

# *the* bread of life devotional

“And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, That man shall not

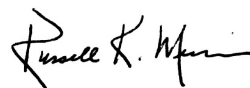
July 1, 2010

Dear Reader,

It is the very middle of the year 2011. You may be looking forward to an upcoming vacation, planning a long weekend over the Fourth of July, or trying to get to a couple of professional baseball games before summer's end.

The summer months are filled with all kinds of fun activities for the entire family. The Bible says in Ecclesiastes 3:1, ***“To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven.”*** Enjoy the precious time with your family that the Lord has given you. Use your time together to discuss what God is doing in your lives. Encourage one another with the blessings God has already given you this year.

In Christ,



Pastor Russ Merrin  
Monclova Road Baptist Church

# Thursday

July 1

## Heaven—A Real Place

*“Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I got to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.”*  
**John 14:1-3**

Probably, if you are reading this devotional, you believe that Heaven is a real place. In fact, an ABC poll found that nine out of ten people in the United States believe in Heaven. But, do you live like Heaven is a reality? Think about it. How does your knowledge of Heaven affect your every day life? Does it affect your life?

How easy it is to get wrapped completely in the problems of today and forget about the promises of tomorrow! There are a couple of wonderful promises in today’s Scripture passage.

First, Jesus promises to prepare a place for believers in Heaven. Secondly, He promises to come again and take believers home. Finally, He promises that believers will be with Him. Those promises give reason to celebrate! If you have believed on Jesus Christ and given your life to Him, your future is totally secure!

So, how does that knowledge affect you? Jesus knew there would be days when your heart would be troubled. He knew there would be weeks when you wanted to throw in the towel. Graciously, He gave us the promise of Heaven, the promise of security in Him. Do you believe in Heaven? Live every day with the assurance of a wonderful future! ~MFV

Morning: Job 21,22  
Evening: Acts 10:1-23

### Scripture Fill-In

John 17:11-12 “And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the \_\_\_\_\_, and I \_\_\_\_\_ to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast \_\_\_\_\_ me, that they may be one, as we are. While I was with them in the world, I \_\_\_\_\_ them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled.”

### Bible Quiz

**Multiple Choice:** Circle the correct answer about Christ’s ascension. Acts 1:9-11

1. Jesus Christ was taken to Heaven in what?  
A. A chariot                      C. A cloud  
B. A pillar of fire                D. A whirlwind
2. How many men in white apparel stood by the onlookers?  
A. 2                                      C. 10  
B. 4                                      D. 20
3. The men in white apparel said which of the following statements?  
A. “Why stand ye gazing up into heaven?”  
B. “Jesus . . . Shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.”  
C. Neither A nor B  
D. Both A and B

### Quote of the Day

“Thanksgiving is good but thanks-living is better.”  
~Matthew Henry

# Friday

July 2

## Christ Is Better Than Anything

*“For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.” Psalm 84:10*

It’s called the “sweet spot.” Every batter in baseball knows where it is. They dream about the sound the bat makes when they find it. From 5-year-old T-ball players to 25-year-old Major League All-Stars, every one of them wants to find the sweet spot. But it’s not just for baseball. Have you ever seen the look on a basketball player’s face when they know their shot is going in? Watch highlights of Michael Jordan from back in the day or of LeBron James now, and you will see what I mean.

As athletes, we all want to live in the sweet spot. And I believe that, as Christians, we also want to live in the sweet spot—God’s sweet spot. In the Psalms, we can read about such a place. “Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere.”

Think about the best game you ever played. Maybe it was the championship football game in which you ran for 200 yards, or maybe it was the track meet where you ran the 100 in under 10 seconds to win the state championship. Whatever your athletic highlight, it can not compare to a single day in God’s courts.

The good news is that, unlike pitchers who try to avoid letting the batters into a sweet spot, God is not trying to hide His from us. He is not throwing curve balls or nasty sliders. He tells us exactly how to get to His sweet spot. All we have to do is read His Word and seek Him.  
~AP

Morning: Job 23-25  
Evening: Acts 10:24-48

### Scripture Fill-In

John 17:11-12 “And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the \_\_\_\_\_, and I \_\_\_\_\_ to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast \_\_\_\_\_ me, that they may be one, as we are. While I was with them in the world, I \_\_\_\_\_ them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and \_\_\_\_\_ of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled.”

