOUNDATION GUIDE

FOUNDATION

Salvation: 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 (Jn 3:16). I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: it is the power of God unto salvation to all who believe (Ro 1:16). Believe: Jesus was delivered for our offenses and raised for our justification (Ro 4:25). By one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one will many be made righteous (Ro 5:19). Don't fear, believe (Mk 5:36). Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life (Jn 14:6). Confess with your mouth Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved (Ro 10:9). Do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God (Col 3:17). All Scripture is given by inspiration of God (2Ti 3:16). Prophecy: A virgin will bear a son (Isa 7:14 & Mt 1:23). Bethlehem will bear the ruler of Israel (Mic 5:2 & Lk 2:4-7). He was despised and rejected (Isa 53:3 & Jn 1:11). They pierced Him (Ps 22:16 & Mt 27:35). He was numbered with the transgressors (Isa 53:12 & Mk 15:27). Relationship with God: We are a spirit with a soul in a body (1Th 5:23). God gave us a spirit not of fear, but of power, love, and a sound mind (2Tim 1:7). God knows our heart (Pro 21:2). But without faith it is impossible to please Him: for he that comes to God must believe that He is, and that He rewards them who diligently seek Him (Heb 11:6). Jesus answered them saying, Have faith in God (Mk 11:22). Grace: All have sinned (Ro 3:23). He saved us, not because of works (Ti 3:5), by grace are you saved through faith (Eph 2:8). Grace and peace to you (Ro 1:7). The law was given by Moses, grace and truth came by Jesus Christ (Jn 1:17). Jesus fulfilled the law for us (Mt 5:17) Truth: By God all things were created (Col 1:16). God's word is truth (Jn 17:17). God judges everyone equally (Ro 2:11), even our secrets (Ro 2:16). The wrath of God from heaven is against those who manipulate the truth (Ro 1:18). Worship in spirit and truth (Jn 4:24). Sin: Christ Jesus has freed us from the law of sin and death (Ro 8:2). Let him who is without sin be the first to throw a stone (Jn 8:7). Confess: If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1Jn 1:9). Repent: The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent, and believe the gospel (Mk 1:15). Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit (Ac 2:38). Baptism: He commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord (Ac 10:48). Buried with Him through baptism (Col 2:12) Holy Spirit: But the Comforter, which is the Holy Spirit, who the Father sent in the name of Jesus, He will teach you all things (Jn 14:26). You will be baptized with the Holy Spirit (Ac 1:5). The Holy Spirit dwells in us (2Tim 1:14). The Spirit also helps our infirmities (Ro 8:26). New Covenant: God spoke of a new covenant (Jer 31:31). If the ministry of condemnation has glory, the ministry of righteousness exceeds it in glory (2Cor 3:9). If righteousness come by the law, Christ died in vain (Gal 2:21). Serve in newness of Spirit (Ro 7:6). New Life: Put on a new self in the likeness of God in righteousness and true holiness (Eph 4:24). Follow that which is good (3Jn 1:11). Trust: Blessed is the man that trusts in the LORD (Jer 17:7), Cast your cares upon Him (Php 4:6), Christ makes all things new (Rev 21:5). Faith: Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God (Ro 10:17). Jesus answered them saying, Have faith in God (Mk 11:22). Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen (Heb 11:1). Our conversation is in heaven (Php 3:20). Hope: Hope that is seen is not hope (Ro 8:24). With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible (Mt 19:26). Be sober and hope to the end (1Pt 1:13). The LORD has plans for you, for peace not evil (Jer 29:11). Faith, hope, and love abide (1Cor 13:13). Love: Let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth (1) n 3:18). Love suffers long and is kind; love envies not; love brags not, is not puffed up, does not behave unseemingly, seeks not her own, is not easily provoked, thinks no evil; rejoices not in iniquity, but rejoices in truth (1Cor 13:4). Greater love has no man than to lay down his life for his friends (Jn 15:13). Let all things be done with love (1Cor 16:14). Nothing is able to separate us from the love of God, in Christ Jesus our Lord (Ro 8:38-39). Commandments: Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it, love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all law (Mt 22:37-39). Joy: God of hope fill you with joy and peace (Ro 15:13). The joy of the LORD is your strength (Neh 8:10). Your love gives me joy (Phm 7). Peace: Peace from God (Phm 3). Perfect peace whose mind is stayed on God (Isa 26:3). Blessed are the peacemakers (Mt 5:9). Pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil (Mt 6:9-13). Praise and Worship: O praise the LORD, all you nations: praise Him, all you people! (Ps 117:1). In the midst of church will I sing praise unto God (Heb 2:12). Worship the Father in spirit and in truth (Jn 4:24). It is written you shall only worship the Lord your God (Lk 4:8). Respect: Whatever you want done to you, do to others (Mt 7:12). Let nothing be done through conflict or pompous pride; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than themselves (Php 2:3) Do not grumble against one another (Jas 5:9). Authority: One God and Father of all, who is above all (Eph 4:6). Authority is ordained by God (Ro 13:1). Pray for authority (1Tim 2:1-2). Wisdom: The wise seek knowledge (Pro 18:15). Wisdom is better than gold (Pro 3:15). Wisdom from above is pure, peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good works, without partiality or hypocrisy (Jas 3:17). God can give wisdom, knowledge, and understanding (Jas 1:5). A fool is right in his eyes: but the wise seek counsel (Pro 12:15). You will be judged by how you judge (Mt 7:2). Forgive: Be kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God has forgiven you, for Christ's sake (Eph 4:32). Be: Fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance (Gal 5:22-23). Be doers of the Word (Jas 1:22). Be strong and of good courage (Jos 1:9). Be transformed (Ro 12:2). We are made in God's image (Gen 1:27). Know: Know the truth, and the truth will set you free (Jn 8:32). Jesus said; I have not come to destroy the law, but to fulfill it (Mt 5:17). Jesus came so we can have life, and have it more abundantly (Jn 10:10). Greater is He who is in me, than he who is in the world (1Jn 4:4). Do: Trust in the LORD with all your heart (Pro 3:5). Keep God's commandments in your heart (Pro 3:1). Jesus said; he who believes on me will do the works I do (Jn 14:12). By works is faith made perfect (Jas 2:22). Go therefore make disciples and baptize (Mt 28:19).



