

Celebrate #LifeMonth in June with these Daily Devotionals!

June is LIFE MONTH! This is a time of celebration and joy because there is so much to celebrate! From the overturning of Roe v. Wade to the Asbury Revival, God is doing major miracles!

The following scripture guide came from the 30-Day Life Month reading plan. Based on that plan, we put out a call for writers who wanted to prayerfully pose a reflection for each day's reading. We are honored to share these devotional comments from prayer warriors worldwide who responded immediately, with such obedience and joy. They represent authors, retirees, women's ministers, pastors, life coaches—all walks of life. You will be blessed!

DAILY READING: The Life Month Key Scripture

Revelation 12:11

2 Chronicles 20:21

Hebrews 10:24-25

Covid was infectious. Courage is contagious. Unity is dangerously unstoppable.

Last year, we were just pulling out of two years of darkness and fear. Many in our country were tired of death and destruction. The church was waking out of its slumber. Intercessors from all over the world, virtually and in person, were growing in numbers. In America, we shed corporate tears of grief and repentance: America's degradation was OUR problem. We had been asleep at the wheel. We cried out, and Yahweh in His mercy began to expose wickedness and the incessant parade of death. It was stalking our families, our children, our schools and universities, our churches, arts and the media, the business and medical sector, the justice system, and all levels of government. We needed a HEAVENLY INFUSION!

On June 24, 2022, God spoke: Roe was overturned. Then, eight months later, on February 8, 2023, came the Asbury Revival. This was followed by many other revivals, prophetic revelations, and miracles. We couldn't wait to see where God was working next!

Is it still happening? **YES!** Is God still speaking? **YES!**

COURAGE IS CONTAGIOUS! This is why we need to celebrate. We need to continue to *unite* together; *sing and dance and shout* in the face of the spiritual enemy; *stir each other up* to love and good works! After all, **WE OVERCOME BY THE BLOOD OF THE LAMB AND BY THE WORD OF OUR TESTIMONIES!**

June 1

By Wenona Andress
(Lubbock, Texas)

Joshua 12

Proverbs 13

Ephesians 6

When we read about Joshua, Solomon, and Paul, what do they have in common? They were strong and courageous. Strong is searching for wisdom at any price. Strong is focusing on the end game, the Promise. Courage is casting aside the fool, the deceiver, the empty religion of the past –and stepping into the authority that God gave you.

June 2

By Kathleen Pannell
(Tongue Highlands, Scotland)

Joshua 2

Proverbs 3

Galatians 2

“I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.” Galatians 2:20

And there I sat, broken, on that train 40 years ago, I happened to look out of the window. I saw a lamb in someone’s back garden. I looked again, puzzled, and felt my heart begin to quicken. I looked a third time; and there was the lamb: iridescent, white, and shining. I heard a voice: “I am the lamb of God that takes away the sins of the world.” In that moment, my life changed forever. I still celebrate the day that Yeshua found me! His goodness is always running after us, whether we are looking for it or not.

June 3

By Veleria Chambers
(Tampa, Florida)

Joshua 3 (Joshua’s Gift of Valor)

Proverbs 3

Galatians 3

Are you crossing the line into uncharted territory through sickness or confusion? Joshua had to face several decisions on his uncharted journey. In addition, his faith grew stronger and stronger in God throughout his journey. Faith in God definitely helps ease your journey. Certain events may be in position. The events and your decisions may not appear in your favor. However, God orders our steps into position for others to receive gifts of valor as we believe in Him.

MONTH

Life

June 4

**By Craig Van Kouwenberg
(East Norriton, Pennsylvania)**

Joshua 4

Proverbs 5

Galatians 4

~Opportunities~

Forever destined to NOT take up one of 12 stones from the Jordan River toward building a memorial to God's miracles. Yet, always driven to somehow acknowledge God's miracles...

An old man spotted a young family having Saturday breakfast at a diner: The Mom was very pregnant; the Dad wore a T-shirt, backwards baseball cap, and a harried grimace as their demanding toddler squirmed in a booster chair.

(The *Dobb's* Decision rumors of overturning *Roe v. Wade* were rampant in the news. Pro-abortion, anti-SCOTUS rants filled both social media and the airways.)

Far from wealthy, the old man nonetheless paused at the young family's table on his way out of the diner with a folded \$20 bill in his hand. Looking directly at Dad, with a glance at Mom, the man outstretched his hand with the proffered money enclosed: "Sir, I congratulate you and your wife for loving life and not giving in to the abortionists. I would like the honor of contributing to this meal. Do have a wonderful day with God's life and with living."

Today, how can I—how will I—proffer a monument, or at least an acknowledgement, of God's basic miracle to me (to us): His miracle of living?

MONTH

Life

June 5

**By Patti Bruno
(Newtown Square, Pennsylvania)**

Joshua 5

Proverbs 6

Galatians 5

When we abide with Christ, he gives us freedom from man's rules, freedom to serve one another in love, and not be tied to the law. The law tries to protect people, but one cannot force a person to obey. Only God can free the heart to love with wild abandon.

