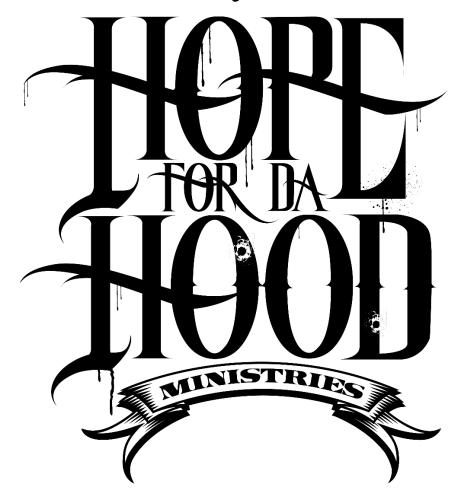
21 Days of Prayer

January 2024



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Date	Topic
1/1/24	Wisdom & Understanding
1/2/24	Salvation
1/3/24	Strength & Power
1/4/24	Forgiveness
1/5/24	Children
1/8/24	Sin
1/9/24	Thoughts
1/10/24	Endurance
1/11/24	Faith
1/12/24	Worship
1/15/24	Marriage
1/16/24	Fruits of the Spirit
1/17/24	Lust
1/18/24	Obedience
1/19/24	Church Attendance
1/22/24	Healing
1/23/24	Serving
1/24/24	Success
1/25/24	Gifts
1/26/24	Money
1/28/24	Respect

Focus: Wisdom and Understanding

Wisdom Bible verses unlock the keys to gaining wisdom in your Christian walk; therefore, as Christians, we can gain knowledge through the study of God's word. Find out what the Lord has to say about gaining knowledge and wisdom in your life.

Scripture:

Job 12:12 Wisdom is with aged men, And with length of days, understanding.

<u>Psalm 37:30</u> The mouth of the righteous speaks wisdom, And his tongue talks of justice.

<u>Proverbs 1:7</u> The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of knowledge, *But* fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Proverbs 3:7 Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the LORD and depart from evil.

<u>Proverbs 4:6-7</u> Do not forsake her, and she will preserve you; Love her, and she will keep you. ⁷ Wisdom *is* the principal thing; *Therefore* get wisdom. And in all your getting, get understanding.

Provers 13:1 A wise son *heeds* his father's instruction, But a scoffer does not listen to rebuke.

Ecclesiastes 2:26 For *God* gives wisdom and knowledge and joy to a man who *is* good in His sight; but to the sinner He gives the work of gathering and collecting, that he may give to *him* who *is* good before God. This also *is* vanity and grasping for the wind.

<u>1 Corinthians 1:25</u> Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

<u>Colossians 2:2-3</u> that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, and *attaining* to all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the knowledge of the mystery of God, both of the Father and of Christ, ³ in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

<u>James 1:5</u> If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

<u>James 3:17</u> But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy.

Focus: Salvation

Salvation through Jesus Christ is the main topic in the New Testament of the Bible. The Bible covers topics relating to salvation, sin, repentance, forgiveness, and others that help provide biblical guidance for Christians to follow.

Scripture:

<u>Isaiah 57:12</u> I will declare your righteousness And your works, For they will not profit you.

Matthew 8:18-22 And when Jesus saw great multitudes about Him, He gave a command to depart to the other side. ¹⁹ Then a certain scribe came and said to Him, "Teacher, I will follow You wherever You go." ²⁰ And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes and birds of the air *have* nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay *His* head." ²¹ Then another of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, let me first go and bury my father." ²² But Jesus said to him, "Follow Me, and let the dead bury their own dead."

<u>Matthew 19:25-26</u> When His disciples heard *it*, they were greatly astonished, saying, "Who then can be saved?" ²⁶ But Jesus looked at *them* and said to them, "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

<u>Luke 3:8</u> Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as *our* father.' For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones.

Romans 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Romans 8:38-39 For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

<u>Romans 10:9-10</u> that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Philippians 3:4-11 though I also might have confidence in the flesh. If anyone else thinks he may have confidence in the flesh, I more so: ⁵ circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, *of* the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of the Hebrews; concerning the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ concerning zeal, persecuting the church; concerning the righteousness which is in the law, blameless. ⁷ But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. ⁸ Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which *is* from the law, but that which *is* through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; ¹⁰ that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, ¹¹ if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

<u>Hebrews 7:25</u> Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

<u>Revelation 22:17</u> And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.

Focus: Forgiveness

Read passages that offer biblical guidance on forgiveness and how important it is to forgive others as we have been forgiven by the blood of Christ. Read Bible quotes from the Holy Bible about forgiveness concerning God, Jesus Christ, and the Christian faith.

Scripture:

Numbers 14:19-21 Pardon the iniquity of this people, I pray, according to the greatness of Your mercy, just as You have forgiven this people, from Egypt even until now." ²⁰ Then the LORD said: "I have pardoned, according to your word; ²¹ but truly, as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD—

<u>Psalms 103:10</u> He has not dealt with us according to our sins, Nor punished us according to our iniquities.

<u>Psalms 103:12</u> As far as the east is from the west, *So* far has He removed our transgressions from us.

<u>Isaiah 1:18</u> "Come now, and let us reason together," Says the LORD, "Though your sins are like scarlet, They shall be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They shall be as wool.

<u>Isaiah 43:25-26</u> "I, even I, am He who blots out your transgressions for My own sake;

And I will not remember your sins. 26 Put Me in remembrance; Let us contend together;

State your case, that you may be acquitted.

<u>Daniel 9:9</u> To the Lord our God *belong* mercy and forgiveness, though we have rebelled against Him.

<u>Micah 7:18-19</u> Who is a God like You, Pardoning iniquity and passing over the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He does not retain His anger forever, Because He delights in mercy. 19 He will again have compassion on us, And will subdue our iniquities.

Matthew 6:9-15 In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. 10 Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven. 11 Give us this day our daily bread. 12 And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors. 13 And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen. 14 "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. 15 But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

<u>Matthew 18:21-22</u> Then Peter came to Him and said, "Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?" ²² Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.

<u>Matthew 26:28</u> For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

<u>Mark 11:25</u> "And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses.

<u>Luke 17:1</u> Then He said to the disciples, "It is impossible that no offenses should come, but woe *to him* through whom they do come!

Acts 3:19 Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord,

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

Ephesians 1:7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace

<u>Colossians 1:13-14</u> He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed *us* into the kingdom of the Son of His love, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

Hebrews 10:17 then He adds, "Their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more."