SCRIPTURE FOUNDATION GUIDE (page 2)

OPPORTUNITIES

Heart: Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me (Ps 51:10, Ez 36:26). Keep your heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life (Pro 4:23). A joyful heart does good like medicine (Pro 17:22). The LORD considers the heart (Pro 21:2). Mind: Be not conformed to this world: be transformed by renewing your mind (Ro 12:2) Be not easily shaken in mind (2Th2:2). Words: Death and life are in the power of the tongue (Pro 18:21). A soft answer turns away wrath (Pro 15:1). A man has joy by his answer (Pro 15:23). Speak the truth in love (Eph 4:15). Speak evil of no one (Ti 3:2). Let your yes be yes; and your no, no (Jas 5:12). Freedom: Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty (2Cor 3:17). Walk in the Spirit and you will not fulfill lust of the flesh (Gal 5:16). Allies: Jesus and God (Jn 10:29-30). Holy Spirit (Ac 1:8). Angels (Ps 91:11). There is a friend closer than a brother (Pro 18:24). Emotional Intelligence: Be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger (Jas 1:19). Who is slow to anger has great understanding (Pro 14:29). Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep (Ro 12:15). Know how to answer each person (Col 4:6). Build Good Habits: In an honest and good heart, having heard the Word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience (Lk 8:15). Prepare: Stand, put on the belt of truth, breastplate of righteousness, shoes of the gospel of peace, the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God (Eph 6:14-17). Spirit, soul and body be preserved (1Th 5:23). Be Aware: Walk carefully, not foolish (Eph 5:15). Fear not who kills the body, fear who can kill the soul (Mt 10:28). No one knows when the end will come (Mt 24:36). Good behavior is rewarded, bad behavior is punished (Mt 24:45-51). Renew your mind (Ro 12:2). Submit and Resist: Submit to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee (Jas 4:7). Teach me Your way, O LORD, and lead me (Ps 27:11). Help: My help comes from the LORD (Ps 121:2). I can do all things through Christ (Php 4:13) and the Holy Spirit (Ro 8:11). God did not give us a spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind (2Tim 1:7). Be strong in the Lord and in His power (Eph 6:10). Thank: Giving thanks always for all things unto God (Eph 5:20). Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above (Jas 1:17). Think: Take all thoughts captive (2Cor 10:5). Think on what is true, honest, just, pure, lovely, commendable, virtuous, of praise (Php 4:8). Discern: Believe not every spirit, but try the spirits to see if they are of God (1Jn 4:1). That you may prove what is good (Ro 12:2). Be Honest: The LORD hates a proud look, lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that plans wickedness (Pro 6:16-18). Be Humble: Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time (1Pt 5:6 & Jas 4:10). Be Diligent: Thoughts of the diligent lead to plenty (Pro 21:5). Add to your faith, virtue, knowledge, self-control, patience (2Pt 1:5-6). Be Patient: He that hastes with his feet sins (Pro 19:2). Rejoice in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing in prayer (Ro 12:12). Be Blessed: (Mt 5:3-9). Blessed is he who is not offended by Jesus (Lk 7:23). Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD (Ps 33:12). Relations: Iron sharpens iron (Pro 27:17). Walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another (1Jn1:7). You are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God (Eph2:19). Spouse: Every one of you in particular love his wife as himself and the wife see that she respects her husband (Eph 5:33). Children: A child left to himself brings his mother to shame (Pro 29:15). Honor your father and your mother (Ex 20:12). Focus: Everyone received a gift (1Pt 4:10). We are His workmanship, in Christ Jesus for good works (Eph 2:10). Strain forward (Php 3:13). Plan: Seek first the kingdom of God (Mt 6:33). Commit your works unto the LORD, and your thoughts will be established (Pro 16:3). Build Up: Do not speak corrupting talk, only what is good to build up (Eph 4:29). Set a guard, O LORD, over my mouth (Ps 141: 3). Seek Help: Why do you sit alone (Exo 18:14)? Where no counsel is, people fall (Pro 11:14). Grow up into Him in all things (Eph 4:15). Help Others: Bear other's burdens (Gal 6:2). Visit fatherless and widows (Jas 1:27). Plea, pray, intercede, give thanks, for all (1Tim 2:1). Give: Glory to God (1Cor 10:31). It is more blessed to give than receive (Ac 20:35). We do not receive if we ask out of lust (Jas 4:3). Persevere: Be steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord (1Cor 15:58). Do not be weary in well doing (Gal 6:9). Serve: As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD (Jos 24:15). Use your gifts to serve others, as good stewards (1Pt 4:10). Save: Jesus came to seek and to save the lost (Lk 19:10). Go into all the world, and proclaim the gospel (Mk 16:15).

CHALLENGES

Do Not Fear: I will fear no evil, God is with me (Ps 23:4). Be of good courage and He will strengthen your heart (Ps 27:14). All things work together for good to them who love God (Ro 8:28). The LORD is my refuge and fortress (Ps 91:2). In the world you will have trouble, be of good cheer; Jesus overcame the world (Jn 16:33). Have no fellowship with darkness (Eph 5:11). Be not afraid, believe (Mk 5:36). Adversaries: The flesh is against the Spirit (Gal 5:17). Desires of the flesh include; lust, idolatry, witchcraft, anger, jealousy, division, murder, and drunkenness (Gal 5:19-21). Other people in the world (Jn 16:33). The devil (1Pt 5:8) and spiritual forces of evil (Eph 6:12). Respect Anger: Let not the sun set on your wrath (Eph 4:26). Put away bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, evil talk, malice (Eph 4:31) Respect Alcohol: Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whoever is deceived by them is not wise (Pro 20:1). Respect Your Body: Much honey is not good (Pro 25:27). Bodily exercise is profitable (1Tim 4:8). Your body is a temple (1Cor 3:16). Respect Sex: Marriage is honorable in all, and the bed undefiled (Heb 13:4). For this cause will a man leave his father and mother, and will unite with his wife: and they will be one flesh (Mt 19:5). How fair and how pleasant are you, O love, for delights (Sng 7:6). Respect Money: The hand of the diligent makes rich (Pro 10:4). Love of money is the root of all evil (1Tim 6:10). Better is the poor that walks in integrity, than a rich man who is perverse in his ways (Pro 28:6). The borrower is servant to the lender (Pro 22:7). Delay Gratification: He that has no rule over his own spirit is like a city that is broken down, and without walls (Pro 25:28). Conflict: If your brother sins against you, tell him his fault, between you and him alone (Mt 18:15). Save others (Jude 23).

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CHRISTIAN WISDOM GUIDE

SITUATION

<u>Identity</u>: We are made in God's image (Gen 1:26), His workmanship (Eph 2:10), as a spirit with a soul in a body (1Th 5:23). God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power, love and a sound mind (2 Tim 1:7). Have faith in God (Mk 11:22), He loved the world and gave His only Son, and whoever believes in Him will have eternal life (Jn 3:16). The Spirit of the Lord is liberty (2Cor 3:17). We have power in our thoughts (Pro 21:5, 2Cor 10:5), words (Pro 18:21), and actions (Pro 10:4).

<u>Our Headquarters</u> (head & heart): Govern your thoughts (2Cor 10:5). Think on what is honorable, just, pure, lovely, commendable, and practice them (Php 4:8). Do not conform to the world, but be transformed by renewing your mind (Ro 12:2). Knowledge is power (Pro 24:5). Knowledge should govern desires (Pro 19:2). Knowledge is better than gold and wisdom is better than jewels (Pro 8:10-11). The humble have wisdom (Pro 11:2). God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble, and exalts the humble in due time (1 Pt 5:5-6). Wisdom is better than strength (Ecc 9:16). The wise seek knowledge (Pro 18:15), counsel (Pro 12:15), and God (Jas 1:5). Guard your heart, life flows from it (Pr 4:23). The heart can be selfish (Mark 7:21-22). God can give us a new heart and spirit (Ez 36:26). Keep God's word in an honest and good heart, and be patient for results (Lk 8:15). Be content (Php 4:11), courageous (Josh 1:9), and diligent (Pro 10:4 & 21:5). We should sanctify ourself, and control our bodies (1Th 4:3-8 & Jn 17:17).