Christ has freed us to be right with God, simply by faith. Once we were born again, Yahweh gave the special gift of the Holy Spirit to be with us daily! According to Paul, the Holy Spirit helps us to produce good fruit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

The world does not live like this. The world has a sinful nature which loves to do evil. These two opposing forces, the old sinful nature and the Holy Spirit, are always fighting one another. Our choices are never free from this conflict. Yet choosing the sinful nature leads to sexual immorality, impure thoughts, lustful pleasure, adultery, idolatry, participation in demonic activities, jealousy, hostility, arguing, divisions, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other kinds of sin.

Proverbs 6 describes 'worthless and wicked people' as constant liars with perverted hearts who plot evil. Solomon references the things God hates.

God is a Covenant-making God and He will honor our faithfulness and obedience to Him with protection, overturning our opposition, and fighting and winning our battles. He will help lead us to produce the fruits of the Holy Spirit instead of the fruits of the world.

PRAYER: Lord, help us to follow You always and live obedient to Your ways. Let us turn away from the world and instead, follow You and the Holy Spirit every day. In Jesus Name I pray, Amen.

MONTH

Life

June 6

**By Jackie Paredes
(Lubbock, Texas)**

Joshua 6

Proverbs 7

Galatians 6

What do these Scriptures say about battles and victories?

God's plan is for us to live a victorious life, yet we find ourselves plagued with adversities streaming all around us: work, social media, TV, friends & family (not to mention our own temptations . . .) However, nothing catches God by surprise. God told Joshua to march his army around the walls of Jericho for 6 days, and on the 7th day, to blow the trumpet. It was at that moment that the Lord had already spoken victory into the hands of Joshua.

Often, we read the Word about our victory in Christ Jesus and the power and authority that has been given to us by God. It is our God-given, heavenly gift that we can walk in authority. What do we have authority over? Who do we have authority over? Every enemy and every thought. *We can* bring them captive into obedience. Rest assured: when we seek the spirit of God and live by the spirit, then we truly are pursuing a God-given life not only on the earth, but also awaiting our crossover into eternity. Now isn't that something to look forward to?

I encourage you to start today. Pursue God's word that you may live according to it, for by this you will worship Him in spirit and in truth. You will see God's favor over your life.

Start today and make a plan: how can you start to live from Victory— and go from one Victory to another?

Prayer: Lord, I ask You to help me to march around the walls of my enemies. I ask that You help me to bring my very own thoughts, as well as thoughts of temptation, under your authority so that I may walk in my God-given victory. I know that You are not a God who will be mocked. I repent of all my shortcomings and carelessness. I ask that You forgive me and place my feet on the right path today. Amen.

MONTH

Life

June 7

**By Tamika Thomas
(Amarillo, Texas)**

Joshua 7

Proverbs 8

Ephesians 1

Life is full of choices, and those choices can make us feel uncomfortable. We have a daily, even momentary, choice of whether to commit sins. But whatever we choose to do, there are consequences. One person's sins could destroy the people around them.

In Joshua 7, we see how greed led to the downfall of an entire family. The choices we make in life affect more than ourselves. It may not always be clear which choice is the best so we must seek God for *all* answers.

We must be like lady wisdom in Proverbs 8 and avoid making rash decisions. Life is not always easy, and no one promised that it would be. But it is up to us how we handle every situation that comes our way.

I am praying that every choice that you have to make will be the best choice and the one that God has for you. My sister, my brother—as you read this, may your heart be filled with peace and comfort knowing that you can have reconciliation with the Father just as it teaches in Ephesians 1. May God strengthen you on this crazy journey that we call life.

MONTH

June 8

By Tamika Thomas
(Amarillo, Texas)

Joshua 8

Proverbs 9

Ephesians 2

What do you do when life seems to be falling apart? You have already done everything that you know to do. You have prayed. You have fasted. You have lived your life to the best of your ability and things did not get better. How do you handle the stress of your day-to-day life now? In Joshua 8, it teaches us that we must call out to God again. We cannot take matters into our own hands. It is only God that can save us. It is only God that can heal us. *God is the answer.*

According to Proverbs 9, there are seven pillars of wisdom. These Seven Pillars include discretion, understanding, fear of the Lord, knowledge, counsel, reproof, and instruction. Proverbs 9 gives clear direction on how to apply these Kingdom principles of wisdom. Truly, we cannot lean pm our own understanding on this journey called life. Sometimes it is a crazy journey; sometimes it is a peaceful journey; and sometimes we don't even have the words to describe the journey, which is why we really do need God's help.

In Ephesians 2, we find that God has given us the gift of Grace to make reconciliation with Him. Jesus' death on the cross was not by happenstance. It was predestined by God because He knew we would mess up. I'm just writing to encourage you that it doesn't matter what you've done or where you've been. It only matters that you repent and seek God before it is too late. I implore you to read the scriptures that have been mentioned above to help you along your journey. I pray that as you read this passage. you begin to feel the reconnection to God. May it be so. Amen.

June 9

By Veleria Chambers
(Tampa, Florida)

Joshua 9

Proverbs 10

Ephesians 3

~ALLIES~

“And they said unto Joshua, We are thy servants. And Joshua said unto them, Who are ye? and from whence come ye?” (Joshua 9:8).