<u>James 5:16</u> Confess *your* trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Focus: Children

Read verses about how children are a blessing from God and other children-related topics such as parents, family, faith, and death. Read verses from the Holy Bible about children concerning God, Jesus Christ, and the Christian faith.

Scripture:

<u>Genesis 33:5</u> And he lifted his eyes and saw the women and children, and said, "Who *are* these with you?" So he said, "The children whom God has graciously given your servant."

<u>Exodus 20:5-6</u> You shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, *am* a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth *generations* of those who hate Me, ⁶ but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.

Exodus 20:12 "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the LORD your God is giving you.

<u>Deuteronomy 6:7</u> You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.

<u>Deuteronomy 11:19</u> You shall teach them to your children, speaking of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.

<u>Psalms 8:2</u> Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants You have ordained strength, Because of Your enemies, That You may silence the enemy and the avenger.

<u>Psalms 113:9</u> He grants the barren woman a home, Like a joyful mother of children. Praise the LORD!

<u>Psalms 127:3-5</u> Behold, children *are* a heritage from the LORD, The fruit of the womb *is* a reward. ⁴ Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, So *are* the children of one's youth. ⁵ Happy *is* the man who has his quiver full of them; They shall not be ashamed, But shall speak with their enemies in the gate.

<u>Proverbs 1:8-9</u> My son, hear the instruction of your father, And do not forsake the law of your mother; ⁹ For they *will be* a graceful ornament on your head, And chains about your neck.

<u>Proverbs 22:6</u> Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it.

<u>Proverbs 22:15</u> Foolishness *is* bound up in the heart of a child; The rod of correction will drive it far from him.

<u>Matthew 18:2-6</u> Then Jesus called a little child to Him, set him in the midst of them, ³ and said, "Assuredly, I say to you, unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ Therefore whoever humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. ⁵ Whoever receives one little child like this in My name receives Me. ⁶ "But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea.

<u>Matthew 18:10</u> "Take heed that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that in heaven their angels always see the face of My Father who is in heaven.

<u>Matthew 21:15-16</u> But when the chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things that He did, and the children crying out in the temple and saying, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" they were indignant ¹⁶ and said to Him, "Do You hear what these are saying?"And Jesus said to them, "Yes. Have you never read, 'Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants You have perfected praise'?"

<u>Mark 9:36-37</u> Then He took a little child and set him in the midst of them. And when He had taken him in His arms, He said to them, ³⁷ "Whoever receives one of these little children in My name receives Me; and whoever receives Me, receives not Me but Him who sent Me."

<u>Mark 10:13-16</u> Then they brought little children to Him, that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought *them*. ¹⁴ But when Jesus saw *it*, He was greatly displeased and said to them, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. ¹⁵ Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it." ¹⁶ And He took them up in His arms, laid *His* hands on them, and blessed them.

<u>Ephesians 6:1-4</u> Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. ² "Honor your father and mother," which is the first commandment with promise: ³ "that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth." ⁴ And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.

<u>Colossians 3:20</u> Children, obey your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing to the Lord.

<u>1Peter 2:2-3</u> as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby, ³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord *is* gracious.

Focus: Sin

Seven of the deadly sins listed in the Bible are Pride, Envy, Gluttony, Lust, Anger, Greed, and Sloth, but the Bible covers topics relating to sin, repentance, forgiveness, salvation, and others that help provide biblical guidance for Christians to follow and to resist the temptation of sin.

Scripture:

Genesis 4:4-7 Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the LORD respected Abel and his offering, ⁵ but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell. ⁶ So the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen? ⁷ If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire *is* for you, but you should rule over it."

Judges 8:31-35 And his concubine who was in Shechem also bore him a son, whose name he called Abimelech. ³² Now Gideon the son of Joash died at a good old age, and was buried in the tomb of Joash his father, in Ophrah of the Abiezrites. ³³ So it was, as soon as Gideon was dead, that the children of Israel again played the harlot with the Baals, and made Baal-Berith their god. ³⁴ Thus the children of Israel did not remember the LORD their God, who had delivered them from the hands of all their enemies on every side; ³⁵ nor did they show kindness to the house of Jerubbaal (Gideon) in accordance with the good he had done for Israel.

<u>Psalms 19:13-14</u> Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous *sins;* Let them not have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, And I shall be innocent of great transgression. ¹⁴ Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart Be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my strength and my Redeemer.

Psalms 119:25-29 My soul clings to the dust; Revive me according to Your word.

²⁶ I have declared my ways, and You answered me; Teach me Your statutes. ²⁷ Make me understand the way of Your precepts; So shall I meditate on Your wonderful works.

²⁸ My soul melts from heaviness; Strengthen me according to Your word. ²⁹ Remove from me the way of lying, And grant me Your law graciously.

Proverbs 5:1-22 My son, pay attention to my wisdom; Lend your ear to my understanding, ² That you may preserve discretion, And your lips may keep knowledge. ³ For the lips of an immoral woman drip honey, And her mouth *is* smoother than oil; ⁴ But in the end she is bitter as wormwood, Sharp as a two-edged sword. ⁵ Her feet go down to death, Her steps lay hold of hell. ⁶ Lest you ponder *her* path of life— Her ways are unstable; You do not know *them.* ⁷ Therefore hear me now, *my* children, And do not depart from the words of my mouth. ⁸ Remove your way far from her, And do not go near the door of her house, ⁹ Lest you give your honor to others, And your years to the cruel *one*; ¹⁰ Lest aliens be filled with your wealth, And your labors *go* to the house of a foreigner; ¹¹ And you mourn at last, When your flesh and your body are consumed, ¹² And say: "How I have hated instruction, And my heart despised correction! ¹³ I have not

obeyed the voice of my teachers, Nor inclined my ear to those who instructed me! ¹⁴ I was on the verge of total ruin, In the midst of the assembly and congregation." ¹⁵ Drink water from your own cistern, And running water from your own well. ¹⁶ Should your fountains be dispersed abroad, Streams of water in the streets? ¹⁷ Let them be only your own, And not for strangers with you. ¹⁸ Let your fountain be blessed, And rejoice with the wife of your youth. ¹⁹ As a loving deer and a graceful doe, Let her breasts satisfy you at all times; And always be enraptured with her love. ²⁰ For why should you, my son, be enraptured by an immoral woman, And be embraced in the arms of a seductress? ²¹ For the ways of man *are* before the eyes of the LORD, And He ponders all his paths. ²² His own iniquities entrap the wicked *man*, And he is caught in the cords of his sin.

<u>Proverbs 28:13</u> He who covers his sins will not prosper, But whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy.