### Bible Quiz

**Who’s Who:** Label each description with one of the following Biblical characters: Stephen, John, Joseph, Saul, or Josiah.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1. He was sold for 20 pieces of silver. Gen. 37:27-28

\_\_\_\_\_ 2. Before he was martyred, he said, “Lord, lay not this sin to their charge.” Acts 7:59-60

\_\_\_\_\_ 3. This son of Zebedee had a brother name James, and they requested to sit at the right and left hand of God in Heaven. Mk. 10:35-45

\_\_\_\_\_ 4. He began his reign at the age of eight. 2 Ki. 22:1

\_\_\_\_\_ 5. He was Israel’s first king. 1 Sam. 8-10

### Quote of the Day

“Thou hast given so much to me . . . Give me one thing more—a grateful heart.”

~George Herbert

# Saturday

July 3

## Faith and Sight

*“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”  
Hebrews 11:1*

During a stay in a small village tucked in the side of a mountain surrounded by the Swiss Alps, I witnessed nature’s illustration of faith. The entire first week of my stay in the mountains were covered in a thick cloud. The fog seemed opaque and obscured nearby chalets as well as what everyone said was a stunning view of the mountains. Going by my senses and experiences alone, I would have concluded that there were no mountains. I could see no mountains. All I saw was grayish-white fog. But, because I believed the experience and witness of others who had seen them, I had faith that they did, indeed, exist.

The day came when the sun broke through, and the haze of fog cleared. A sight more majestic than I had imagined met my eyes. Huge, towering, white-capped peaks loomed at what seemed a short distance because of their enormity. It seemed ludicrous that I had ever doubted their existence. As I gazed in breathless awe at the mountains that day, I had a small glimpse into what it means for faith to become sight.

One day we will know even as we are known. Our earthly existence at times seems like a muddle through thick fog, but the day will come when the splendor of full reality will be revealed to our hungry eyes. The hope of faith removes the despair of days in the fog.  
~AJD

Morning: Job 26-28  
Evening: Acts 11

### Scripture Fill-In

John 17:11-12 “And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the \_\_\_\_\_, and I \_\_\_\_\_ to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast \_\_\_\_\_ me, that they may be one, as we are. While I was with them in the world, I \_\_\_\_\_ them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and \_\_\_\_\_ of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the \_\_\_\_\_ might be fulfilled.”

### Bible Quiz

**Multiple Choice:** Circle the correct answer.

1. What were the Israelites commanded to attach to their doorposts? Deut. 6:6-9
  - A. Verses of the Law
  - B. Skins of dead animals
  - C. Hooks
  - D. A prayer shawl.
2. What prophecy was given in Psalm 69:21 and fulfilled in Matthew 27:34?
  - A. Enemies provided vinegar to drink.
  - B. Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey.
  - C. Joseph buried Jesus in his own tomb.
  - D. Jesus was born in Bethlehem.

### Quote of the Day

“The most ordinary moment in Heaven will be much better than the most special moment here! And we’ll never worry that things are about to take a turn for the worse. Because they never will.”  
~Randy Alcorn

Foundational Quotes of the

# *United States of America*

## **Patrick Henry**

"It cannot be emphasized too clearly and too often that this nation was founded, not by religionists, but by Christians; not on religion, but on the gospel of Jesus Christ. For this very reason, peoples of other faiths have been afforded asylum, prosperity, and freedom of worship here."

*May 1765*

## **Alexander Hamilton**

"For my own part, I sincerely esteem it [the Constitution] a system which without the finger of God, never could have been suggested and agreed upon by such a diversity of interests."

*1787*

## **Samuel Adams**

"Let divines and philosophers, statesmen and patriots, unite their endeavors to renovate the age by impressing the minds of men with the importance of educating their little boys and girls, inculcating in the minds of youth the fear and love of the Deity... and leading them in the study and practice of the exalted virtues of the Christian system."

*October 4, 1790*

## **John Adams**

"I have examined all religions, as well as my narrow sphere, my straightened means, and my busy life, would allow; and the result is that the Bible is the best Book in the world. It contains more philosophy than all the libraries I have seen."

*December 25, 1813*

## **John Jay**

"Providence has given to our people the choice of their rulers, and it is the duty, as well as the privilege and interest of our Christian nation to select and prefer Christians for their rulers."