In verse 8, Joshua received some assistance to help him. Help came unexpectedly. Usually, allies from the highest authority come to us at a time of trouble. Allies also come without warning or preparation. But God, who supplies all our needs, not only knows *who* and *what* to send, but He also knows *where* to send help. Regardless of outcomes, God is without a doubt always punctual in severe situations. *Can you name a time when you received a visit from an unexpected ally? What was the outcome?*

Life

June 10

**By Veleria Chambers
(Tampa, Florida)**

Joshua 10

Proverbs 11

Ephesians 4

~DETERMINATION~

“Then spake Joshua to the LORD in the day when the LORD delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel: Sun, stand thou still upon Gibeon; and thou, Moon, in the valley of Ajalon.”(Joshua 10:12). This verse presented a scenario of how God listens during a time of distress. God used whatever He chooses. I once heard the song “Don’t Let the Sun Go Down on Me” by Elton John, who felt excluded by someone who he had assisted. Was this separation a loss or a determination to win? Previously, determination to win involved a decision to press onward. Are you determined to participate in the fight against the bondage of depression, anxiety, fornication, etc. and surrender to God’s effective positive ways of life?

MONTH

Life

June 11

**By Debbie
(Lubbock, Texas)**

Joshua 11

Proverbs 12

Ephesians 5

I stood with the multitude of His inheritance as I walked into the land. I longed to see His face and to hear Him speak. I thought about all He had done for me, how He showed Himself strong and fought the battles ahead of me. I pulled the prayer shawl tighter to shelter me from the crisp, fresh morning air. I was pausing to offer morning prayers of thanksgiving for the work of His hands and for the pathway He designed for me.

I walked for some time and the red dirt gave way to hardened ground. I stopped walking, gazing across the terrain. I was completely taken by the beauty of His handiwork. At that moment, I was caught up into a vision where He revealed to me future assignments He had planned. He drew me near with His loving kindness. I could smell His fragrance, the sweet Rose of Sharon. His Presence permeated the area, and I could not breathe. I wanted to absorb every moment. A gentle breeze blew as if to confirm, "I have heard your prayers, I am pleased, and I will answer. Keep setting your love upon Me."

Prayer: Thank you Jesus for being my Savior and my Friend, I set my eyes and my love upon You, today. I thank you for your lovingkindness, for your mercy and for going before me to fight the battles ahead of me. I praise You for each of the victories in Jesus' name. You are my mighty God and King. I love You. Amen.

MONTH

June 12

By Wenona Andress
(Lubbock, Texas)

Joshua 12

Proverbs 13

Ephesians 6

~TAKING DOWN KINGS~

That's quite a list of kings that Joshua and the Israelites conquered! But how could they not? They were disciplined, and they obeyed with sincerity (at least for a while!). From the standards of Proverbs 13, they had hope, they guarded their mouths, and they were walking in wisdom with their companions.

What about us? I think we've been pretty good about "armoring up" with the weapons of our warfare—but what about Ephesians 6:18-20? Are we praying for perseverance for our brothers: alert for them, too? Are we patient or judgmental? Are we asking for boldness for fellow ambassadors? Let us remember that we all get battle-weary. I love all of you, my brothers-in-arms.

June 13

By Therese Ryan
(Greenville, Texas)

Joshua 13

Proverbs 14

Philippians 1

Joshua 13 reminds me of the land that is still yet to be taken. We turn our hearts towards the continual battle to Celebrate Life. We are taking ground through intercession and a heart of love through Christ Jesus as this movement mobilizes. We must remember that in this battle we fight not flesh and blood but against spiritual wickedness in high places. We will win this battle!

In Philippians 1, St. Paul reminds us that God will complete every good work in us, and God also will complete ALL goodness on this earth. We must continue to stand and fight as these scriptures encourage us to do. That gives us hope to stay in the battle.

Matthew 5:5 tells us, "Blessed are the humble in spirit for they shall inherit the earth." We are those people that are humble in spirit, bowing before the Lord, seeking His Will and His Ways; therefore, we will take ground everywhere we go. We move mountains with our prayers. Therefore, *this ground will be taken* as we press forward in prayer, faith, love, completing the assignments the Lord has given us to do; and claiming ground for the Lord Jesus Christ. May His People stay in unity of mind and spirit as we advance the message of Jesus Christ, and as we Celebrate Life Month this June!

Life

June 14

**By Brianna Mendiola
(Lubbock, Texas)**

Joshua 14

Proverbs 15

Philippians 2

Whether you are in a season of waiting, as Paul was while in prison writing to the church in Philippi, or you are coming out of your waiting season and receiving your reward like Caleb was, know that God values obedience.

The book of Proverbs provides useful wisdom of how to live our lives. A thread of self-discipline weaves its way through the words in these Scriptures. Self-discipline aids us in our obedience to God, who is not late in blessing us and rewarding our obedience. Trust the God of your Salvation, who is just and loving to walk with you in your season of waiting. He is generous and doting, and He celebrates with you in your time of *triumph*.

MONTH

June 15

**By Kris Howsley King
(Lubbock, Texas)**

Joshua 15

Proverbs 16

Philippians 3

~~MORE THAN... THAT!~~

What do you want “more” of? We live in a culture that craves “more.” The “what” that we want “more of” is as varied as there are humans on the planet. We’ve all seen examples of people constantly striving and trying to gain power, influence, and fame, only to take a deep dive into a “pit of humility” when it all crumbles.