<u>Isaiah 40:28-31</u> Have you not known? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, the Lord, The Creator of the ends of the earth, Neither faints nor is weary. His understanding is unsearchable. 29 He gives power to the weak, And to those who have no might He increases strength. 30 Even the youths shall faint and be weary, And the young men shall utterly fall, 31 But those who wait on the Lord Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.

<u>Isaiah 64:6</u> But we are all like an unclean *thing*, And all our righteousnesses *are* like ^[b] filthy rags;

We all fade as a leaf, And our iniquities, like the wind, Have taken us away.

<u>Jeremiah 3:14</u> "Return, O backsliding children," says the LORD; "for I am married to you. I will take you, one from a city and two from a family, and I will bring you to Zion. ¹⁵ And I will give you shepherds according to My heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding.

<u>Matthew 23:23-24</u> "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone. 24 Blind guides, who strain out a gnat and swallow a camel!

John 4:10-14 Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water." 11 The woman said to Him, "Sir, You have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep. Where then do You get that living water? 12 Are You greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, as well as his sons and his livestock?" 13 Jesus answered and said to her, "Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, 14 but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life."

Romans 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

<u>Galatians 5:19-21</u> Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, 20 idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, 21 envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

<u>Colossians 3:5-6</u> Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. ⁶ Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience,

<u>James 4:17</u> Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do *it*, to him it is sin.

<u>1 John 1:7-9</u> But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸ If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Focus: Thoughts

Sinful thoughts are often something we believers struggle with. Sometimes we have no control over what thoughts enter our minds. However, we can take control of these thoughts. God's words help us to recognize our thoughts for what they really are and how to act (or not act) upon them. Use these Bible verses to help control your thoughts in a way God encourages us to.

Scripture:

Proverbs 3:5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding;

<u>Proverbs 4:23</u> Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it *spring* the issues of life.

<u>Proverbs 23:8</u> The morsel you have eaten, you will vomit up, And waste your pleasant words.

<u>Proverbs 28:26</u> He who trusts in his own heart is a fool, But whoever walks wisely will be delivered.

<u>Isaiah 11:3-4</u> His delight *is* in the fear of the LORD, And He shall not judge by the sight of His eyes, Nor decide by the hearing of His ears; ⁴ But with righteousness He shall judge the poor, And decide with equity for the meek of the earth; He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, And with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked.

<u>Jeremiah 33:3</u> Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and [b]mighty things, which you do not know.'

Matthew 12:43-45 ⁴³ "When an unclean spirit goes out of a man, he goes through dry places, seeking rest, and finds none. ⁴⁴ Then he says, 'I will return to my house from which I came.' And when he comes, he finds *it* empty, swept, and put in order. ⁴⁵ Then he goes and takes with him seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter and dwell there; and the last *state* of that man is worse than the first. So shall it also be with this wicked generation."

<u>Matthew 15:11</u> Not what goes into the mouth defiles a man; but what comes out of the mouth, this defiles a man."

Matthew 21:22 And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive."

Romans 1:28 And even as they did not like to retain God in *their* knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting;

Romans 7:25 I thank God—through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with the mind I myself serve the law of God, but with the flesh the law of sin.

<u>Romans 12:2</u> And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

<u>2 Corinthians 10:5</u> casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,

Ephesians 4:22-32 that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, 23 and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, 24 and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness. 25 Therefore, putting away lying, "Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor," for we are members of one another. 26 "Be angry, and do not sin": do not let the sun go down on your wrath, 27 nor give [g]place to the devil. 28 Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need. 29 Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary [h]edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers. 30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. 31 Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. 32 And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.

Philippians 4:8 Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things *are* noble, whatever things *are* just, whatever things *are* pure, whatever things *are* lovely, whatever things *are* of good report, if *there is* any virtue and if *there is* anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.

<u>Colossians 3:2-5</u> Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. ³ For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ *who is* our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory. ⁵ Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

<u>2 Timothy 1:7</u> For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

1 John 1:8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

Focus: Endurance

Let these Bible verses inspire you to proceed through whatever challenges you may face in life. Let them help you gain endurance for endurance leads to growth in character and hope.

Scripture:

<u>Romans 2:7</u> eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honor, and immortality;

<u>Romans 5:3</u> And not only *that,* but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance;

Romans 12:12 rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer;

<u>Romans 15:5</u> Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like-minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus,

<u>Romans 15:13</u> Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

<u>1 Corinthians 10:13-14</u> No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God *is* faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear *it*. ¹⁴ Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry.

Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

<u>Colossians 1:11</u> strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy;

2 Timothy 2:3 You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.

<u>Hebrews 10:36</u> For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise:

<u>Hebrews 12:2</u> looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

<u>James 1:2-3</u> My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, ³ knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.

<u>James 1:25</u> But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues *in it,* and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.

Focus: Faith

Read scriptures that offer guidance, support, and encouragement on subjects dealing with faith, such as Christian faith, faith in healing, faith in prayer, faith in others, and hope. Read verses from the Holy Bible about faith concerning God, Jesus Christ, and the Christian faith.

Scripture:

<u>Habakkuk 2:4</u> "Behold the proud, His soul is not upright in him; But the just shall live by his faith.

<u>Matthew 9:2</u> Then behold, they brought to Him a paralytic lying on a bed. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, be of good cheer; your sins are forgiven you."

<u>Matthew 14:31</u> And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him, and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?"

<u>Matthew 15:28</u> Then Jesus answered and said to her, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire." And her daughter was healed from that very hour.

<u>Matthew 17:20</u> So Jesus said to them, "Because of your [e]unbelief; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.

<u>Matthew 21:21</u> So Jesus answered and said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith and do not doubt, you will not only do what was done to the fig tree, but also if you say to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' it will be done.

<u>Luke 17:6</u> So the Lord said, "If you have faith as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be pulled up by the roots and be planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

<u>John 14:12</u> "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater *works* than these he will do, because I go to My Father.

Acts 26:18 to open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified[d] by faith in Me.'