Circumstances (guarantees in life include opportunities, challenges, and choices):

<u>Truth</u>: Truth helps us use time wisely (Ecc 8:5). The truth will set you free (Jn 8:32). Speak the truth in love (Eph 4:15). God hates arrogance, lies, murder, people who make wicked plans, who are quick to cause trouble, a false witness, and those who encourage conflict (Pro 6:16-19). God's anger is against the unrighteous who suppress truth (Ro 1:18).

<u>Time</u>: Prioritize and make the best use of time (Eph 5:16), tomorrow is unknown (Jas 4:14). A diligent business person will stand before kings (Pro 22:29). The hand of the diligent will rule (12:24). Walk in wisdom around those who are without, redeeming the time (Col 4:5). Teach us to number our days so we apply our hearts to wisdom (Ps 90:12).

<u>Health</u>: God's words are life giving and healthy (Pro 4:20-22). Physical training is good (1Tim 4:8), too many sweets are not good (Pro 25:27). A joyful heart does good like medicine (Pro 17:22).

Emotions and Thoughts: God gave us a spirit of power, love and a sound mind (2Tim 1:7). Be quick to hear, slow to speak, and slow to anger (Jas 1:19). Being slow to anger gives understanding (Pro 14:29). Don't fear (Ps 23:4) or be anxious (Mt 6:34). Faith, hope, and love abide (1Cor 13:13). The wise are cautious, and the foolish are careless (Pro 14:16). A cool spirit gives understanding (Pro 17:27). Share reasonable emotions (Ro 12:15). What we focus on determines who we are (Mt 6:22). Think on important topics (Php 4:8). Discern good from evil (Heb 5:14).

Money: Wisdom is better, and more beneficial, than wealth (Pro 3:13-18). Life is not in possessions (Lk 12:15). Better are the poor with integrity, than the rich without integrity (Pro 28:6). The rich rule over the poor and the borrower serves the lender (Pro 22:7). Diligent thoughts and hands bring abundance and wealth (Pro 21:5 and Pro 10:4). Honor God with your wealth (Pro 3:9) and invest (Mt 25:27). The love of money is the root of many evils (1Tim 6:10).

Allies

Holy Trinity: God is over all, through all, and in all (Eph 4:6). Our help comes from the Lord (Psa 121:2), and all things are possible with God (Mk 10:27). There are many things God hates (Pro 6:16). Jesus is the way, truth, and life (Jn 14:6). Jesus said, He came to give life (Jn 10:10), and He overcome the world (Jn 16:33). Greater is the Holy Spirit in us, than us in the world (Jn 4:4). The Holy Spirit is our helper (Jn 14:26). The Bible is from God (2Tim 3:16).

Angels: God's angels can help us and guard us (Psa 91:11-12), warn us (Mt 1:20), and test us (Heb 13:2).

Other People: Love God and love others (Mt 22:37-40). Greater love has no one, than to lay down their life for their friends (Jn 15:13, Pro 18:24). Love others through action and truth (1 Jn 3:18). Think for yourself and speak truth in love (Eph 4:15). Science done well reveals God's natural laws... God is the Father of all, above all, through all, and in all (Eph 4:6). Help others as you have opportunity (Gal 6:10). Hate stirs up anger, but love covers offenses (Pro 10:12).

Adversaries

Our Flesh: Desires of the flesh are a daily concern because they are against the desires of the Spirit (Gal 5:16-17), and the flesh wars against the soul (1Pt 2:11). The desires of the flesh include; lust, idolatry, witchcraft, anger, jealousy, division, murder, and drunkenness (Gal 5:19). Pride (Pr 11:2) and foolishness (Mt 25:1-13) also work against people.

The World: God gave all humans free will (Gen 1:28). Woe to those who cause offenses (Mt 18:7). The world promotes desires of the flesh and eyes, and pride (Jn 2:16). We will have trouble in the world (Jn 16:33), but you are a light in the world (Mt 5:14), go and share the Gospel (Mk 16:15), but don't judge those who don't believe it (Jn 12:47).

Other Forces: We struggle against different levels of wicked spiritual adversaries (Eph 6:12). Our adversary is the devil (1Pt 5:8) who tempts (Gen 3:1-5, Mt 4:3), lies (Jn 8:44), dissuades (2 Cor 4:4), deceives and accuses (Rev 12:9-10). So he can steal (fruit of the Spirit, fellowship, and freedom), kill (body), and destroy (legacy) (Jn 10:10). The devil can disguise himself (2Cor 11:14-15), and cause suffering (Job 1 and 2). Our best offense and defense is in Jesus (Jn 10:10).



CHRISTIAN WISDOM GUIDE (page 2)

STRATEGY

Have faith in God (Mk 11:22), love God and others (Mt 22:37-40), and fellowship with the Holy Triune and others (Acts 2:42, 1Cor 1:9, 2Cor 13:14, 1Jn 1:3). Submit to God and resist the devil (Jas 4:7). Walk in the Spirit and resist the flesh (Gal 5:16-26). Walk out our calling (1 Cor 7:17, Eph 4:1), and sanctify ourselves (Jn 17:17, 1Th 5:23). Proclaim the gospel (Mk 16:15), make disciples (Mt 28:19), and do everything for the glory of God (Col 3:17, 3:23, 1Cor 10:31, Ro 15:5-7).

TACTICS

Key Forces & Focus: One God of all, above all, through all, and in all (Eph 4:6). God's ways are higher than ours (Isa 55:9). The heart of man plans his way but the Lord establishes his steps (Pro 16:9). Do not be distracted, God enlisted us (2Tim 2:4). Submit to God (Jas 4:7). Respect authority (Ro 13:1-4) and pray for authority (1Tim 2:1-2). Walk as the light of the Lord and discern the Lord's will (Eph 5:8-10), pray constantly (Ro 12:12), confess (1Jn 1:9), repent (Acts 2:38), and forgive (Mk 11:25). Trust and acknowledge the Lord and He will guide us (Pr 3:5-6) and bless us (Jer 17:7). Wait for the Lord and He will renew our strength (Isa 40:31). Diligent thoughts and actions lead to plenty (Pro 10:4 & 21:5).

<u>Be</u>: In God's image (Gen 1:27), adopted sons and daughters (Ro 8:15) with a spirit not of fear but of power, love and a sound mind (2Tim 1:7). Be Christ like (Ro 12:9-21). Be virtuous, gain knowledge, and exercise temperance, patience, godliness, kindness, and love (2 Pt1:5-7). Be wise (Pro 4:5), aware (Eph 5:15), humble (1Pt 5:6), honest (Pro 6:17), diligent (Pro 10:4 & 21:5), patient (Ro 12:12), strong and courageous (Jos 1:9) and blessed (Lk 7:23). Be prepared to respectfully defend your faith (1Pt 3:15). Be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger (Jas 1:19).