Striving is not living . . . Thriving is! So, how do we thrive on planet earth in 2023?

We have to keep one goal in mind: “consider everything a loss compared to the value of knowing Christ.” (Philippians 3:8). But what does that look like?

First, Know Him. Zero in on learning more of the Word daily because the Word is His roadmap for our lives.

Second, Live with this Endgame Goal: being with Him for eternity. Our goals should NOT be:

- Making yourself an enemy of the cross, whose end is destruction;
- Making your ever-dissatisfied stomach, and greedy eyes your god; or
- Making sure you get all the glory for your efforts here. That will only lead to shame (Proverbs 16:18 warns us that “pride goes before a fall”)

Joshua 15 describes Judah’s inheritance, and it is a great example: We can never be rid of all enemies, never have all resources without problems, nor have the best of things without someone wanting to take it from us. In the end, all the striving leads to heartache. Hopefully the wanting of “more” ... when it does not satisfy...helps us remember that He is all we need.

Prayer: Father, deliver our wayward hearts from the desire for “more” of anything, but You. Remind us that confidence in self and the desire to be “all that” is garbage, compared to knowing you! The risk to self is high, but the reward of You is abundant. Help us to only want and deeply desire “more of that” ... more of YOU! Amen!

MONTH

June 16

**By Debra Barner
(Lubbock, Texas)**

Joshua 16

Proverbs 17

Philippians 4

~~PEACE OF GOD~~

Even when you have a great faith, sometimes things arise within your spirit that give you a feeling of unease, gloom and doom, or hopelessness—possibly accompanied by a panic attack.

You may pray and that unease goes away, yet somehow that hopelessness lingers. And when that happens, you worry about it.

But Philippians 4:6 states, *“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be known to God...”* Oh, what peace when you put it in the Master’s hands! God assures you He will never leave you or forsake you. So even when hopelessness lingers, just pray without ceasing. Hold onto God’s unchanging Hands *“and the peace of God which surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”*

June 17

**By Veleria Chambers
(Tampa, Florida)**

Joshua 17

Proverbs 18

Colossians 1

~~Mentally Prepared~~

“And Joshua spake unto the house of Joseph, even to Ephraim and to Manasseh, saying, Thou art a great people, and hast great power: thou shalt not have one lot only” (Joshua 17:17 KJV).

Many people seem to know their inheritance. In Joshua 17:17, this was no exception. Joshua’s inheritance came with a promise. The people knew one portion was not enough. Do you feel a sense of discomfort when you shortchange yourself? Did you know that you have a prayer inheritance?

MONTH

June 18

**By Veleria Chambers
(Tampa, Florida)**

Joshua 18

Proverbs 19

Colossians 2

~~Blessing Received~~

Joshua 18:6 (KJV) reads, *“And the men arose, and went away: and Joshua charged them that went to describe the land, saying, Go and walk through the land, and describe it, and come again to me, that I may here cast lots for you before the LORD in Shiloh.”*

The people desired additional land. Furthermore, one portion of land did not appear to be enough. The request was not difficult for God. God gave Joshua the information for his people to obtain an increase. The land was already theirs to cultivate. Nonetheless, certain steps were required to obtain possessions of the blessings. The blessings of increase for healing mentally, physically, and financially are yours. Are you prepared to go and do the work?

June 19

**By Kim Hardy
(Arp, Texas)**

Joshua 19

Proverbs 20

Colossians 3

Growing pains hurt. Whether they are pains from growing muscles, or growing mentally, or growing spiritually, the growing often hurts. Like a muscle needs to be torn to grow, sins need to be torn away so that we, as Christians, can grow stronger in our faith. Paul tells us in Colossians that there are sins that we must put to death or put away.

A few “big” sins we are to put to death are sexual immorality, evil desire, and greed. The “big” sins can be hard to put to death, because we must walk away from the lifestyle that surrounds them. It hurts to walk away from something we’ve been a part of for a long time. Growing pains hurt, but God will see us through. He is with us as we put to death the “big” sins and He is with us when we put away the “small” sins in our lives. While we should steer clear of them all, He knows our nature to sin and is willing to make us new. Even so, we must be willing to go through the pains of growing.

“Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.”

Colossians 3:2

MONTH

Life

June 20

**By Kim Hardy
(Arp, Texas)**

Joshua 20

Proverbs 21

Colossians 4

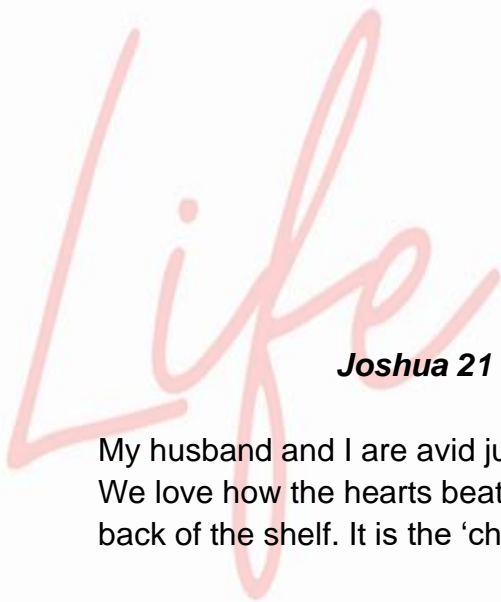
It's often said, "*Sticks and stones may break my bones, but your words will never hurt me!*" However, the truth is quite the opposite. Often your bones heal a lot faster than wounds caused by hurtful words hurled at you. Everyone is going through something difficult, has been through something difficult, or is about to go through something difficult. Life is not easy. Yet, we can make it better for everyone just by speaking the Truth to them. When we talk to others, we are speaking to someone that God loves. We can speak life and encourage those who cross our paths whether we know them or not.