Romans 10:17 So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

<u>1 Corinthians 2:5</u> that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

- <u>1 Corinthians 13:2</u> And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing.
- <u>1 Corinthians 15:14-17</u> And if Christ is not risen, then our preaching is empty and your faith is also empty. 15 Yes, and we are found false witnesses of God, because we have testified of God that He raised up Christ, whom He did not raise up—if in fact the dead do not rise. 16 For if the dead do not rise, then Christ is not risen. 17 And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins!
- <u>1 Corinthians 16:13</u> Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong. 14 Let all that you do be done with love.
- <u>2 Corinthians 1:24</u> Not that we have dominion over your faith, but are fellow workers for your joy; for by faith you stand.
- <u>2 Corinthians 5:7</u> For we walk by faith, not by sight.
- <u>Galatians 5:5</u> For we through the Spirit eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness by faith.
- **Ephesians 2:8** For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God,
- **Ephesians 6:16** above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.
- <u>1Thessalonians 1:3</u> remembering without ceasing your work of faith, labor of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the sight of our God and Father,
- <u>1 Thessalonians 3:7</u> therefore, brethren, in all our affliction and distress we were comforted concerning you by your faith.
- <u>1 Timothy 6:11</u> But you, O man of God, flee these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness.
- **2 Timothy 4:7** I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.
- <u>Hebrews 10:22</u> let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.
- Hebrews 11:1-39 Please look this passage up and read it to the end.
- <u>Hebrews 12:2</u> looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

<u>James 1:3</u> knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.

<u>1 Peter 1:5-9</u> who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. 6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been [c]grieved by various trials, 7 that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, 8 whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, 9 receiving the end of your faith—the salvation of your souls.

<u>1 Peter 1:21</u> who through Him believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

<u>1 Peter 5:9</u> Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.

<u>1 John 5:4</u> For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.

Focus: Worship

Focus your mind and heart on God with these verses and let your praise go up. Jesus said we are to worship in Spirit and truth, and these verses will help you do that.

Scripture:

Exodus 20:2-6 "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. 3 "You shall have no other gods before Me. 4 "You shall not make for yourself a carved image—any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; 5 you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, 6 but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.

<u>Deuteronomy 29:18</u> so that there may not be among you man or woman or family or tribe, whose heart turns away today from the Lord our God, to go and serve the gods of these nations, and that there may not be among you a root bearing bitterness or wormwood;

<u>1 Samuel 15:22</u> So Samuel said: "Has the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, As in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, And to heed than the fat of rams.

2 Kings 17:38-39 And the covenant that I have made with you, you shall not forget, nor shall you fear other gods. 39 But the Lord your God you shall fear; and He will deliver you from the hand of all your enemies."

<u>1 Chronicles 16:23-31</u> Sing to the Lord, all the earth; Proclaim the good news of His salvation from day to day. 24 Declare His glory among the nations, His wonders among all peoples. 25 For the Lord is great and greatly to be praised; He is also to be feared above all gods. 26 For all the gods of the peoples are idols, But the Lord made the heavens. 27 Honor and majesty are before Him; Strength and gladness are in His place. 28 Give to the Lord, O families of the peoples, Give to the Lord glory and strength. 29 Give to the Lord the glory due His name; Bring an offering, and come before Him. Oh, worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness! 30 Tremble before Him, all the earth. The world also is firmly established, It shall not be moved. 31 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; And let them say among the nations, "The Lord reigns."

Nehemiah 9:5-6 And the Levites, Jeshua, Kadmiel, Bani, Hashabniah, Sherebiah, Hodijah, Shebaniah, and Pethahiah, said: "Stand up and bless the Lord your God Forever and ever! "Blessed be Your glorious name, Which is exalted above all blessing and praise! 6 You alone are the Lord; You have made heaven, The heaven of heavens, with all their host, The earth and everything on it, The seas and all that is in them, And You preserve them all. The host of heaven worships You.

Psalms 29:1-11 Give unto the Lord, O you mighty ones, Give unto the Lord glory and strength. 2 Give unto the Lord the glory due to His name; Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. 3 The voice of the Lord is over the waters; The God of glory thunders; The Lord is over many waters. 4 The voice of the Lord is powerful; The voice of the Lord is full of majesty. 5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars, Yes, the Lord splinters the cedars of Lebanon. 6 He makes them also skip like a calf, Lebanon and Sirion like a young wild ox. 7 The voice of the Lord [e]divides the flames of fire. 8 The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; The Lord shakes the Wilderness of Kadesh. 9 The voice of the Lord makes the deer give birth, And strips the forests bare; And in His temple everyone says, "Glory!" 10 The Lord sat enthroned at the Flood, And the Lord sits as King forever. 11 The Lord will give strength to His people; The Lord will bless His people with peace.

<u>Psalms 86:9-10</u> All nations whom You have made Shall come and worship before You, O Lord, And shall glorify Your name. 10 For You are great, and do wondrous things; You alone are God.

Psalms 99:1-9 The Lord reigns; Let the peoples tremble! He dwells between the cherubim; Let the earth be moved! ² The Lord is great in Zion, And He is high above all the peoples. ³ Let them praise Your great and awesome name—He is holy. ⁴ The King's strength also loves justice; You have established equity; You have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob. ⁵ Exalt the Lord our God, And worship at His footstool—He is holy. ⁶ Moses and Aaron were among His priests, And Samuel was among those who called upon His name; They called upon the Lord, and He answered them. ⁷ He spoke to them in the cloudy pillar; They kept His testimonies and the ordinance He gave them. ⁸ You answered them, O Lord our God; You were to them God-Who-Forgives, Though You took vengeance on their deeds. ⁹ Exalt the Lord our God, And worship at His holy hill; For the Lord our God is holy.

<u>Psalms 100:1-5</u> Make a joyful shout to the Lord, all you lands! ² Serve the Lord with gladness; Come before His presence with singing. ³ Know that the Lord, He *is* God; *It is* He *who* has made us, and not we ourselves; *We are* His people and the sheep of His pasture. ⁴ Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, *And* into His courts with praise.

Be thankful to Him, *and* bless His name. ⁵ For the Lord *is* good; His mercy *is* everlasting,

Be thankful to Him, *and* bless His name. For the Lord *is* good; His mercy *is* everlasting, And His truth *endures* to all generations.

Psalms 148, 149, 150 Read these scriptures

<u>Isaiah 29:13</u> Therefore the Lord said: "Inasmuch as these people draw near with their mouths And honor Me with their lips, But have removed their hearts far from Me, And their fear toward Me is taught by the commandment of men,

<u>Daniel 3:16-18</u> Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego answered and said to the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter. ¹⁷ If that *is the case*, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver *us* from your hand, O king. ¹⁸ But if not, let it be known to you, O king, that we do not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up."

<u>John 4:21-24</u> ²¹ Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. ²² You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews. ²³ But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. ²⁴ God *is* Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

Romans 12:1-2 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is* your reasonable service. ² And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

<u>Hebrews 12:28-29</u> Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. ²⁹ For our God *is* a consuming fire.

Revelation 4:8-11 *The* four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!" Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever, ¹⁰ the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying: ¹¹ "You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created."

<u>Revelation 14:7</u> saying with a loud voice, "Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water."