*October 12, 1816*

# Sunday

July 4

## Liberty in the Spirit

*“Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like . . . they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.” Galatians 5:16-21*

God is so gracious with His divine instruction for our benefit. Walk (live) in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. Our daily walk will be a struggle, especially if we attempt it in our own strength, but victory belongs to His followers.

Now, get yourself a dictionary and find the meaning of these words:

- |                   |             |
|-------------------|-------------|
| 1. Adultery       | 6. Strife   |
| 2. Fornication    | 7. Wrath    |
| 3. Uncleanness    | 8. Envy     |
| 4. Lasciviousness | 9. Reveling |
| 5. Drunkenness    | 10. Hatred  |

When you understand these words, you will fully understand why God has a Holy hatred for the complications of sin.

Ask God to expose your hidden sins, that He might cleanse you from all that hinders your work for Him. ~OV

Morning: Job 29-30  
Evening: Acts 12

### Scripture Fill-In

James 1:12 “Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.”

### Bible Quiz

**True and False:** Put an *F* in the blank if the answer is false and a *T* in the blank if the answer is true.

- \_\_\_ 1. After Moses died, Caleb became the next leader. Deut. 34:9
- \_\_\_ 2. Before Moses died, he laid hands on Joshua. Deut. 34:9
- \_\_\_ 3. In Moses’ final words to the tribes, he called the tribe of Naphtali, “Beloved of the LORD.” Deut. 33:12
- \_\_\_ 4. Because of his sin, Moses never even saw the Promised Land. Deut. 32:48-52
- \_\_\_ 5. After Moses’ death, the Israelites followed their new leader and did as God had commanded Moses. Deut. 34:9

### Quote of the Day

“Talk with us, Lord, Thyself reveal,  
While there o’er earth we move;  
Speak to our hearts, and let us feel  
The kindling of Thy love.

With thee conversing, we forget  
All time, and toil, and care;  
Labor is rest, and pain is sweet,  
If Thou, my God, art there.”

~Charles Wesley

# Monday

July 5

## Delivered for Our Offenses

***“Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.”  
Romans 4:25***

The “who” that was delivered in this verse was Jesus. He was God’s special delivery to us. Jesus was delivered from Heaven to earth through the virgin Mary by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Why was He delivered? According to this verse, He was delivered for our offences. It was not for crimes that He had done or sins that He had committed, that caused Him to face the cruel cross. It was for our offences that He chose to die that horrible death. The main reason that Jesus came to earth was not to feed the hungry, nor was it to heal the sick. Even though He did both of those things, the reason that He came was to die on the cross to pay our sin debt.

Praise God this verse does not end with His death. He was raised for our justification. Justification is a judicial act of God that clears us from the guilt and penalty of our sins. God takes our sins and the debt that we have incurred because of them and allows them to be paid for by Jesus. Then, God takes the sinless righteousness of Jesus and gives it to us. We are cleared from all guilt and declared just as far as God’s law is concerned.

Jesus was delivered for our offences and raised for our justification. And, we have become new creatures with a new chance to serve Him. ~DLW

Morning: Job 31-32  
Evening: Acts 13:1-23

### Scripture Fill-In

James 1:12 “\_\_\_\_\_ is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.”

### Bible Quiz

**Matching:** Match the judge with the description.

- \_\_\_\_ 1. Othniel  
(Jdg. 3:7-11)
- \_\_\_\_ 2. Ehud  
(Jdg. 3:12-30)
- \_\_\_\_ 3. Shamgar  
(Jdg. 3:31)
- \_\_\_\_ 4. Gideon  
(Jdg. 6-8)
- \_\_\_\_ 5. Jephthah  
(Jdg. 11-12)

- A. Defeated the Ammonites
- B. The Lord delivered the king of Mesopotamia into his hand.
- C. Defeated Midianites with only 300 men
- D. Killed Eglon with a dagger
- E. Rescued Israel by killing 600 Philistines

### Quote of the Day

“Every one has time if he likes. Business runs after nobody: People cling to it of their own free will and think that to be busy is a proof of happiness.”  
~Seneca

# Tuesday

July 6

## His Mercy Endureth Forever

*“O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.”*

*Psalm 136:1*

The phrase *“His mercy endureth for ever”* is used 26 times in Psalm 136. Mercy is defined as treating the offender better than he deserves. Endure means to continue in the same state without perishing. *“His mercy endureth forever”* simply means that God treats us better than we deserve and will continue to do so for an eternity.

