

# Grace Devotion

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Week of October 19, 2025

*When peace like a river, attendeth my way, When sorrows like sea billows roll—Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say It is well, it is well with my soul.* “It Is Well with My Soul,” reproduction of original manuscript, [spaffordhymn.com](http://spaffordhymn.com).

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I have so many favorite hymns—ones that fill me with joy, ones that fill me with reverence, ones that I turn to when I am feeling lost. *It Is Well with My Soul* is the one I turn to for all emotions and moments. It fills me with peace, with comfort, and with hope.

But do you know the story behind it? Horatio Spafford wrote this hymn during one of the darkest seasons of his life. He was a successful attorney and investor who lost a fortune in 1871—in the Great Chicago Fire. At the same time, his four-year-old son died of scarlet fever. The family was heartbroken so Horatio thought that a vacation would help them all. He sent his wife and four daughters on a ship to England and he was going to join them after he finished some business. While crossing the Atlantic Ocean, the ship collided with another ship and sank. All four of his daughters died (more than 200 total people). His wife survived and sent him a telegram that began, “Saved alone. What shall I do?” Horatio immediately set sail for England and the captain, knowing what happened, alerted Horatio that they were crossing over the spot of the shipwreck. As he thought about his daughters, he was still filled with hope and comfort. He penned the words to our familiar hymn, *When peace like a river, attendeth my way, When sorrows like sea billows roll— Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say It is well, it is well with my soul.*

We face many storms in our own lives. Even when Horatio’s life seemed to be swept away by grief, sorrow, and despair, he was still able to find comfort in his faith. He was able to trust that he was not alone in the valley and that with God’s loving presence, *It is well, it is well with my soul.*

**Prayer:** Loving God, in the valleys of our lives, trapped in the deepest, darkest storms, remind us of Your presence. We hold onto the promise that we are never alone. Your love steadies us when everything else is unsteady. Teach us to trust that even in grief, loss, and despair, that Your Spirit surrounds us with peace that passes understanding. Help to strengthen our faith so that in every season of our lives, we can say *It is well, it is well with my soul.* Amen

With Grace and Love,

Pastor Amy

October 19, 2025

**Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Welcome/Announcements

Westminster Chimes and Prelude

\*\*+“It Is Well You – Kristene DiMarco | Make Me Brave”  
\*screen only

\*\* Call to Worship

Lector: Whether peace flows like a river or troubles rise like waves, we come to God.

**Congregation: In every season, God’s presence is our strength and our song.**

Lector: Christ meets us in our joy and carries us in our pain.

**Congregation: Because of God’s love, it is well with our souls.**

Lector: Let us worship our God, the one who brings peace beyond all understanding.

**Congregation: We come with grateful hearts to worship God together.**

\*\* Opening Prayer: (pray silently or aloud)

**Gracious God, You are the One who steadies us when life feels shaky and brings calm when the waters rise. Let Your peace flow like a river to quiet our worries and center us in Your love. Remind us that no matter what comes our way, Christ carries our burdens, and in Him we are made whole. It is well with our souls. Amen**

\*\* Sharing the Peace of Christ

\*\*° Hymn: “It Is Well with My Soul” **#493**

Celebration of Our Gifts

\*\* Offertory Response: It Is Well with My Soul (*refrain*)

\*\* Prayer of Dedication

Prayer of Confession/Silent Reflection/Assurance of Grace

Joys and Concerns  
Praying for Others  
Lord’s Prayer

° Hymn: “It Is Well with My Soul” **#493**

Scripture Readings:

2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

Luke 18:1-8

Time for the Young at Heart

Message: “Peace Like a River”

\*\*+“Even If” \*screen only

\*\* Final Blessing

\*\* “A Choral Benediction”

Postlude

\*\* Please stand, if you are able.