Focus: Marriage

Marriage is a sacred vow between a man and a woman and the Bible has many verses that offer guidance for married couples, husbands, wives, newlyweds, and engagement. Read quotes from the Holy Bible about marriage concerning God, Jesus Christ, and the Christian faith.

Scripture:

Genesis 2:22-24 Then the rib which the Lord God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man. ²³ And Adam said: "This *is* now bone of my bones And flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, Because she was taken out of Man." ²⁴ Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

<u>Deuteronomy 24:5</u> "When a man has taken a new wife, he shall not go out to war or be charged with any business; he shall be free at home one year, and bring happiness to his wife whom he has taken

<u>Proverbs 5:18-19</u> Let your fountain be blessed, And rejoice with the wife of your youth. ¹⁹ *As a* loving deer and a graceful doe, Let her breasts satisfy you at all times; And always be enraptured with her love.

<u>Proverbs 12:4</u> An excellent wife *is* the crown of her husband, But she who causes shame *is* like rottenness in his bones.

Proverbs 18:22 He who finds a wife finds a good thing, And obtains favor from the Lord.

<u>Proverbs 19:14</u> Houses and riches *are* an inheritance from fathers, But a prudent wife *is* from the Lord.

<u>Proverbs 20:6-7</u> Most men will proclaim each his own goodness, But who can find a faithful man? ⁷ The righteous *man* walks in his integrity; His children *are* blessed after him.

<u>Proverbs 30:18-19</u> There are three *things which* are too wonderful for me, Yes, four *which* I do not understand: ¹⁹ The way of an eagle in the air, The way of a serpent on a rock, The way of a ship in the midst of the sea, And the way of a man with a virgin.

Proverbs 31:10 Who can find a virtuous wife? For her worth *is* far above rubies.

<u>Matthew 19:4-6</u> And He answered and said to them, "Have you not read that He who made *them* at the beginning 'made them male and female,' ⁵ and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? ⁶ So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate."

<u>Mark 10:6-9</u> But from the beginning of the creation, God 'made them male and female.' ⁷ 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, ⁸ and the two shall become one flesh'; so then they are no longer two, but one flesh. ⁹ Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate."

<u>1 Corinthians 7:1-16</u> Please look up and read this verse at your convenience.

Ephesians 5:22-33 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, ²⁶ that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, ²⁷ that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. ²⁸ So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹ For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord *does* the church. ³⁰ For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones. ³¹ "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." ³² This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church. ³³ Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife *see* that she respects *her* husband.

<u>Colossians 3:18-19</u> Wives, submit to your own husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. ¹⁹ Husbands, love your wives and do not be bitter toward them.

<u>Hebrews 13:4-7</u> Marriage *is* honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge. ⁵ *Let your* conduct *be* without covetousness; *be* content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." ⁶ So we may boldly say: "The Lord *is* my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?" ⁷ Remember those who rule over you, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of *their* conduct.

Focus: Fruit of the Spirit

The Bible speaks of visible "fruits of the spirit that are characteristics of a Christian. These are the attitudes, behaviors, and traits that someone who believes in Jesus Christ should show. Every Christian is continually maturing toward Christ-likeness and the Word of God helps us to understand how the Holy Spirit guides us!

Scripture:

Nehemiah 8:10 So they read distinctly from the book, in the Law of God; and they gave the sense, and helped them to understand the reading.

<u>Romans 5:1</u> Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

<u>Romans 15:13</u> Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

<u>1 Corinthians 13:4-8</u> Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; 5 does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; 6 does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; 7 bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. 8 Love never fails. But whether there are prophecies, they will fail; whether there are tongues, they will cease; whether there is knowledge, it will vanish away.

<u>2 Corinthians 6:6-7</u> by purity, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, by the Holy Spirit, by sincere love, ⁷ by the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left,

<u>Galatians 5:22-23</u> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.

<u>Galatians 6:1</u> Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who *are* spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted

<u>Ephesians 3:16-17</u> that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, ¹⁷ that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love,

Ephesians 4:2 with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love,

<u>Colossians 1:11</u> strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy;

- <u>2 Peter 1:5-7</u> But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, ⁶ to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, ⁷ to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love.
- <u>1 John 4:16</u> And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him.

Focus: Lust

Lust is a temptation and an evil that overcomes many of us. It is born of Satan and the flesh. Every single one of us is subject to lust. If we are to overcome it, we must be strong. Use these Bible verses to find out why you should resist lust, and use them to strengthen yourself.

Scripture:

Exodus 20:14 "You shall not commit adultery.

<u>Psalms 101:3</u> I will set nothing wicked before my eyes; I hate the work of those who fall away; It shall not cling to me.

<u>Proverbs 6:25</u> Do not lust after her beauty in your heart, Nor let her allure you with her eyelids.

<u>Matthew 5:28</u> But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

Romans 8:6 For to be carnally minded *is* death, but to be spiritually minded *is* life and peace.

<u>1 Corinthians 6:13</u> Foods for the stomach and the stomach for foods, but God will destroy both it and them. Now the body *is* not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body.

Galatians 5:16 I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

<u>2 Timothy 2:22</u> Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

<u>James 1:14-15</u> But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. ¹⁵ Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.

<u>1 John 2:16</u> For all that *is* in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world.

[Lust is more than a desire for another human being. Explore areas in your life where you have had unhealthy desires. Lust can be considered self-idolatry (worship of self)]

<u>2 Timothy 3:1-9</u> But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: ² For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, ³ unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, ⁴ traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, ⁵ having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away! ⁶ For of this sort are those who creep into households and make captives of gullible women loaded down with sins, led away by various lusts, ⁷ always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁸ Now as Jannes and Jambres resisted Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, disapproved concerning the faith; ⁹ but they will progress no further, for their folly will be manifest to all, as theirs also was.

Focus: Obedience

Obedience to God's commands is the true sign of your love for God, and the only way you can know if you are obeying God is by knowing His word.

Scripture:

Exodus 19:5 Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth *is* Mine.

<u>Deuteronomy 11:1</u> "Therefore you shall love the Lord your God, and keep His charge, His statutes, His judgments, and His commandments always.

<u>Joshua 5:6</u> "In the days of Shamgar, son of Anath, In the days of Jael, The highways were deserted, And the travelers walked along the byways.

<u>Proverbs 3:12</u> For whom the Lord loves He corrects, Just as a father the son *in whom* he delights.

<u>Luke 11:28</u> But He said, "More than that, blessed *are* those who hear the word of God and keep it!"

John 14:15 "If you love Me, keep My commandments.

John 15:9 "As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love.

John 15:14 You are My friends if you do whatever I command you.