If we want to see the world change, we have to change the way we see the world. We have to be the change and the change starts inside of us. When we ask God to change our hearts, we will see that we are more likely to speak life into others. Let's make a difference in our circles and speak life over the people that God puts in our lives.

*"Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt,
so that you may know how you should answer each person."*

Colossians 4:6

MONTH



June 21

**By Sandra Jones
(Brashear, Texas)**

Joshua 21

Proverbs 22

Colossians 5

My husband and I are avid junkers. We love the thrill, the hunt, the dirt, and the dust. We love how the hearts beat faster when we find that perfect treasure, hidden in the back of the shelf. It is the 'cherry on top of the Sundae' for us.

But there are times that it can be very overwhelming and frustrating as others are chasing after the same treasure that we are searching for. The rudeness of other people who are hunting for the same thing as us often tests our last nerve. Oh, the trials and testing we encounter when we come in contact with people like that!

We also can easily find ourselves getting distracted by all the bobbles and bits. Then, we find ourselves starting to chase squirrels . . .

How many times do we find ourselves in that same situation chasing the things of the world? We become "*like the waves of the sea being tossed back and forth.*" James 1:6. In those times, we lack a direction to follow as well as the wisdom we need as our character comes into question.

James 1:2-4 states: "*consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.*"

Those trials are a true blessing because, as James 1:12 states, "*blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him.*"

My dear friends, if only we find ourselves standing firm on the rock, that is the best treasure we can ever hope to find—In Jesus' name!

MONTH

June 22

**By Robert Becker
(Landsdowne, Pennsylvania)**

Joshua 22

Proverbs 23

James 2

Joshua 22

The Rush to Judgement

~or~

"People like me drive a BMW; you drive a Ford Focus..."

Three tribes, Reuben, Gad and the half tribe of Manasseh, are told to return to their homes in Gilead, on the other side of the Jordan. There, they built an altar which the other tribes found offensive. The Israelites gathered to make war against the three tribes. They assumed the three tribes had built an altar to a foreign god. They were wrong.

Reuben, Gad and Manasseh built the altar as a witness. In the future the other tribes might assume that the Jordan River was to be used as a barrier to separate them from the other tribes resulting in separation from Israel. When the priests heard the real reason for the altar, they realized they had rushed to judgement.

Why do people rush to judgement? There are many reasons. Perhaps the main reason is a desire to be morally superior or to assume the worst in people. It's a sinful desire to say, "I'm holier than thou."

The rush to judgement has a familiar voice:

"People like *me* drive a BMW. People like *you* drive a Ford Focus."

"People like *me* deserve to sit in the front row of the synagogue. People like *you* don't deserve to."

"People like *me* know the rabbi on a first name basis. The rabbi isn't all that interested in people like *you*."

And onwards . . .

The Bible doesn't approve of this lack of humility. "*God is opposed to the proud but gives grace to the humble.*" James 4:6. It was wrong for the tribes of Israel to assume the tribes were rebelling. Joshua 22 doesn't mention it, but they probably felt like fools by rushing to judgement.

Pride goeth before a fall. No one is better than anyone else.

(However, I will admit that I wouldn't be caught dead driving a Ford Focus! 😊)

MONTH

June 22 Continued . . .

Proverbs 23

Brooks Brother's vs. K-Mart

~or~

The Difference Between The Valuable and The Cheap

The first few verses deal with riches. In verses 1-8 the comparisons are in value:
*"The food of the rich is deceptive: 'He says eat and drink but he doesn't mean it.'
Cast but a glance at riches and they are gone."*

Basically, Solomon warns about desiring wealth. The fool is the one who can't tell the true value of anything. *"He will scorn the wisdom of your words."*

Verses 10-11 warn against not knowing the value of a boundary: Don't move it!
"Their defender is strong and he will take up their case against you."

The remainder of the chapter offers warnings against ignoring wisdom and instruction:
"Apply your heart to wisdom. Don't envy sinners. Their investments are worthless. Buy truth and don't sell it. The father of the righteous has joy."

Moral of the story: Go for *value*, not savings. Savings is deceptive if your investment isn't worth much. Investing in sin, folly, and drunkenness has no value; it will ruin your formal attire when you get beat up in your dress up!

(Also: Brooks Brothers has a no refund on damaged items...)

James 2

"Uh. You know the inappropriately dressed homeless guy you just threw out of the Sunday service? That was Jesus."