+ Black contemporary folder

° Blue hymnal

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## Announcements

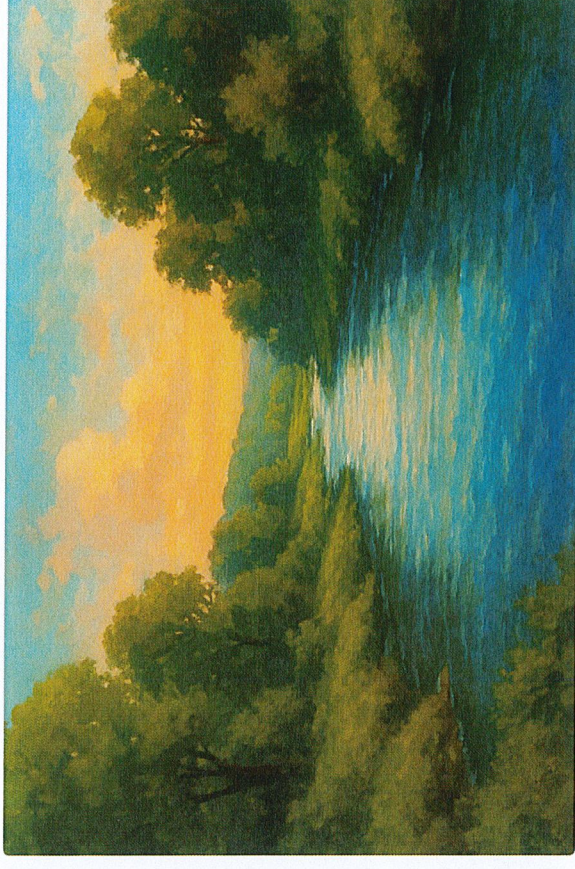
- Youth Sunday School Kick-off started September 21<sup>st</sup>
- Harvest Home collections – If you have any nonperishable items, please remember to bring them in. Donations are going God's Meal Barrel
- There are over 800 families in need of Thanksgiving Dinner this year. We are collecting 800 cans (15 oz) fruit cocktail for donation to New Hope Ministries

## Upcoming Events

- Women's Ministry, October 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 7:30 pm
- Grace Trick or Treat, October 28<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00 – 8:00 pm
- Annual Meeting, November 16<sup>th</sup>, following worship

## Upcoming Meetings

- Faith Formation, October 27<sup>th</sup> @ 4:30 pm
- Worship & Music, October 27<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00 pm