Romans 1:5 Through Him we have received grace and apostleship for obedience to the faith among all nations for His name,

<u>Romans 2:6-8</u> who "will render to each one according to his deeds": ⁷ eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honor, and immortality; ⁸ but to those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness—indignation and wrath,

Romans 5:19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous.

<u>2 Corinthians 10:5</u> casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,

Ephesians 6:1-3 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. ² "Honor your father and mother," which is the first commandment with promise: ³ "that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth."

<u>Colossians 3:22</u> Bondservants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh, not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but in sincerity of heart, fearing God.

<u>2 Timothy 2:22</u> Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

Hebrews 5:8 though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered

<u>Hebrews 12:6</u> For whom the Lord loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives."

<u>Hebrews 13:7</u> Remember those who rule over you, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of *their* conduct.

<u>James 1:25</u> But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues *in it,* and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.

<u>1 Peter 1:14</u> as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, *as* in your ignorance;

2 John 1:6 This is love, that we walk according to His commandments. This is the commandment, that as you have heard from the beginning, you should walk in it.

Revelation 3:19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent.

<u>Revelation 14:12</u> Here is the patience of the saints; here *are* those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.

[Delayed obedience is disobedience]

Focus: Church Attendance

As believers, church attendance is of high importance. It is a place we can all come together to worship, be encouraged, and learn from God's Word for spiritual growth. Let these verses encourage and remind you of why attending church is essential to our lives.

Scripture:

<u>Matthew 6:33</u> But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

<u>Matthew 16:18</u> And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

<u>Matthew 18:20</u> For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them."

<u>Matthew 28:19-20</u> Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age." Amen.

<u>Acts 2:42</u> And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.

<u>Acts 9:31-32</u> Then the churches throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria had peace and were edified. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, they were multiplied. ³² Now it came to pass, as Peter went through all *parts of the country*, that he also came down to the saints who dwelt in Lydda.

Romans 10:17 So then faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Ephesians 4:12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,

<u>Colossians 3:16</u> Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

<u>2 Timothy 4:2</u> Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.

<u>Hebrews 10:25</u> not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as *is* the manner of some, but exhorting *one another*, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

James 1:22 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

Focus: Healing

The Bible speaks often of miraculous healing through the work of Jesus Christ and through faith in God. Find Scripture that will encourage you and help you focus on finding comfort through the healing of Christ, both spiritually and physically.

Scripture:

<u>Exodus 15:26</u> and said, "If you diligently heed the voice of the Lord your God and do what is right in His sight, give ear to His commandments and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have brought on the Egyptians. For I *am* the Lord who heals you."

Exodus 23:25 "So you shall serve the Lord your God, and He will bless your bread and your water. And I will take sickness away from the midst of you.

Psalms 30:2 O Lord my God, I cried out to You, And You healed me.

<u>Psalms 41:2-3</u> The Lord will preserve him and keep him alive, *And* he will be blessed on the earth; You will not deliver him to the will of his enemies. ³ The Lord will strengthen him on his bed of illness; You will sustain him on his sickbed.

<u>Psalms 103:2-4</u> Bless the Lord, O my soul, And forget not all His benefits: ³ Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases, ⁴ Who redeems your life from destruction, Who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies,

<u>Psalms 107:19-21</u> Then they cried out to the Lord in their trouble, *And* He saved them out of their distresses. ²⁰ He sent His word and healed them, And delivered *them* from their, destructions. ²¹ Oh, that *men* would give thanks to the Lord *for* His goodness, And *for* His wonderful works to the children of men!

Psalms 147:3 He heals the brokenhearted And binds up their wounds.

<u>Proverbs 4:20-22</u> My son, give attention to my words; Incline your ear to my sayings. ²¹ Do not let them depart from your eyes; Keep them in the midst of your heart; ²² For they *are* life to those who find them, And health to all their flesh.

<u>Jeremiah 17:14</u> Heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed; Save me, and I shall be saved, For You *are* my praise.

Matthew 8:5-17 w 5 Now when Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, pleading with Him, ⁶ saying, "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, dreadfully tormented." ⁷ And Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him." ⁸ The centurion answered and said, "Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed. ⁹ For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this *one*, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it." ¹⁰ When Jesus heard it, He marveled, and said to those who followed, "Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel! ¹¹ And I say to you that many will come from east and west, and sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. ¹² But the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." ¹³ Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go your way; and as you have believed, so let it be done for you." And his servant was healed that same hour. ¹⁴ Now when Jesus had come into Peter's house, He saw his wife's mother lying sick with a fever. ¹⁵ So He touched her hand, and the fever left her. And she arose and served them. ¹⁶ When evening had come, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed. And He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick, ¹⁷ that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: "He Himself took our infirmities And bore our sicknesses."

<u>Matthew 9:35</u> Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.

<u>Mark 5:34</u> And He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace, and be healed of your affliction."

Luke 8:43-56 Now a woman, having a flow of blood for twelve years, who had spent all her livelihood on physicians and could not be healed by any, 44 came from behind and touched the border of His garment. And immediately her flow of blood stopped. ⁴⁵ And Jesus said, "Who touched Me?" When all denied it, Peter and those with him said, "Master, the multitudes throng and press You, and You say, 'Who touched Me?' "46 But Jesus said, "Somebody touched Me, for I perceived power going out from Me." ⁴⁷ Now when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling; and falling down before Him, she declared to Him in the presence of all the people the reason she had touched Him and how she was healed immediately. ⁴⁸ And He said to her, "Daughter, be of good cheer; your faith has made you well. Go in peace." ⁴⁹ While He was still speaking, someone came from the ruler of the synagogue's house, saying to him, "Your daughter is dead. Do not trouble the Teacher." ⁵⁰ But when Jesus heard it, He answered him, saying, "Do not be afraid; only believe, and she will be made well." 51 When He came into the house, He permitted no one to go in except Peter, James, and John, and the father and mother of the girl. ⁵² Now all wept and mourned for her; but He said, "Do not weep; she is not dead, but sleeping." ⁵³ And they ridiculed Him, knowing that she was dead. ⁵⁴ But He put them all outside, took her by the hand and called, saying, "Little girl, arise." 55 Then her spirit returned, and she arose immediately. And He commanded that she be given *something* to eat. ⁵⁶ And her parents were astonished, but He charged them to tell no one what had happened.

<u>James 5:16</u> Confess *your* trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.

<u>1 Peter 2:24</u> who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed.

Revelation 21:1-5 Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. ² Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them *and be* their God. ⁴ And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away." ⁵ Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful."

Focus: Serving

Serving God is one of the most important principles of the Christian faith, as believers we are expected to serve the church with a joyful spirit.