James chapter 2 is an obvious, but (too) often overlooked problem: special treatment for the VIPs and not so much for the kitchen staff!

I was in a fellowship where this was ignored 100% of the time. The hotsy totsy types were always showcased. Doctors and attorneys were made members immediately. The under than \$20,000 a year were often not allowed formal membership.

--Not sure if Jesus could have made the cut --Probably not.

MONTH

June 23

By Mary "SpiritFire" Frost
(Detroit, Michigan)

Joshua 23

Proverbs 24

James 3

From the beginning Our Creator loved us so much that He gave us instructions in how to live life to the fullest. He told us to walk blessed at all times by the Word that He had spoken. Because as we walk in the ways of the Lord, blessing and abundant life pursues us. It overtakes us in every day and in every thing that we set our hand to. Joshua 23:8-10

All Life belongs unto the Lord, and He knows and considers the heart of the wicked. He will reward those that stand for Life. Proverbs 24:11-14

A man is known by his works, not just by his words. Even as Faith is dead without works, so too are words without action. James 3:10

June 24

By T.K. Allen
(Lubbock, Texas)

Joshua 24

Proverbs 25

James 4

~~Choosing Life~~

Just as Joshua commanded the Israelites to choose whom they would serve (God or false gods), we make a choice every day when we choose life by serving God in our thoughts, words, and actions. We choose life in our thoughts by taking every thought captive to make it obedient to Christ and by checking each thought to see if it conforms to Philippians 4:8: "*Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.*" Our words will be full of life when they are kind, gracious, gentle, and speak the truth in love. "*Gracious words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones,*" Proverbs 16:24. Our actions will be full of life when we imitate Jesus. "*Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.*" Ephesians 5:2. May we choose to serve God with life in all our thoughts, words, and actions!

MONTH

Life

June 25

**By Beverly Barnes Speaks
(Location Unknown)**

Joshua 25

Proverbs 26

James 5

~~Have you got a secret?~~

Therefore, confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. James 5:16 (NIV)

It seems that we ALL have some something we don't really talk about. Maybe our closest friend knows, or not. Maybe our spouse or our sister knows, or not. I have found that secrets keep me from those I love the most. They hide in the depths of my heart and mind, only to come out and whisper to me. The devil tries to get me focused on anything but Jesus, and he does that by talking to me about the secrets.

God's word says to confess your sins to each other. Tell God. Tell your family, friends, church leaders, or fellow strugglers. If your sins are not secrets, you can be healed from the pain they cause. I have found that secrets are a type of lie and a lie is a sin. James 5:16 says to tell those around you and to pray for each other. We are not to talk *about* each other, but we are to pray *for* each other and *with* each other.

Confess to others and pray so that you may be healed. These are conditions of healing from the secrets we keep.

I long to be healed from my sins, the dark places I kept secret for so long. I want to move forward. I long to live in the light and that comes with healing. Healing comes with confession and prayer. If any parts of your life are secrets, the real you is not known. I challenge you to show the world how Jesus can heal us—by confessing any secrets you are keeping.

Telling my secrets has set me free.

MONTH

Life

June 26

**By Sara Sanchez
(Coachella, California)**

Habakkuk 2

Proverbs 27

1 Peter 1

~~Write The Vision~~

Habakkuk 2:2-3 AMP

2 And the Lord answered me and said, Write the vision and engrave it so plainly upon tablets that everyone who passes may [be able to] read [it easily and quickly] as he hastens by. 3 For the vision is yet for an appointed time and it hastens to the end [fulfillment]; it will not deceive or disappoint. Though it tarry, wait earnestly for it because it will surely come; it will not be behind hand on its appointed day.

What has God downloaded in your Spirit? Has He given you a vision? Then what are YOU waiting for? Write it down, Write the vision!

God will always minister to you and birth a vision that he has set for you to do!

Timing is everything, continue to stand your watch and see!

Meanwhile, what has he already given you, write that vision down. His promises have assured you that it will not tarry. To tarry means to wait, to abide, or stay in. It shall come to pass.

Sometimes it may seem like the revelation of God will never come, but when it does you will be sure to know the exact prophecy of the vision. Be prepared, as His answer may not come the way you expect. Your heart-to-heart conversations with him, your relationship, and the love that you share with one another will be so captivating and evident to you when He gives you the answer!

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MONTH

Life

June 26 Continued . . .

Habakkuk's transparent interchange with God models for us a *real* relationship with the Lord rather than a religious one. This biblical passage says to wait earnestly, and it shall come to pass. How exciting to wait in expectation—seriously and zealous in intention, purpose, or effort! As you wait for it, take a step of faith today. Ask God in prayer, and through fasting, find more directives about the vision he has given you.

God has called you to be a visionary! Through these visions and dreams, receive and continue to believe that these are God-given and are great possibilities of hope when articulated with enthusiasm! Stay encouraged and ask what God would like you to do and keep a journal. Yes, write it down, make it clear, and be inspiring to those who read it. Hearing the voice of God is the birthright of the born again. Habakkuk gives a great example of the posture that he took before God, enabling him to hear his voice.

How is your posture today? Be honest. Where would God like you to start? Need some encouragement? Counsel, from even a friend, can encourage you along the way!