We are to be thankful for His mercy, for His goodness, for His great wonders, creation, wisdom, protection from enemies, and His provisions for us. This psalm tells us that His mercy is repeated and will be forever, and we should take comfort in the fact that He will indeed always be there for us. It is our duty to give thanks each and every day for all His goodness to us.

In 2 Chronicles 5, Solomon dedicated the temple he built to God, and he also used the phrase *“His mercy endureth for ever.”* As in the days of Solomon to the days of Paul to today, it is imperative that we give thanks daily to the King of kings and Lord of lords.

We should also thank God for giving us the grace and mercy to endure. James 5:11 says, *“Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.”*

Morning: Job 33-34  
Evening: Acts 13:24-52

I challenge you today to be thankful for every trial, tribulation, and all the good things that happens in your life. ~KAT

### Scripture Fill-In

James 1:12 “\_\_\_\_\_ is the man that endureth \_\_\_\_\_: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.”

### Bible Quiz

**Multiple Choice:** Circle the correct answer.

- In Ruth 4:7-8, what was done to seal the agreement between Ruth’s kinsman redeemers?
  - Gave gifts
  - Set up a stone
  - Offered a sandal
  - A handshake
- God appeared to Elijah by what means?  
1 Ki. 19:9-13
  - A thick cloud and a flaming fire
  - A burning bush
  - A still, small voice
  - A cloud and a voice

### Quote of the Day

“I am sorry for men who do not read the Bible every day. I wonder why they deprive themselves of the strength and the pleasure.”

~Woodrow Wilson

# Wednesday

July 7

## Flip-Flop Hiking

**“But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.” Psalm 1:2**

Recently, my family and I took a trip to North Carolina. One day, we decided to do some exploring and ventured to see a natural rock wall. It was a hot, humid day, and I donned some shorts and flip flops, trying to keep cool. Little did I know that in order to reach the rock wall we had to hike up a mountain. Looking at my footwear, I knew I was grossly unprepared. However, we had driven a little ways to see the rock wall, and I did not want ruin our expedition, so I decided to hike in the flip-flops. Help us all! The hike was very intense, ending in 334 wooden steps. My experience would have been so much more pleasurable had I been prepared for the journey.

Sadly, that is how many live their spiritual lives—unprepared for the journey. Being consistently in the Word of God prepares God’s children. Referring to the blessed man Psalm 1:2 says, **“In his law doth he meditate day and night.”**

Be in the Word to help you flee from temptation and the ploys Satan uses to destroy. Ephesians 6:17 says, **“Take the . . . sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.”** God’s Word is our defense in battle. It is **“quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit.”** Secondly, be in the Word to keep your heart close to the Savior. James

Morning: Job 35-37  
Evening: Acts 14

4:8 says, **“Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you.”**

Be prepared for the journey God has ahead of you! ~MFV

### Scripture Fill-In

James 1:12 “\_\_\_\_\_ is the man that endureth \_\_\_\_\_: for when he is tried, he shall receive the \_\_\_\_\_ of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.”

### Bible Quiz

**True and False:** Put a *T* in the blank if the answer is true and an *F* in the blank if the answer is false. Refer to Matthew 4.

- \_\_\_\_ 1. Jesus fasted 30 days before being tempted by Satan.
- \_\_\_\_ 2. Satan first tempted Jesus with food.
- \_\_\_\_ 3. Jesus used the Word of God to resist Satan’s temptation.
- \_\_\_\_ 4. After the temptation, Jesus was alone.

### Quote of the Day

“What does your anxiety do? It does not empty tomorrow of its sorrow, but it does empty today of its strength. It does not make you escape the evil; it makes you unfit to cope with it when it comes.”  
~Ian Maclaren

# Thursday

July 8

## God's Game Plan

***“All the people shall shout with a great shout, and the wall of the city shall fall down flat.”  
Joshua 6:5b***

In all my years of watching sports, I have seen quite a few game plans. There have been trick plays, last-minutes heroics, and the tremendous execution of skills in amazing victories. One of the greatest game plans I ever saw was carried out by the 1985 Villanova Wildcats in their defeat of the Georgetown Hoyas. It was simply a great game and great plan by Coach Massimino.