Know: (Pro 1:5-7). We are of the household of God (Eph 2:19). Know God's word (Pr 3:1). God is slow to anger, and plentiful in steadfast love (Neh 9:17). God's love endures (Ps 136) and nothing can separate us from it (Ro 8:37-39). Who does not love does not know God (1Jn 4:8). Love is patient and kind, not envious or boastful (1Cor 13). Attitudes are contagious (Pro 15:1). Seek wise counsel (Pr 24:6). We can ask God for wisdom (Jas 1:5). The Lord is our fortress, deliverer (Ps 91), and avenger (1Th 4:6). We can do all things through Christ (Ph 4:13). We are saved by grace not works (Eph 2:8). Sin is an obstacle between us and God (Isa 59:2). Guarantees in life include change (Pro 27:1), challenges (Jn 10:10 & 16:33), opportunities (Gal 6:10, Eph 5:15-17 & Lk 8:15) and choices (Gen 1:28, Pro 18:21, Ro 12:2, 2Cor 10:5,). Communication skills are powerful (Pro 18:21 & 15:1-4), and misunderstandings are dangerous (Job 4-42).

<u>Do</u>: Love God and others (Mt 22:37-40). Praise God (Mt 6:9), worship Him (Lk 4:8), have faith in Him (Mk 11:22), and pray against temptation (Mt 26:41). Forgive others (Eph 4:32). Speak life (Pr 18:21) and the truth in love (Eph 4:15), because iron sharpens iron (Pro 27:17). Treat others how you want to be treated (Mt 7:12) and build each other up (Eph 4:29). Caution, encourage, and help others (1Th 5:14). Share life's ups and downs (Ro 12:15). Stand and put on the belt of truth, breastplate of righteousness, shoes of the gospel, shield of faith, helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit (Eph 6:14-17). The Holy Spirit can guide and comfort us (Jn 14:26, Acts 9:31). Walk in the light (1Jn 1:7) and in newness of Spirit (Ro 7:6). We should supplement our faith with virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, kindness and love (2Pt 1:5). Fruit of the Spirit includes love, joy and peace (Gal 5:22). Faith is assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen (Heb 11:1). As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord (Jos 24:15). Seek first the kingdom of God, and our needs will be met (Mt 6:33). Love God, and all things work together for good (Ro 8:28).

Personal Growth: Get wisdom (Pro 3:13-35). Be sanctified (1 Th 5:23). Pray, intercede, and give thanks for others (1Tim 2:1). Honor your parents (Ex 20:12). Repent (Mk 1:15). Respect (Mt 7:12). Be courteous (Ti 3:2), and grow with others (Eph 4:15), knowing all have sinned, and are justified by grace (Ro 3:23). If someone sins against you, first talk with them about it alone (Mt 18:15). Beware of dissension, blessed are peacemakers (Mt 5:9). Speak with grace and know how to answer each person (Col 4:6). Bad decisions will be made (Ro 7:15), wrong words will be said (Jas 3:2), but the gifts and calling of God remain (Ro 11:29). Learn (Pro 1:5-7, Php 4:8). Faith, hope, and love abide (1Cor 13:13).

<u>Professional Growth</u>: Everyone has a gift for serving others (1Pt 4:10, Gal 5:13). Let people walk out the calling the Lord has given them (Eph 4:1 and 1 Cor 7:17). The thoughts and hands of the diligent lead to plenty (Pro 10:4 and 21:5).

Leadership Growth: To whom much is given, much is required (Lk 12:48). Mercy and truth preserve the king (Pro 20:28). Families will have challenges (Lk 12:52-53), husbands love your wives, and wives respect your husbands (Eph 5:33). Children are a blessing (Psa 127:3-5), raise them in discipline and instruction in the Lord (Eph 6:4). Obey leaders and submit to them (Hb 13:17). With many counselors there is safety (Pro 11:14). Where there is no vision the people perish (Pro 29:18). Provide for your people willingly not greedily, and not controlling, but be an example (1 Pt 5:3). Look for people who fear God, who are trustworthy and hate a bribe, and place them over people (Ex 18:21).

<u>Organization Growth</u>: God is not partial (Ro 2:11), be fair to your employees (Eph 6:9). Deceptive practices are not good... God hates diverse weights and a false balance is not good (Pro 20:23). Better is a little with righteousness than great revenue with injustice (Pro 16:8). Those diligent in their work will stand before kings (Pro 22:29).



CHRISTIAN DAILY PRAYER

I believe in the Holy Triune of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and I believe the Bible is God's word. The Bible says, God spoke the world into existence, God made us in His image, and there is power in our thoughts, words, and actions. I have faith in God, I know I am saved by His grace, in Jesus, who fulfilled the law for us. I know God gave us a spirit of power, love, and self-control, and offers the Holy Spirit to teach and guide us, and that our desires of our flesh are against the Spirit. I understand guarantees in life include change, challenges, opportunities, and choices. I repent of my sins, humble myself, pray, draw near to God, cleanse my hands, purify my heart, and ask for wisdom. I will be strong and courageous, submit to God, resist my flesh and adversary, and sanctify myself in truth.

Father God in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. I praise You, and want to glorify You. I love You, trust You, and worship You. You are my fortress, my refuge, and my avenger. I know I am Your workmanship, and I will be open to waiting on You. I will pursue knowledge of Your word, Your ways, and myself, for favor with You and others, and to be healthy. I am a light in the world and I will strive to be positive, calm, and clear. I will seek wisdom, with humility, integrity, courage, and caring. I know You give wisdom and from Your mouth come knowledge and understanding, and they are better than gold, and add years to my life, with peace. I understand You feel that deceptive practices are terrible, and You hate arrogance, lies, shedding of innocent blood, who creates wicked plans, who does evil, a false witness, and who stirs up trouble between friends. I will guard my heart, thoughts, and words, knowing I am fearfully and wonderfully made. I will serve in the new way of the Spirit, for nothing can separate me from Your love through Jesus.

Lord Jesus, I declare You as my Lord and Savior, and I believe that You were raised from the dead by God. With Your crucifixion I put away my old self, and I crucify my pride, fear, and desires of the flesh. With Your resurrection I put on my new self with humility, courage, and desires of the Spirit. I am not condemned, but I am justified, redeemed, and free. With Your ascension I accept my place and power in You. As challenges arise, I will overcome and have peace in You, knowing You overcame the world. I will strive to do what's right, to apply love and discernment with humility, and a positive and grateful attitude, knowing light dawns in the darkness for the upright. In You, I am forgiven and I am a citizen of heaven. I will strive to forgive, speak life, help build others up, be diligent, and work as if unto the Lord. I know I am a spirit with a soul in a body, and I am God's temple for the Holy Spirit.