Proverbs 27:9 NLT

The heartfelt counsel of a friend is as sweet as perfume and incense. Wow, I can't even imagine where I would be today without a support team of good friends. Friends that have loved on me and given me some heartfelt counsel.

This journey in life has had some seasons of great friends who have encouraged, empowered, and edified me along the way. Be encouraged to surround yourself with friends who understand the vision God has birthed within you!

DECLARATION: I declare that I am transformed and set apart for God's purpose and for the vision that He has called me to. I will continue to stand, to watch, and to see. I will take heed to heartfelt counsel from a friend, and to write the vision down!

(1 Peter 1 AMP)

MONTH

June 27

**By Sara Sanchez
(Coachella, California)**

Habakkuk 3

Proverbs 28

1 Peter 2

~~The LORD is your strength be bold as a Lion~~

Habakkuk 3: 17-19

17 Though the fig tree may not blossom, Nor fruit be on the vines; Though the labor of the olive may fail, And the fields yield no food; Though the flock may be cut off from the fold, And there be no herd in the stalls- 18 Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation. 19 The LORD God is my strength; He will make my feet like deer's feet, And He will make me walk on my high heels.

Through life's ups and downs, our faith can be shaken a bit . . . or a "lot-a-bit." Life can either make us or break us in our faith. In this passage, we see that Habakkuk focused his attention on God rather than on the circumstances. This is not always easy, especially when we acknowledge the difficulties in our situations. Yet we are capable of the same act of faith today! Habakkuk teaches us how to move from doubt to faith, from confusion to understanding, and from fear to hope. He asked genuine questions, waited for God's answers, and accepted them. He put his hope in God and experienced his presence. In faith, we must look beyond our present circumstances. Like Habakkuk did, we must place every bit of hope that we have left on God and rely on God's promises. Ultimately, we must set our hearts and eyes on God. Habakkuk focused and was strong in the LORD.

To be focused means to make concentrated, dedicated efforts toward the accomplishment of a task. In this case, Habakkuk focused on God and His promises through his faith.

Are you distracted, alone, or feeling afraid in your current circumstances? Be encouraged to focus on Jesus and trust Him to get you through any storm just like Habakkuk did! Refuse to be afraid, remain focused on Jesus, and you will be able to walk in faith and victory no matter the circumstance. As you focus on God, peace and joy will be your portion!

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MONTH

Life

June 27 Continued . . .

Proverbs 28:1 NLT

*The wicked flee when no one pursues them,
but the righteous are as bold as a lion.*

~~Bold Faith~~

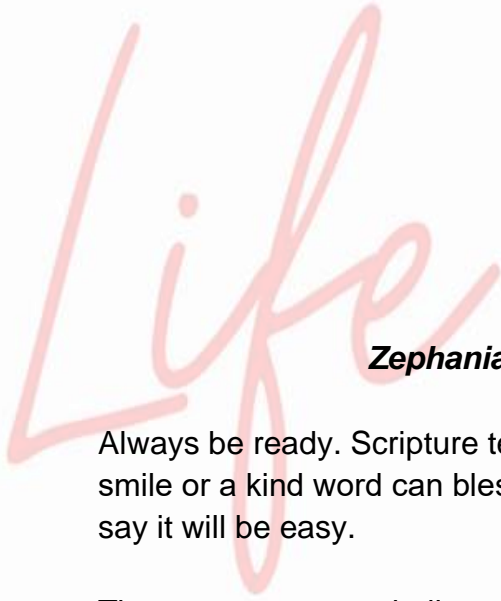
What does that look like? Standing when others walk away physically, spiritually, or mentally. Speaking up for righteousness when the time is favorable or not. Taking action when others think you may be ridiculous or overbearing in your faith. Being told, "You're doing way too much!!"

Do you usually encounter these voices of doubt or tactic plans of the enemy? Listen, God paid the ultimate price for you and me, and it's the least we can do by being bold in our faith and taking ACTION!

Being **bold** means to proceed with confidence and assurance, lacking fear. Do not lack the courage and strength of the Holy Spirit any longer. The Holy Spirit will keep you empowered and give you all that you need to be bold as a lion! Fear can only remain when we doubt God's promises. In Christ, "we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith" repent daily, refocus, and reset this good fight of faith. Lions arise!

DECLARATION: I declare by faith that I will focus on God's promises and not the circumstances. God is my strength, my Chief cornerstone. I am chosen, a consecrated nation, a special people for God's own possession who has called me out of darkness and into his marvelous light. I am a royal priesthood AND I AM BOLD AS A LION!
(1 Peter 2 AMP)

MONTH



June 28

**By Melanie King
(Lago Vista, Texas)**

Zephaniah 1

Proverbs 29

1 Peter 3

Always be ready. Scripture tells us to shine His light. We never know how even a simple smile or a kind word can bless someone. He has us here to be ready. Yet, He doesn't say it will be easy.

There are so many challenges in this journey to walk through, but also so many blessings to receive. Oftentimes, the challenges and blessings come through with no action of our own . . . life just happens. How we respond makes all the difference. And His way to respond is always the best, even when we question why or don't understand.