In the Old Testament, we read a fascinating story about a man with an interesting plan. As the Israelites entered the land flowing with milk and honey, their leader, Joshua, was confronted by the commander of the Lord's Army. This commander issued a game plan for Joshua and his troops to take over Jericho. Joshua listened intently and reported his plan back to his troops. That report might have gone something like this..."OK, I've been told that we are to march around the city walls once a day for six days, and then, on the seventh day, go around seven times, blow our horns, and then yell. If we do that, the walls will fall down. Got it? Ready... Break!"

God has given us a game plan—the Word of God! Are you playing by the rules? ~AP

Morning: Job 38-39  
Evening: Acts 15:1-21

### Scripture Fill-In

James 1:12 “\_\_\_\_\_ is the man that endureth \_\_\_\_\_: for when he is tried, he shall receive the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.”

### Bible Quiz

**Short Answer:** Complete each of the following questions.

1. Who was the first musician mentioned in the Bible and what instruments did he play?

Gen. 4:21

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What was the occupation of Eleazar?

Josh. 14:1 \_\_\_\_\_

3. What wicked king and queen killed a man to gain his vineyard for their own use? 1 Ki. 21

\_\_\_\_\_

4. What king did not listen to sound advice and forced the people to work harder? What was the result of the king's actions? 1 Ki. 12:24

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Quote of the Day

“Don't worry about anything, pray about everything.” ~Author Unknown

# Friday

July 9

## A Contaminated Life

*“Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savor, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.” Matthew 5:13*

High school chemistry class was a mixture of adventure and boredom. I mainly experienced the latter. Extra-curricular experiments, usually ending with singed knuckles and a sharp reprimand, were the only escape from extended days of boredom. Strangely enough, one of the lessons learned in that class holds the key for Matthew 5:13.

A believer is indeed the salt of the earth. Our task is to create a thirst for Christ in those around us. So how do we lose our “saltiness”? A chemical analysis of salt will help us understand this important principle.

Sodium chloride (salt) is a nearly indestructible compound. Salt does not lose its attributes except by contamination. A believer is similar. We are stable creatures, rooted in our security and indwelling of Christ. However, when a believer becomes contaminated with wordly and sinful behavior, he or she dilutes the very attributes that set them apart.

What would your neighbors, family members, or coworkers say about you? Does your life create a thirst for Christ? Do not live a contaminated life. Be a vessel that Christ can use today. ~JSV

Morning: Job 40-42  
Evening: Acts 15:22-41

### Scripture Fill-In

James 1:12 “\_\_\_\_\_ is the man that endureth \_\_\_\_\_: for when he is tried, he shall receive the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, which the Lord hath \_\_\_\_\_ to them that love him.”

### Bible Quiz

**Multiple Choice:** Circle the correct answer.

1. Who was Joshua’s father? Josh. 14:1  
A. Eleazar  
B. Nun  
C. Jephunneh  
D. Aaron
2. How was the promised land distributed to the tribes? Josh. 14:2  
A. First choice went to the oldest  
B. By bids between the tribes  
C. By lot  
D. Joshua and Caleb decided.
3. What tribe was divided into two tribes? Josh. 14:4  
A. Dan  
B. Judah  
C. Reuben  
D. Joseph

### Quote of the Day

“Those who dive into the sea of affliction bring up rare pearls.”  
~C.H. Spurgeon

# Saturday

July 10

## Eyewitness Account

*“That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of Life.”*  
*1 John 1:1*

Have you ever been an eye witness to an incredible event? Recently, the northwest corner of Ohio and the southern part of Michigan were ravaged by a wicked tornado. Many residents of Ohio heard the storm, saw the storm, and, in an effort to pick up the pieces, handled the debris of the storm. If you talk to the people of Dundee, Michigan; Delta, Ohio; Millbury, Ohio; and many other communities, they will confirm the event to which they were eye witnesses. They were there. They were eye witnesses to the awesome power of a storm. As powerful as the storms were, it is humbling to think that Jesus Christ, by a simple spoken word, controls the winds and the rain.

The Apostle John was an eye witness to the Word of Life. He saw Jesus Christ! As John begins his epistle, he lends credibility to his account by letting his reader know that he was an eyewitness. He was not just someone who heard someone else tell a story. He was involved. To him, Jesus Christ was a person Whom he personally saw with his eyes, heard with his ears, and touched with his own hands. He was not a myth, not a news story, not hearsay; He was God in the flesh.