Holy Spirit, I accept your help to guide my choices. Greater is the Holy Spirit in me, than me in the world. I will grow myself and grow in fellowship with others. I will strive to improve my thoughts, knowledge and emotions, being quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger, which gives understanding. I understand the wise are careful but the foolish are careless, and desire without knowledge is not good. I understand people who hate stir up anger, but love covers offenses. I will strive to be loving, joyful, peaceful, patient, and exercise kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness, and self-control. I will strive to help others as I have opportunity, and walk in the light, with humility, guided by the golden rule and the silver rule. I am grateful for my life, and for the good things to come. I am worthy.

I will be strong in the Lord and put on the armor of God. I know the plans and hands of the diligent bring abundance, but the love of money is the root of many evils. I will strive to not be conformed to the world, but to be transformed by renewing my mind and discerning God's will. I am not fearful, I am powerful, loving, and self-controlled. I will strive to live with grace and truth, make the best use of my time, pray, and keep alert with perseverance. I am hopeful and capable, and I will strive to strengthen my faith, spirit, mind, body, and fellowship, and seek the truth and speak the truth in love. I am loved by God and Jesus, and I am blessed. Great is God's steadfast love and faithfulness. I will love God and others, be steadfast, proclaim the gospel, and help others. Father God, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven, for your glory. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

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CHRISTIAN DAILY PRAYER (page 2, with Scripture)

I believe in the Holy Triune of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit (Gen 1:26), and I believe the Bible is God's word (not just because 2 Timothy 3:16 says so, but there are hundreds of places in the Bible that claim, "says the LORD," "the LORD said," and "God said"). The Bible says, God spoke the world into existence (Gen 1), God made us in His image (Gen 1:27), and there is power in our thoughts (Pro 21:5, 2Cor 10:5), words (Pro 18:21, Mk 11:23), and actions (Pro 10:4). I have faith in God (Mk 11:22, Hb 11:1), I know I am saved by His grace (Eph 2:8), in Jesus (Jn 3:16) who fulfilled the law for us (Mt 5:17, Ro 5:19). I know God gave us a spirit of power, love, and a sound mind (2Tim 1:7), and offers the Holy Spirit (Ez 36:26) to teach and guide us (Jn 14:26, 16:13), and that our desires of our flesh are against the Spirit (Gal 5:19-21). I understand guarantees in life include change (Pro 27:1, Jas 4:14), challenges (Jn 16:33), opportunities (Pro 22:29, Eph 2:10, Lk 8:15 & 21:13), and choices (Gen 1:28, Ro 8:28, 2Cor 10:5, Pro 18:21). I repent of my sins (Acts 3:19), humble myself (Mk 23:12, Jas 4:6), pray (Mt 5:44, 6:9-13, 1Th 5:17), draw near to God, cleanse my hands and purify my heart (Jas 4:8), and ask for wisdom (1Kings 3:7-9, Jas 1:5). I will be strong and courageous (Deu 31:6, Jos 1:9, 1Chr 28:20) submit to God and resist my flesh (Gal 5:17) and our adversary (Jas 4:7). I sanctify myself in truth (Pro 8:10-11 & 18:15, Mk 9:7, Jn 8:32 & 17:17, 1Cor 1:30, Php 4:8).

Father God in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever (Mt6:9-13). I praise You (Mt 6:9, Ps 117) and want to glorify You (1Cor 10:31). I love You (Mt 22:37), trust You (Jn 4:18, 14:27), and worship You (Jn 4:24, Lk 4:8, Ro 12:1). You are my fortress, my refuge (Ps 18, 46, 91), and my avenger (Pro 24:29, Ro 12:19, Gal 5:10). I know I am Your workmanship (Eph 2:10), and I will be open to waiting on You (Isa 40:31). I will pursue knowledge of Your word (Pr 3:1, Jn 1:1, Eph 4:23-24), Your ways (Isa 55:8) and myself (1Cor 12:8-10, Eph 4:7-13, Ro 12:3-8) for favor with You and others (Pro 3:1-4), and to be healthy (Ex 23:25, Pro 3:1-8, 4:20-22). I am a light in the world (Mt 5:14), and I will strive to be positive (Gal 5:22, Pro 17:22), calm (Pro 14:29), and clear (2Cor 1:17, Pro 6:16-17, Eph 4:15). I will seek wisdom (2Chr 1:11-12, Ps 49:3, Ps 111:10, Pr 8, Pr 12:15, Mt 7:2, Jas 1:5 & 3:17), with humility (Jas 4;10), integrity (Pr 10:9, 19:1), courage (Josh 1:9, 2Sam 10:12, Act 23:11, Jn 16:33), and caring (Mt 9:36, Mk 6:34, Lk 10:33, Lk 15:20). I know You give wisdom (Jas 1:5) and from Your mouth come knowledge and understanding (Pro 2:6), and they are better than gold (Pro 8:10-11), and add years to my life, with peace (Pro 3:2). I understand You feel that deceptive practices are terrible (Pro 11:1 & 20:10 & 23:10), and You hate arrogance, lies, shedding of innocent blood, who creates wicked plans, who does evil, a false witness, and who stirs up trouble between friends (Pro 6:16-19). I will guard my heart (Pr 4:23), thoughts (2Cor 10:5) and words (Pr 21:23, Jas 3:2, Col 4:6), knowing I am fearfully and wonderfully made (Ps 139:14). I will serve in the new way of the Spirit (Ro 7:6, 8:3-4), for nothing can separate me from Your love through Jesus (Ro 8:3-

Lord Jesus, I declare You as my Lord and Savior, and I believe that You were raised from the dead by God (Ro 10:9). With Your crucifixion I put away my old self (Eph 4:22), and I crucify my pride, fear, and desires of the flesh (Gal 5:19-21). With Your resurrection I put on my new self (Eph 4:22-24), with humility (1Pt 5:6), courage (2Cor 5:6 & Php 1:20), and desires of the Spirit (Gal 5:22). I am not condemned (Ro 8:1), but I am justified, redeemed (Ro 3:24), and free (Jn 8:31-36, Ro 8:2, Gal 5:1). With Your ascension I accept my place and power in You (Eph 1:15-23). As challenges arise, I will overcome and have peace in You, knowing you overcame the world (Jn 16:33). I will strive to do what's right (Mt 7:12, Ps 112, Pro 11:1 & 6:16-19) to apply love and discernment (Php 1:9) with humility (1P 5:6, Jas 4:10), and a positive and grateful attitude (1Th 5:18), knowing light dawns in the darkness for the upright (Ps 112). In You I am forgiven (Eph 4:32, JJn 2:12) and I am a citizen of heaven (Php 3:20). I will seek knowledge, understanding (Pro 1:5, 18:15), and competence, in my career (1Cor 7:17) and calling (1Pt 4:10), to pursue an abundant life (Jn 10:10) with riches of grace in kindness in You (Eph 2:7). I will strive to forgive (Eph 4:32), speak life (Pr 18:21), help build others up (Ro 15:2, 1Cor 10:23, 1Th 5:14), be diligent (Pr 12:24, 2Pt 1:10, Mt 28:18-20), and work as if unto the Lord (Col 3:17, 1 Cor 10:31). I know I am a spirit with a soul in a body (1Th 5:23), and I am God's temple for the Holy Spirit (1Cor 3:16 & 6:19).