Our Father is ALWAYS ready to listen to us (even if it's been a while since He heard from us) and He will guide us. The Bible is ALWAYS helpful so that we can read or hear the Word. Filling our hearts with Him, we can be ready to receive His blessings, get through life's challenges and help others along our path. ANY situation can be addressed with scripture and prayer.

The world watches us as believers going through challenges and receiving blessings. They don't understand the peace we can receive from God until they themselves come to know Him. They don't understand how "trials" can actually be blessings. But if we trust and walk with the LORD, we can be ready to tell about our peace and the source of blessings.

The Lord has blessed us with today and a fresh start. His mercies are new EVERY morning. Ask Him to show you how to face TODAY. Just today. He will help us be ready for whatever today will bring—blessings or challenges. How can you be ready?

Prayer: Father, help me to look to You today for what is needed for today. I know that You know, Lord, what is needed today. Guide me, Father, to be ready. I pray that I shine Your Light in all situations. Thank you, Father, for your Love and Amazing Grace today! In Jesus Name, Amen.

MONTH

June 29

**By Sara Sanchez
(Coachella, California)**

Zephaniah 2

Proverbs 30

1 Peter 4

~~Seek His Righteousness & Truth~~

Zephaniah 2:3

*Seek the LORD all you meek of the earth,
Who have upheld His justice.*

Seek righteousness, seek humility.

It may be that you will be hidden in the day of the LORD'S anger.

As believers we need to guard our hearts, for out of it flows the issues of life and our behavior. We must guard against following the ways of the world. In the world around us, we are called to be the light in a dark place, the salt of the earth, and to encourage and inspire those who hear us through the words we speak. We are called to lead with love by example.

Zephaniah helps us understand the consequences of sin and how intense God's hatred is for sin. Sin is any thought or behavior that is contrary to the Word of God or His character. It is anything one thinks, says, or does that is displeasing to God. God calls his people today as he did then to be "in the world but not of the world." If you have found yourself in sin or situations of sin of any kind that you know you shouldn't be in, repent. If we are being honest, we know that we *all* fall short of his glory. Yet let us not be *excused* of sin but rather may we *repent*, lest we grieve the Holy Spirit.

Today is the day of salvation. Repent and come back to the heart of God! Seek the Lord and his righteousness and seek humility. We call out pride and come against it in the name of Jesus! In Jesus, you will be delivered from God's wrath and judgment against sin. Understand that it is the Holiness of Jesus that makes you holy. Walk in his ways and honor him. He not only took God's wrath for us, but He also gave His righteousness to us. In response to Jesus' immeasurable gift of Grace, let us walk in a manner pleasing to him.

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MONTH

Life

June 29 Continued . . .

Proverbs 30:5-6

*5 Every word of God is pure;
He is a shield to those who put their trust in him.
6 Do not add to his words,
lest he rebuke you, and you be found a liar.*

The Bible warns against either adding to or subtracting from its contents in Revelation 22:18. To add to or subtract from the Bible is at your own risk. Today We Live in a very passive world and many of us struggle with selfishness when it comes to the sacrifice that is required to truly obey the word of the LORD. We must take heed and know that the beginning of wisdom is the fear of the LORD. God is a shield to those who put their trust in him and who revere HIS WORD. But we must also remember that His truth is not our truth. We must be cautious to turn our eyes upon Him and ask Him to reveal His ways to us to guide us.

DECLARATION: I am in this world but not of this world. Father, forgive me for known and unknown sins in my life. As I turn away from sin, I choose to pick up your cross daily. For by Your sacrifice, I am the righteousness of God. I will not please my human appetite but I will do the will of my Father. I am a Warrior, and I want to do what is pleasing in His sight because I fear the LORD! (1 Peter 4 AMP)

MONTH

June 30

**By Shawna Sifuentez
(Lubbock, Texas)**

Zephaniah 3

Proverbs 31

1 Peter 5

Zephaniah 3

This passage speaks to me boldly, regarding the time we have left. So many people are marching to their own beat. They won't accept any correction or are easily offended when following Christ. But this scripture reminds us that everyone will be judged at the end of times. Everyone will answer to the Lord in the end, and those who deny him and his correction will be judged harshly. But with the righteous, he will take such delight and sing over them. He will restore their fortunes before their eyes. Are you open to receiving his correction and obeying his commands?

Proverbs 31

This scripture is one of my most favorites. We read about faithful, virtuous women. This example gives us such a specific way a Christian woman should carry not only herself, but also her affairs. As women, we are to be noble and trustworthy, yet wise. You see, a woman, wife, mother-- should be the person that puts her family before herself. She should have the heart of a servant for her husband and her kids. Christ called all of us to be His hands and feet. She is also clothed with dignity because her strength comes from God. She is worth more than rubies and gold. She is valuable, in my book! Are you a virtuous woman?

1 Peter 5

This passage speaks to those moments we all have in our life. You know: the ones that are hard to overcome or understand? The moments when we feel like suffering will never end?

Maybe you have been sick, experienced heartbreak, or financial hardship. When we experience hardship, we discover that we are not exempt from hard times, just because we follow Christ. The exciting thing about this is that after we have suffered for some time, whether it be days, weeks, months, or even years-- Christ will restore us. He will make us solid and steadfast. Will you trust him in this process?

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LIFE MONTH