Scripture:

<u>Joshua 22:5</u> But take careful heed to do the commandment and the law which Moses the servant of the Lord commanded you, to love the Lord your God, to walk in all His ways, to keep His commandments, to hold fast to Him, and to serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul."

<u>1 Samuel 12:24</u> Only fear the Lord, and serve Him in truth with all your heart; for consider what great things He has done for you.

<u>1 Chronicles 28:9</u> "As for you, my son Solomon, know the God of your father, and serve Him with a loyal heart and with a willing mind; for the Lord searches all hearts and understands all the intent of the thoughts. If you seek Him, He will be found by you; but if you forsake Him, He will cast you off forever.

<u>2 Chronicles 15:7</u> But you, be strong and do not let your hands be weak, for your work shall be rewarded!"

<u>Matthew 6:33</u> But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who *is* in the secret *place*; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

<u>Matthew 20:27-28</u> And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave—²⁸ just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

<u>Matthew 23:11</u> But he who is greatest among you shall be your servant. ¹² And whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.

<u>Mark 10:45</u> For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

<u>Luke 6:38</u> Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you."

<u>John 12:26</u> If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also. If anyone serves Me, him *My* Father will honor.

<u>Acts 26:6-7</u> And now I stand and am judged for the hope of the promise made by God to our fathers. ⁷ To this *promise* our twelve tribes, earnestly serving *God* night and day, hope to attain. For this hope's sake, King Agrippa, I am accused by the Jews.

Romans 7:6 But now we have been delivered from the law, having died to what we were held by, so that we should serve in the newness of the Spirit and not *in* the oldness of the letter.

Romans 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is* your reasonable service.

Romans 12:9-13 Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. ¹⁰ Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; ¹¹ not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; ¹² rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer; ¹³ distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality.

<u>Galatians 5:13</u> For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not *use* liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

<u>Hebrews 6:10</u> For God *is* not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, *in that* you have ministered to the saints, and do minister.

<u>Hebrews 9:14</u> how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

<u>1 Peter 1:12</u> To them it was revealed that, not to themselves, but to us they were ministering the things which now have been reported to you through those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven—things which angels desire to look into.

<u>1 Peter 4:10</u> As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

Focus: Success

Through scripture, we know that God wants us to succeed in life...By growing and using our faith and trust in the Lord we can be strengthened to fulfill His will for our lives – this is true success. Use this collection of Bible verses to gain a better understanding of how God dines success, and how we can truly succeed in life.

Scripture:

Genesis 1:28-29 w Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth." ²⁹ And God said, "See, I have given you every herb *that* yields seed which *is* on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; to you it shall be for food.

Genesis 39:2-6 w The Lord was with Joseph, and he was a successful man; and he was in the house of his master the Egyptian. ³ And his master saw that the Lord was with him and that the Lord made all he did to prosper in his hand. ⁴ So Joseph found favor in his sight, and served him. Then he made him overseer of his house, and all *that* he had he put under his authority. ⁵ So it was, from the time *that* he had made him overseer of his house and all that he had, that the Lord blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; and the blessing of the Lord was on all that he had in the house and in the field. ⁶ Thus he left all that he had in Joseph's hand, and he did not know what he had except for the bread which he ate.

<u>Deuteronomy 8:18</u> "And you shall remember the Lord your God, for *it is* He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as *it is* this day.

<u>1 Kings 2:3</u> And keep the charge of the Lord your God: to walk in His ways, to keep His statutes, His commandments, His judgments, and His testimonies, as it is written in the Law of Moses, that you may prosper in all that you do and wherever you turn;

<u>Psalms 1:1-3</u> Blessed *is* the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; ² But his delight *is* in the law of the Lord, And in His law he meditates day and night. ³ He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper.

<u>Psalms 37:4</u> Delight yourself also in the Lord, And He shall give you the desires of your heart.

<u>Proverbs 16:3</u> Commit your works to the Lord, And your thoughts will be established.

<u>Isaiah 41:10</u> Fear not, for I *am* with you; Be not dismayed, for I *am* your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.'

Jeremiah 17:7 "Blessed *is* the man who trusts in the Lord, And whose hope is the Lord.

<u>Matthew 16:26-27</u> For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works.

<u>Luke 16:10-11</u>He who *is* faithful in *what is* least is faithful also in much; and he who is unjust in *what is* least is unjust also in much. ¹¹ Therefore if you have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true *riches?*

Romans 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Focus: Gifts- Spiritual gifts (or Charismata) are endowments given by the Holy Spirit. These are the supernatural graces that individual Christians need to fulfill the mission of the church. They are described in the New Testament, primarily in 1 Corinthians 12 and 14, Romans 12, and Ephesians 4

Scripture:

<u>Luke 11:13</u> If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will *your* heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"

<u>Romans 11:29</u> And while the crowds were thickly gathered together, He began to say, "This is an evil generation. It seeks a sign, and no sign will be given to it except the sign of Jonah the prophet.

Romans 12:3 For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think *of himself* more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.

Romans 12:6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, *let us use them:* if prophecy, *let us prophesy* in proportion to our faith;

<u>1 Corinthians 1:4</u> I thank my God always concerning you for the grace of God which was given to you by Christ Jesus,

<u>1 Corinthians 12</u> Read this chapter at your convenience

<u>1 Corinthians 12:1</u> Now concerning spiritual *gifts*, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant:

<u>1 Corinthians 14</u> Read this chapter at your convenience

<u>1 Corinthians 14:1</u> Now concerning spiritual *gifts*, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant:

<u>1 Corinthians 14:12</u> Even so you, since you are zealous for spiritual *gifts, let it be* for the edification of the church *that* you seek to excel.

Ephesians 4:7 But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift.

<u>1 Timothy 4:14</u> Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership.

2 Timothy 1:6 Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands.

<u>Hebrews 2:4</u> God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?

Focus: Money, Debt, Giving and Finances

Find out what the Bible has to say about money, giving, debt, and finances as you learn to be a wise steward of the resources God has given you.

Scripture:

Exodus 22:25 "If you lend money to *any of* My people *who are* poor among you, you shall not be like a moneylender to him; you shall not charge him interest.

<u>Deuteronomy 15:7</u> "If there is among you a poor man of your brethren, within any of the gates in your land which the Lord your God is giving you, you shall not harden your heart nor shut your hand from your poor brother,

<u>Deuteronomy 23:19</u> You shall not charge interest to your brother—interest on money *or* food *or* anything that is lent out at interest.

<u>Deuteronomy 28:12</u> The Lord will open to you His good treasure, the heavens, to give the rain to your land in its season, and to bless all the work of your hand. You shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow.