Holy Spirit I accept your help to guide my choices (Jn 14:26, 16:13, Ro 8:11, Pro 3:3-4, Ro 8:6). Greater is the Holy Spirit in me, than me in the world (1Jn 4:4). I will grow myself and grow in fellowship (Eph 4). I will strive to improve my thoughts, knowledge (2Cor 10:5, Ro 12:2), and emotions (Pro 25:28), being quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger (Jas 1:19), which gives understanding (Pro 14:29, 28:1). I understand the wise are careful but the foolish are careless (Pro 14:16), and desire without knowledge is not good (Pro 19:2). I understand people who hate, stir up anger, but love covers offenses (Pro 10:12). I will strive to be loving, joyful, peaceful, patient, and exercise kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness and self-control (Gal 5:22-23). I will strive to help others as I have opportunity (Gal 6:10) and walk in light (1Jn 1:7), with humility (Eph 4:2, Php 2:3), guided by the golden rule (of caring and honesty Mt 7:12, Lk 6:31) and the silver rule (of personality and circumstance, Col 4:6, 1Cor 9:19-23, Pro 25:11). I am and grateful for my life (1Th 5:18) and the good things to come (Ro 8:28). I am worthy (2Cor 3:5)

I will be strong in the Lord (Eph 6:10) and put on the armor of God (Eph 6:14-17). I know the plans, hands of the diligent bring abundance (Pro 10:4, 21:5), but love of money is the root of many evils (1Tim 6:10). I will strive to not be conformed to the world, but I will be transformed by renewing my mind, discerning God's will (Ro 12:2). I am not fearful, I am powerful, loving, and of a sound mind (2Tim 1:7). I will strive to live with grace and truth (Jn 1:17), make the best use of my time (Eph 5:16), pray, and keep alert with perseverance (Eph 6:18). I am hopeful (Jer 29:11) and capable (Php 4:13), and I will strive to strengthen my faith (Lk 8:15), spirit, mind body (1Tim 4:8, Ro 12:2) and fellowship, and seek the truth (Mt 7:7), and speak the truth in love (Eph 4:13-16). I am loved by God (Jn 3:16, Ro 8:38-39) and Jesus (Jn 13:34, 15:9), and I am blessed (Ps 84:4, Eph 1:3). Great is God's steadfast love and faithfulness (Ps 117). I will love God and others (Mt 22:37-39), be steadfast (Ps 119:5, 1Cor 15:58), proclaim the gospel (Mk 16:15), and help others (Gal 6:10). Father God, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven (Mt 6:10), for your glory (1Cor 10:31). In Jesus' name I pray (Eph 5:20). Amen.

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10 KEY CHRISTIAN BELIEFS

God is Real: Quantum Physics has some strong evidence of a spiritual world. Consider the quantum theories of unpredictability, tunneling, entanglement, decoherance, and the unified field. Science claims that our universe is expanding, which means there was a point, back in time, when it came into existence from nothing... God spoke the world into existence (Genesis 1). Our universe has many natural laws that are fine-tuned, like gravity, and other cosmological constants that are evidence of intelligent design. Consider that the earth is the perfect distance from the sun to support advanced life forms, and it is placed in the Milky Way Galaxy to be able to study the universe... The heavens declare the glory of God and the sky shows His handywork (Psalm 19:1). Check the Hubble telescope photos. The Bible is God's Word: Respectable historians do not disclaim the credibility of the Bible as a historical document. When compared to other historical documents the Bible is accurate and very admired, copied and shared often... All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for doctrine, reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness (2 Tim 3:16). Search a digital King James Bible for phrases "the LORD said," "saith the LORD," "said the LORD," "God said," and "the word of the LORD," and you will find more than 1,200 verses. Jesus is the Son of God: No respectable historian denies the life of Jesus, some only dispute whether Jesus is truly the Son of God. The Old Testament has many prophesies of Jesus (Isa 7:14 / Mt 1:23; Mic 5:2 / Lk 2:4-7; Isa 53:3 / Jn 1:11; Ps 22:16 / Mt 27:35; Isa 53:12 / Mk 15:27). Jesus declared He is the Son of God (Jn 6:38-40, 10:36-38, and 17:1). Just as important, the Bible has many key characters who claimed Jesus is the Son of God including God (Mt 3:17 and 17:5, Mk 1:11 and 9:7), an angel (Lk 1:35), John the Baptist (Jn 1:29), disciples of Jesus (Mk 1:1 and Jn 1:49), demons Jesus rebuked (Mt 8:29, Mk 3:11 and 5:7, Lk 4:41 and 8:28), and a Centurion at the crucifixion of Jesus, "Truly this man was the Son of God" (Mk 15:39). It seems the devil knew Jesus is the Son of God, but unlike the demons Jesus rebuked, he phrased it as a question (Mt 4:3 and 4:6, and Lk 4:3 and 4:9), to try and plant a seed of doubt in His identity, as the devil does with people to this day. The people who wrote the New Testament were a brother of Jesus, eyewitnesses to the life of Jesus, the Apostle Paul, or a writer for one of them. Paul received a personal visitation from Jesus and wrote most of the Epistles. The Holy Spirit is Our Helper: After Jesus fulfilled His destiny to be the final sacrifice for us (Ro 5:19), He fulfilled the Old Covenant (Mt 5:17) and ascended to heaven (Mk 16:19), so we could receive the Holy Spirit, to teach us (Jn 14:26) and help us (Jn 16:7). We Are made in God's Image: God created man and woman in His image (Gen 1:26) as a spirit, with a soul, in a body (1 Thess 5:23), with a spirit not of fear but of power, love, and a sound mind (2 Tim 1:7). This fuels our inner worker/warrior, lover, and thinker. We are to glorify God (1 Cor 6:20), love God, and love others (Mt 22:37-39). God spoke the world into existence (Gen 1) and we have the power of death and life in our words (Pro 18:21). Evolution is based on survival of the fittest, however, it claims all advanced life forms evolved from a simple self-replicating organism. Going from self-replicating to a male and female who need each other to reproduce is not survival of the fittest. Over two thousand years ago, well before the microscope, Moses wrote that God made humans from dust of the earth and His breath of life (Genesis 2:7). Modern science has proven that humans are made from natural elements found on earth, mostly oxygen, carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen, and calcium. Unfortunately, Adam and Eve's free will introduced sin into the world (Gen 3). We Have Free Will: Not only are we made in God's image, He gave us dominion over the earth (Gen 1:27-28). Though we have the Holy Spirit to help us and guide us, our desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, including lust, anger, and idolatry (Gal 5:17-23). We also have spiritual adversaries (Eph 6:12 and 1 Pt 5:8) who stir up our desires of the flesh, with temptations (Gen 3:1-7, Mt 4:1-11), lies (Jn 8:44), deceptions, and accusations (Rev 12:9-10). We have power to resist our flesh and adversaries (Gal 5:16, Job, Jas 4:7). Fear not who can kill the body but not the soul (Mt 10:28). God can do anything, but He gave humans power on earth (Gen 1:28). Human sin is why God sent the great flood (Gen 6:12-13). We are not our emotions and thoughts, we are what we do with them (Gal 5:16-26, Ro 12:2). God Offers Us Salvation Through Jesus as a Gift of Grace: Everyone is a sinner (Ro 3:23) and God is not partial (Ro 2:11). God is over all, through all, and in all (Eph 4:6). By grace you are saved, through faith, not your doing, it is the gift of God (Eph 2:8). God sent Jesus to fulfill the law for us (Mt 5:17). God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, and who believes in Him will have eternal life (Jn 3:16). Declare Jesus is Lord and believe He was resurrected, and you will be saved (Ro 10:9). People from all nations will be in heaven (Rev 7:9). We Are to Be More Like Jesus and Share the Good News of the Gospel: We are called into fellowship with Jesus (1 Cor 1:9) and sanctification by the Spirit and belief in truth (2 Thess 2:13). Love (Mt 22:37-40), pray (Eph 6:18), praise God (Ps 117), worship God (Lk 4:8), fellowship with others (1 Jn 1:7, Pro 27:17), and forgive (Lk 17:3-4, Eph 4:32). Put on the armor of God (Eph 6:14-17), guard your heart (Pro 4:23, Pro 21:2), thoughts (2 Cor 10:5, Ro 8:5-6, 12:2), words (Pro 18:21, Mt 12:36), and yourself (Lk 22:36). God hates arrogance, lies, murder, wicked plans, people who do evil, a false witness, and people who divide others (Pro 6:16-19). Many Bible stories are warnings about sinful human nature, and about overcoming it. We will have challenges in the world, but Jesus overcame the world (Jn 16:33). Nothing can separate us from the love of God through Christ Jesus our Lord (Ro 8:37-39). Go into all the world and proclaim the Gospel (Mk 16:15). The Old Testament is about the law, and the New Testament is about love (Jn 1:17, 3:16. Ro 8:38-39) We Are to Love God and Love Others: Love God and love others as yourself (Mt 22:37-40). Love God and all things work out (Ro 8:28). Love casts out fear. We love because God first loved us (1 Jn 4:18-19). Love endures and is kind, it doesn't envy, brag, behave badly, or think evil, it's not arrogant, selfish, or easily angered, but rejoices in truth (1 Cor 13:4). The greatest is love (1 Cor 13:13). We Are Designed as Creators to Help Others and Live a Good Life: We are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works that God ordained for us (Eph 2:10). We have specific gifts, and a calling, to help each other (Eph 4:11-16, 1 Pt 4:10, 1 Cor 7:17). Do to others as you would have done to you (Mt 7:12). The wise seek knowledge (Pro 18:15) and are careful, but the foolish are careless (Pro 14:16). Christians are to live in the new way of the Spirit not in the old way of the letter (Ro 7:6). Jesus gives us a better covenant (Hb 8:6). No one is justified by the law, but by faith in Jesus (Gal 2:16). Repent (Mk 1:15) and confess your sins (1 Jn 1:9). Be humble (1 Pt 5:6), honest (Pro 6:16-19), and helpful (Gal 6:2). Do not be conformed to the world but renew your mind (Ro 12:2), think (Php 4:8) carefully (2 Cor 10:5), be diligent (Pro 10:4 and 21:5), content (Php 4:11, 1 Tim 6:10), and be united (1 Cor 1:10, 1 Pt 3:8). Share the Gospel (Mk 16:15), teach others, and baptize them in the name of the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit (Mt 28:19). Do not be weary, we will reap in due season (Gal 6:9). Be ready to humbly explain the reason for your hope (1 Pt 3:15). Being slow to anger gives understanding (Pro 14:29).