Grace United Church of Christ

100 Fourth Street

Hanover, Pennsylvania 17331

717-632-1146

Prayer Line: 717-632-1146 LINE 3

**Thank you for today's Worship Leaders:**

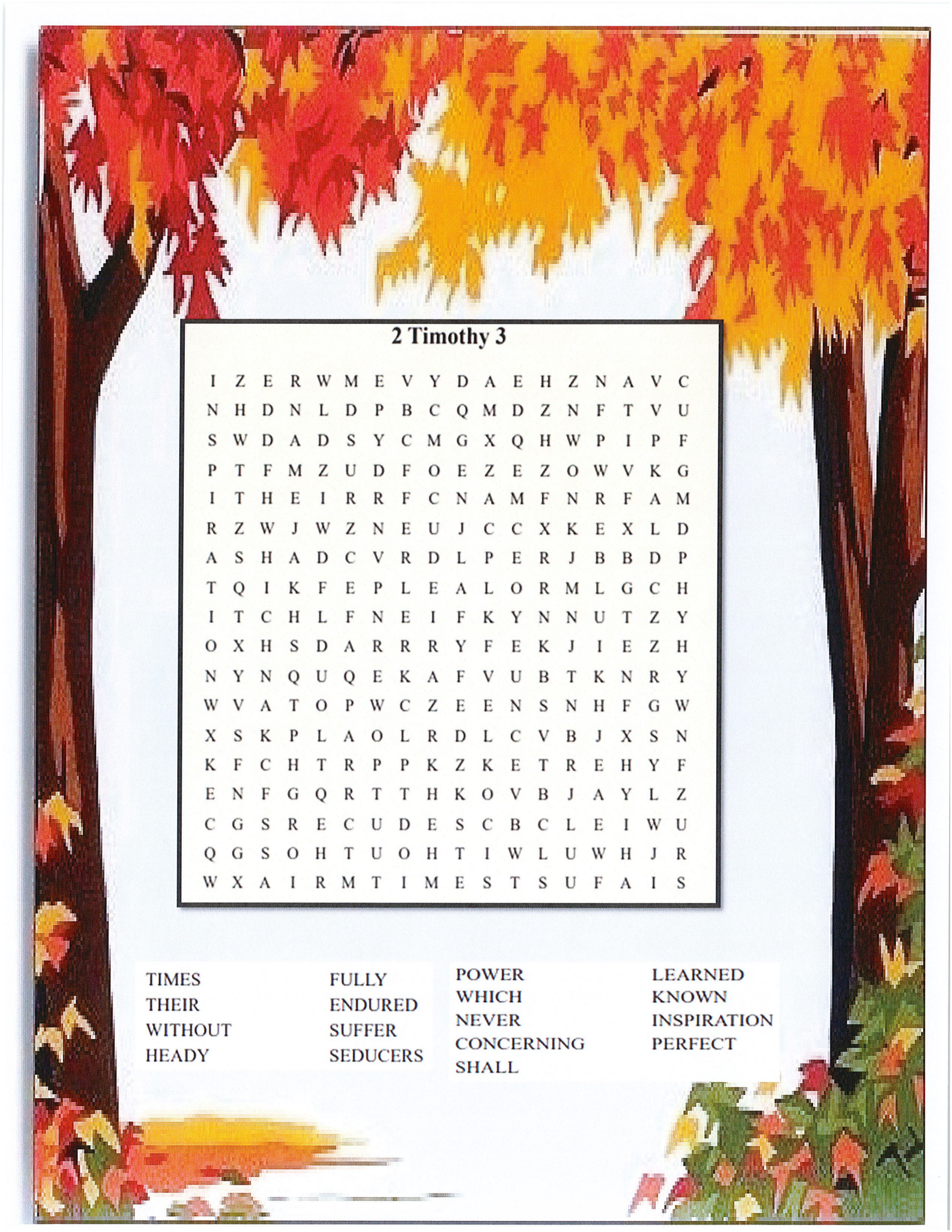
Pastor - Amy Fawks

Lector - Fay Emlet

Organist and Music Director - Christian Keller

Head Usher – Becky Boyer & Chelsea Topper





## 2 Timothy 3

I Z E R W M E V Y D A E H Z N A V C  
N H D N L D P B C Q M D Z N F T V U  
S W D A D S Y C M G X Q H W P I P F  
P T F M Z U D F O E Z E Z O W V K G  
I T H E I R R F C N A M F N R F A M  
R Z W J W Z N E U J C C X K E X L D  
A S H A D C V R D L P E R J B B D P  
T Q I K F E P L E A L O R M L G C H  
I T C H L F N E I F K Y N N U T Z Y  
O X H S D A R R R Y F E K J I E Z H  
N Y N Q U Q E K A F V U B T K N R Y  
W V A T O P W C Z E E N S N H F G W  
X S K P L A O L R D L C V B J X S N  
K F C H T R P P K Z K E T R E H Y F  
E N F G Q R T T H K O V B J A Y L Z  
C G S R E C U D E S C B C L E I W U  
Q G S O H T U O H T I W L U W H J R  
W X A I R M T I M E S T S U F A I S