<u>1 Samuel 2:7</u> The Lord makes poor and makes rich; He brings low and lifts up.

<u>2 Chronicles 1:11-12</u> Then God said to Solomon: "Because this was in your heart, and you have not asked riches or wealth or honor or the life of your enemies, nor have you asked long life—but have asked wisdom and knowledge for yourself, that you may judge My people over whom I have made you king—¹² wisdom and knowledge *are* granted to you; and I will give you riches and wealth and honor, such as none of the kings have had who *were* before you, nor shall any after you have the like."

<u>Psalms 37:16-17</u> A little that a righteous man has *Is* better than the riches of many wicked. ¹⁷ For the arms of the wicked shall be broken, But the Lord upholds the righteous.

<u>Proverbs 3:9</u> w Honor the Lord with your possessions, And with the first fruits of all your increase;

<u>Proverbs 10:4</u> He who has a slack hand becomes poor, But the hand of the diligent makes rich.

<u>Proverbs 13:11</u> Wealth *gained by* dishonesty will be diminished, But he who gathers by labor will increase.

<u>Proverbs 17:16</u> Why *is there* in the hand of a fool the purchase price of wisdom, Since *he has* no heart *for it?*

<u>Proverbs 30:8-9</u> Remove falsehood and lies far from me; Give me neither poverty nor riches—Feed me with the food allotted to me; ⁹ Lest I be full and deny *You*, And say, "Who *is* the Lord?" Or lest I be poor and steal, And profane the name of my God.

Ecclesiastes 5:10 He who loves silver will not be satisfied with silver; Nor he who loves abundance, with increase. This also *is* vanity.

<u>Ecclesiastes 7:12</u> For wisdom *is* a defense *as* money *is* a defense, But the excellence of knowledge *is that* wisdom gives life to those who have it.

Amos 9:13 "Behold, the days are coming," says the Lord, "When the plowman shall overtake the reaper, And the treader of grapes him who sows seed; The mountains shall drip with sweet wine, And all the hills shall flow with it.

<u>Malachi 3:10</u> Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, And try Me now in this," Says the Lord of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven And pour out for you *such* blessing That *there will* not *be room* enough *to receive it*.

<u>Matthew 6:1-4</u> "Take heed that you do not do your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them. Otherwise you have no reward from your Father in heaven. ² Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. ³ But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴ that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly.

Matthew 6:21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

<u>Matthew 6:24</u> "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.

<u>Matthew 13:22</u> Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful.

<u>Matthew 13:44</u>"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

<u>Matthew 19:21</u> "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

<u>Matthew 21:12-13</u> w Then Jesus went into the temple of God and drove out all those who bought and sold in the temple, and overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves. ¹³ And He said to them, "It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer,' but you have made it a 'den of thieves.'"

- Mark 12:41-44 ⁴¹ Now Jesus sat opposite the treasury and saw how the people put money into the treasury. And many *who were* rich put in much. ⁴² Then one poor widow came and threw in two mites, which make a quadrans. ⁴³ So He called His disciples to *Himself* and said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all those who have given to the treasury; ⁴⁴ for they all put in out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all that she had, her whole livelihood."
- <u>Luke 3:14</u> Likewise the soldiers asked him, saying, "And what shall we do?" So he said to them, "Do not intimidate anyone or accuse falsely, and be content with your wages."
- <u>Luke 12:33</u> Sell what you have and give alms; provide yourselves money bags which do not grow old, a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches nor moth destroys.
- <u>Luke 14:28</u> For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has *enough* to finish *it*—
- <u>Luke 16:13-15</u> "No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon." ¹⁴ Now the Pharisees, who were lovers of money, also heard all these things, and they derided Him. ¹⁵ And He said to them, "You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is highly esteemed among men is an abomination in the sight of God.
- <u>Acts 4:34</u> Nor was there anyone among them who lacked; for all who were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the proceeds of the things that were sold,
- <u>Acts 8:20</u> But Peter said to him, "Your money perish with you, because you thought that the gift of God could be purchased with money!
- **Romans 13:8** Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law.
- <u>1 Timothy 6:10</u> For the love of money is a root of all *kinds of* evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.
- <u>1 Timothy 6:17-19</u> Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy. ¹⁸ *Let them* do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share, ¹⁹ storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.
- <u>Hebrews 13:5</u> *Let your* conduct *be* without covetousness; *be* content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."

<u>James 5:1-6</u> Come now, *you* rich, weep and howl for your miseries that are coming upon *you!* ² Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are moth-eaten. ³ Your gold and silver are corroded, and their corrosion will be a witness against you and will eat your flesh like fire. You have heaped up treasure in the last days. ⁴ Indeed the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, cry out; and the cries of the reapers have reached the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth. ⁵ You have lived on the earth in pleasure and luxury; you have fattened your hearts as in a day of slaughter. ⁶ You have condemned, you have murdered the just; he does not resist you.

<u>1 Peter 5:2-3</u> Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; ³ nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock;

<u>Revelation 3:17</u> Because you say, 'I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing'—and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked—

Focus: Respect

God created all people and created them differently for reasons and purposes we may not understand. Regardless of how we perceive other people to be, they are God's creations, and it is God's will for us to show respect to everyone. Use these Bible verses to be reminded why respect is important to show to everyone.

Scripture:

<u>Matthew 7:12</u> Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

<u>John 13:34-35</u> A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. ³⁵ By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

Romans 12:10 *Be* kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another;

Romans 13:1-7 Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. ² Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves. ³ For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same. ⁴ For he is God's minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God's minister, an avenger to *execute* wrath on him who practices evil. ⁵ Therefore *you* must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience' sake. ⁶ For because of this you also pay taxes, for they are God's ministers attending continually to this very thing. ⁷ Render therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes *are due*, customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor.

<u>1 Corinthians 10:33</u> just as I also please all *men* in all *things*, not seeking my own profit, but the *profit* of many, that they may be saved.

Ephesians 6:1-3 "Take heed that you do not do your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them. Otherwise you have no reward from your Father in heaven. ² Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. ³ But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing,

<u>Philippians 2:3</u> *Let* nothing *be done* through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself.

<u>1 Thessalonians 5:12-13</u> And we urge you, brethren, to recognize those who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord and admonish you,

<u>Titus 2:7</u> in all things showing yourself *to be* a pattern of good works; in doctrine *showing* integrity, reverence, incorruptibility,

<u>Hebrews 13:7-8</u> Remember those who rule over you, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of *their* conduct. ⁸ Jesus Christ *is* the same yesterday, today, and forever.

<u>1 Peter 2:17</u> Honor all *people*. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.