20 KEY BIBLE CHARACTERS AND STORY HIGHLIGHTS

Like us, key characters in the Bible had strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, challenges, and had the same human nature. Adam and Eve: Adam was created by God from the dust of the earth and breathed life into him. God placed Adam in the Garden of Eden where He created Eve. The serpent manipulated Eve's ego, as Adam passively watched nearby, and they ate the forbidden fruit, which unleashed sin into the world. They had a troubled child who committed a terrible sin. Genesis 1:26... **Noah**: Built the Ark that saved his family and animals from the great flood, that God sent because of so much human corruption. God created the rainbow as a sign of His promise that He would never flood the earth again. He liked wine. Genesis 5:29... Abram/Abraham: Was a faithful and successful man with family challenges. He had a tough conversation with his nephew, Lot, to seek peace between their people. Later, Abraham risked all, in a battle to save Lot. His wife Sarah struggled to conceive, and told Abraham to have a child with her maid, Hagar. When Hagar gave birth to Ishmael she had contempt for Sarah, which led Sarah to deal harshly with her. Sarah finally gave birth to Isaac. God blessed both children. Abraham was tested by God. Genesis 11:27... Jacob/Israel: Was a quiet man who stayed with the tents. His jealousy of his brother Esau (a skilled hunter) made Esau want to kill him, but their mom intervened. Jacob deceived his father, Isaac, and was later deceived by his father-in-law, Laban. Jacob served Laban for many years and grew their wealth over time. Jacob wrestled with God, and reconciled with Esau. Genesis 25:26... Joseph: Was the favored younger son of Jacob. Joseph gave his father a bad report of his brothers, and told his family of a dream where they bowed to him. Most of his brothers hated him, and sold him as a slave. Joseph was wrongfully imprisoned for sexual assault. His humility, honesty, and diligence got him released, and became a high government official. A famine came over the land and Joseph's brothers came to buy food, and they bowed to Joseph, and later reconciled with him. Genesis 30:24... Moses: Orphaned as a child and adopted by the Queen of Egypt, and learned the ways of the Egyptian royal family, during the time the Jewish people were enslaved by Egypt. Moses killed an Egyptian and fled. He reluctantly answered the call from God to go back and convince the Pharaoh of Egypt to free the Jewish people. He grew his faith as he served. He led his people out of Egypt, and parted the Red Sea. He received the Ten Commandments leading the people through the wilderness. Exodus 2:1... Ruth: Had a strong connection with her mother-in-law, Naomi (who became a widow). When Ruth's husband (Naomi's son) died, Naomi decided to go back to Israel, and Ruth went with her. Naomi helped Ruth remarry to a successful businessman. Ruth 1... David: The younger son of Jesse, was a shepherd for his family's sheep, and practiced a lot with his sling shot. David was anointed to be the next King of Israel, despite his father's unbelief. David became an unexpected hero after he killed the giant Goliath, who defied the army of Israel. He became a successful army leader, but King Saul became jealous and tried to kill him. David eventually became a successful King. But, he made some terrible choices, and one of his sons tried to take his throne. 1 Samuel 16:1... Solomon: Was asked by God what he wanted, and he just asked for wisdom to lead his people well. God gave him more than wisdom. His wisdom resulted in much love and respect. He wrote the Song of Solomon and finished God's temple. 1 Kings 1:11... Nehemiah: Gave up a good life directly serving King Artaxerxes to go back to Jerusalem to help rebuild it. He became a leader and convinced other leaders to stop taking advantage of their own people. He had to avoid traps from tribal enemies. Nehemiah 1... Esther: Served King Ahasuerus. She learned that a King's official, Haman, planned to kill all the Jewish people. She risked her life to stop the plan. Haman ended up hanging from the gallows that he constructed to hang Mordecai, the Jew. Esther 1... Job: A faithful, righteous, and successful man, who had many sudden tragedies that took his children, health, and wealth. His wife told him to curse God and die. His friends said he must have done something to deserve the tragedies. Job stayed faithful to God after many tough talks, but he did regret being born. God finally said Job didn't deserve the tragedies, and restored him. Job 1... Isaiah: Claimed many prophecies about Jesus. Like other prophets, he had some weird behaviors, held the Kings, Priests, and the people accountable, and was often hated for it. He constantly called on people to worship God, not idols. Isaiah 1... Daniel: A wise and faithful man who fearlessly honored God while he served a few different kings, over time. At one point, some of the King's officials were jealous of Daniel and had him thrown into a lion's den, but God delivered him unharmed. Daniel 1... Jesus: Faithful, humble, and courageous Son of God. He loved, cried, got angry, and spent time alone to pray. As He mentored disciples, taught, loved, and healed people, He grew a large following. As He claimed to be the Son of God and forgave people of their sins, it angered religious leaders, and they demanded the local authorities crucify Him. God raised Jesus from the dead after three days. He went to heaven soon after, and God sent us the Holy Spirit. Jesus redeemed humanity and paid for our sins, as the final sacrifice, fulfilling the Old Covenant. Jesus offers us the New Covenant, a new life, of eternity with God. The Gospels... Mary and Joseph: Faithful parents of Jesus. Both were told about Jesus by an angel, but they humbly brought Jesus into the world. As a kid, Jesus strayed from them, and they found him three days later. Joseph taught Jesus carpentry skills. The Gospels... Simon/Peter: Part of the inner circle of Jesus. He said and did things without thinking. When the religious leaders brought soldiers to arrest Jesus, Peter drew his sword and fought for Jesus, but Jesus stopped him. After Jesus was arrested, Peter went to find out what they were going to do with him, and people recognized Peter, but he denied knowing Jesus, three times. Jesus forgave him. Saul/Paul: Was a religious leader who persecuted Christians, until Jesus called on him. Most of the disciples did not first believe he converted. He served with humility and courage, despite being beaten and stoned. Traveled extensively to share the Gospel. Survived a shipwreck and the locals claimed he was blessed, then cursed, then blessed. He wrote much of the New Testament.