The scenes in Millbury and Delta were humbling. The awesome power of the storm is beyond explanation. The power of the wind is

Morning: *Psalm 1-3*  
Evening: *Acts 16:1-15*

real. But remember, just like the things the people of Northwest Ohio have seen, heard, and touched concerning this storm; John reminds us that Jesus Christ is just as real. You can believe John’s account of Christ; he was there. ~PO

## Scripture Fill-In

James 1:12 “\_\_\_\_\_ is the man that endureth \_\_\_\_\_: for when he is tried, he shall receive the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, which the Lord hath \_\_\_\_\_ to them that \_\_\_\_\_ him.”

## Bible Quiz

**What Location?:** Label each event with the city in which it took place. Pick from the following cities: Capernaum, Nazareth, Samaria, Jericho, Bethany, Bethlehem.

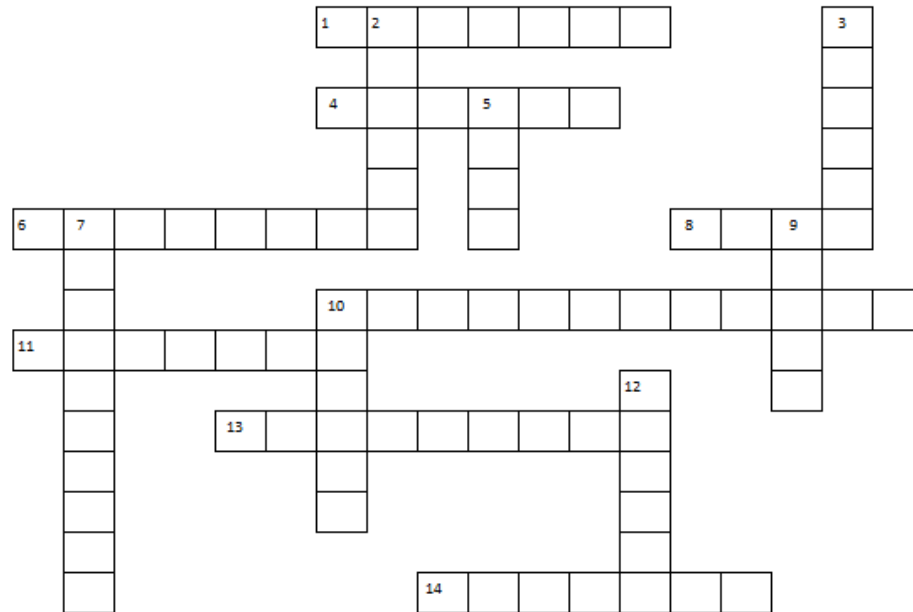
- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Micah predicted the Messiah would come from here. It is also the hometown of King David. Micah 5:2
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Jesus healed blind Bartimeus in this city. Mk. 10:46-52
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead in this village. Jn. 11
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. This town is located in the province of Galilee and was where Jesus was raised from child. Lk. 2:39-40

## Quote of the Day

“Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.”  
~1 Peter 5:7

# Crossword Puzzle

**Directions:** Complete the puzzle by finding the book in which each verse or each portion of a verse is located.



## ACROSS

- 1 "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth."
- 4 "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God."
- 6 "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding."
- 8 "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you."
- 10 "Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man."
- 11 "But without faith it is impossible to please him."
- 13 "For by grace are ye saved through faith."
- 14 "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations."

## DOWN

- 2 "Thou shalt have no other gods before me."
- 3 "Every man did that which was right in his own eyes."
- 5 "Can two walk together, except they be agreed?"
- 9 "Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ."
- 7 "Behold, I stand at the door, and knock."
- 10 "If I perish, I perish."
- 12 "But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags."

# Sunday

July 11

## Thirst Quencher

*“O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is.” Psalm 63:1*

If you have ever experienced extreme thirst, you understand how it becomes an all encompassing need that obliterates any other. Until that thirst is satisfied, you are obsessed with your need.

Ironically, there are certain beverages that initially seem to reduce thirst, but actually draw water out of the body creating more need for genuine hydration than before.