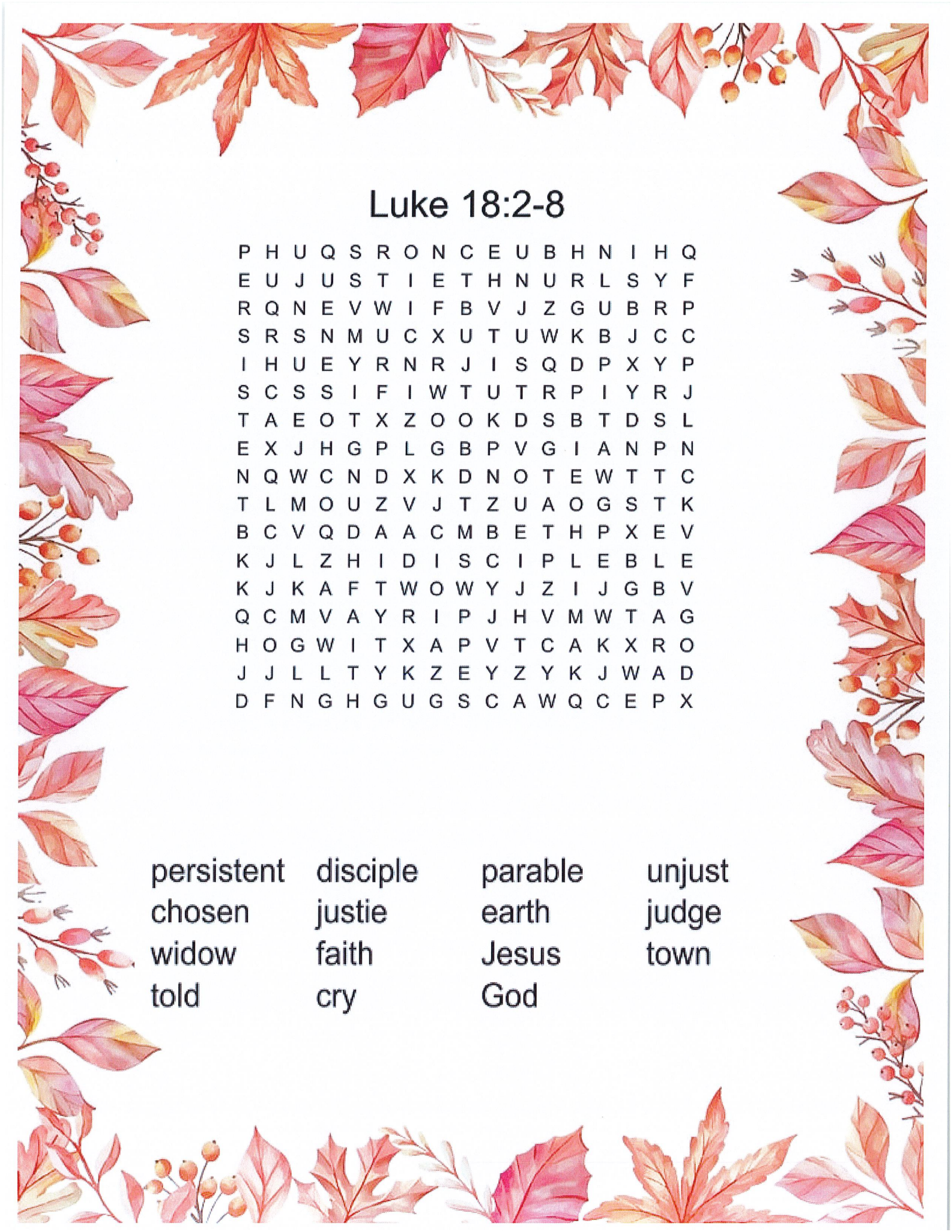
TIMES  
THEIR  
WITHOUT  
HEADY

FULLY  
ENDURED  
SUFFER  
SEDUCERS

POWER  
WHICH  
NEVER  
CONCERNING  
SHALL

LEARNED  
KNOWN  
INSPIRATION  
PERFECT





## Luke 18:2-8

P H U Q S R O N C E U B H N I H Q  
E U J U S T I E T H N U R L S Y F  
R Q N E V W I F B V J Z G U B R P  
S R S N M U C X U T U W K B J C C  
I H U E Y R N R J I S Q D P X Y P  
S C S S I F I W T U T R P I Y R J  
T A E O T X Z O O K D S B T D S L  
E X J H G P L G B P V G I A N P N  
N Q W C N D X K D N O T E W T T C  
T L M O U Z V J T Z U A O G S T K  
B C V Q D A A C M B E T H P X E V  
K J L Z H I D I S C I P L E B L E  
K J K A F T W O W Y J Z I J G B V  
Q C M V A Y R I P J H V M W T A G  
H O G W I T X A P V T C A K X R O  
J J L L T Y K Z E Y Z Y K J W A D  
D F N G H G U G S C A W Q C E P X

persistent  
chosen  
widow  
told

disciple  
justie  
faith  
cry

parable  
earth  
Jesus  
God

unjust  
judge  
town