CLOSING THOUGHTS

I have found it very helpful to get into a habit of reading the Bible regularly, especially a "Study Bible" There are general study Bibles based on a specific Bible translation, that help explain specific verses, like the English Standard Version (ESV) Study Bible. There are study Bibles specifically for men, women, teens, students, and for many different careers, that offer insightful comments on verses. Other helpful study Bibles include the Apologetics Study Bible that provides many articles that help explain and defend the Christian faith, and the Life Application Study Bible.

I believe the core of Christian doctrine can be found in the Nicene Creed. It's my understanding the Nicene Creed is a public domain document. It's my understanding that it was created in the early 300's by the Council of Nicaea, and updated in the late 300's by the Council of Constantinople, because some church leaders were teaching some interesting things that were not mainstream beliefs at the time. I noticed different versions of the Nicene Creed online. The key points of the Nicene Creed include belief in one God, the maker of heaven and earth. Belief in the Lord, Jesus Christ, the Only Son of God, who, for our salvation, came to earth as a man, was crucified, died, and was buried. On the third day God raised Him from the dead, and He ascended into heaven to be with God. Jesus Christ will come again, with glory, and judge all people on earth, and bring heaven to earth. Belief in the Holy Spirit, who is worshipped and glorified, and has spoken through the Prophets. Belief in one holy united Christian Church, and one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

I believe there are guarantees in life including opportunities, challenges, and choices. When we gain new knowledge it helps us to better manage our opportunities and challenges, and make better choices. I also believe there are shortcuts in life, when we gain knowledge from others, that can save us years of trial and error on our own. While there is no shortcut for actually doing the necessary work, there are ways to work smarter and quicker, which I consider shortcuts. Beware of the desires of the flesh and negative emotions, especially arrogant pride and fear, as pride tempts us to do things we should not do, and fear tempts us to not do things we should. Other key negative emotions include envy, hate, and shame. Envy can lead to pride or fear. Pride, fear, and envy all tempt us with anger, which can lead to hate. Shame is also a core negative emotion that tempts us to think less of ourself and embrace limiting beliefs. The keys to these negative emotions are humility, courage, gratitude, love, and peace. Beware of our spiritual adversaries who stir up our negative emotions. More about them in the Christian Wisdom Guide, Situation/Adversaries/Other Forces section.

Consider the story where Jesus told Simon (Peter) to go to deep water and cast out his net to catch fish. Simon responded that they had already fished all night and caught nothing, but he would do as Jesus said anyway. The result was a large catch of fish (Luke 5:3-6). We all have much to learn, especially from the Bible and the Holy Triune, but also from each other, Iron sharpens iron (Proverbs 27:17), and ourselves. We can also increase our personal reasoning and resourcefulness by asking better questions, more often. Replace questions that start with "Why can't I...?" with, "How can I...?" Do not be conformed to the world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind (Romans 12:2). It is comforting to know that God knows the thoughts and desires of all people (Psalm 139:2 & 139:23, Proverbs 15:3 & 21:2, and 1 John 3:20,) and that He will eventually judge everyone (Romans 14:10-12, 1 Corinthians 4:5, 2 Corinthians 5:10, and Revelation 22:12). If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved (Romans 10:9).

God made you in His image (Genesis 1:27), and loves you... God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life (John 3:16). For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous (Romans 5:19). For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord (Romans 8:38-39). By God's grace you are saved through faith, not by your doing, it is the gift of God (Ephesians 2:8). Beloved, if God so loved us, we should love others (1 John 4:11).

I've spent many years putting together the documents that make this publication, and designing the website https://keyBibleVerses.org, where this publication is freely given, and there is much more helpful information including a page with links to Christian resources, and church resources. If you have family or friends who might find this helpful, please share it with them. That website also has more helpful information about the Bible and Christianity. If you found this book helpful, please consider letting me know, through the contact page on my website, and don't forget to link to the website and most of all, share this book and the website with people who might find it helpful. You can also find a lot of helpful information at https://AnewTrek.com, where I have lists of great resources for personal, professional, leadership, and business, growth. I hope this document helps your spiritual growth, to build a better life, and help those around you.

The LORD bless you and keep you;

The LORD make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you;

The LORD lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace (Numbers 6:24-26).

Live, Learn, and Love

With grace and truth the better our lives will be. Individually and collectively, apply them and see.

With courage and caring the more we know. Individually and collectively, apply them and grow.

With technology comes power, with humanity comes love. Both are needed to rise above.

- Jason A. Krause