Many things claim to satisfy our thirsty lives. Depending on the person, it could be romantic love, power, money, food, exercise, position, honor, or likely a combination of desires. These may seem to quench us for a time, but when they are eventually revealed as inadequate to satiate our deepest thirst, we are left more desperate than before.

David is expressing in this Psalm his desire for God. Although he writes this from the wilderness where he is unable to access the physical sanctuary, he is still seeking God and acknowledging his ardent need for God, his delight in God, and his trust that God will defend him in his exile. He is thirsty; his life is in a tenuous balance, but he knows where that thirst can be satisfied—only in God. ~AJD

Morning: Psalm 46  
Evening: Acts 16:16-40

### Scripture Fill-In

James 1:5-6 “If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.”

### Bible Quiz

**Multiple Choice:** Circle the correct answer.

1. What prophecy was given in Micah 5:2 and fulfilled in Luke 2:1-20?
  - A. Enemies provided vinegar to drink.
  - B. Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey.
  - C. Joseph buried Jesus in his own tomb.
  - D. Jesus was born in Bethlehem.
2. Which of the following events took place in Judges 4?
  - A. David fights Goliath.
  - B. Deborah wins.
  - C. Gideon puts out a fleece.
  - D. None of the above

### Quote of the Day

“A man should hear a little music, read a little poetry, and see a fine picture every day of his life, in order that worldly cares may not obliterate the sense of the beautiful which God has implanted in the human soul.”

~Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe

# Monday

July 12

## The Miracle of a Seed

***“I have planted, Apollos watered: but God gave the increase.” 1 Corinthians 3:6***

This is the first year that I have ever planted a garden. When I first dropped the seeds in the newly tilled soil, I thought, “How in the world will these turn into actual vegetables?” I began watering them daily. Then, in a few weeks, little sprouts began to protrude from the dirt. Those sprouts grew and grew. Then, I began weeding which was a harder job than I anticipated. But atlas, I began to see the fruits of my labor. In amazement, I picked bright red radishes, cut full lettuce leaves, and more! All the work was worth it. The vegetables are delicious and are continuing to save on the grocery bill.

In our verse for today, Paul gives the analogy of planting and yielding. Take a minute and ready 1 Corinthians 3:5-9. Paul is saying that each person has a job to do in Christ. Together, with Christ, the work of the Lord is completed.

When I was in college, I had the distinct privilege of leading a 94 year old lady to the Lord. For years, people from the Christian college I attended had witnessed to the lady. When she accepted the Lord, I felt so utterly unworthy to see the miracle take place in front of my eyes. No one else was in the room. All the people who had prayed and witnessed to the woman were not present to see the fruit of their labor. However, without their planting and watering, the woman would probably not have readily accepted Jesus.

Morning: Psalm 7-9  
Evening: Acts 17:1-15

It is easy to get discouraged in ministry. Sometimes, we work and work and never see results, but that does not make our jobs any less important! Someday, all those who witnessed and prayed for the lady previously mentioned will see her face in Glory! And someday, you will see the result of your labor. Keep sowing seeds and pressing on for Jesus! ~MFV

### Scripture Fill-In

James 1:5-6 “If any of you lack \_\_\_\_\_, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.”

### Bible Quiz

**Matching:** Match the verse to the reference.

\_\_\_\_ 1. “Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?”

\_\_\_\_ 2. “For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s.”

\_\_\_\_ 3. “Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.”

A. 1 Corinthians 6:20

B. 1 Corinthians 3:16

C. 1 Corinthians 4:2

### Quote of the Day

“No matter where you find yourself, God offers grace.”  
~Author Unknown

# Tuesday

July 13

## Solomon's Bride

*“Look not upon me, because I am black, because the sun hath looked upon me: my mother's children were angry with me; they made me the keeper of the vineyards; but mine own vineyard have I not kept. Tell me, O thou whom my soul loveth, where thou feedest, where thou makest thy flock to rest at noon: for why should I be as one that turneth aside by the flocks of thy companions?”*  
*Song of Solomon 1:6*

Kedar was a nomadic community in Northern Arabia that was known for its tents that were woven from black goat hair. The fact that she had a suntanned appearance revealed that she worked in the fields and she simply compared her dark skin to the tents of Kedar. She seemed to be embarrassed about her tanned complexion, but her lover really liked her dark skin. Feeling insecure as being different from the women of Jerusalem, (who had fair, delicate skin compared to her course, dark skin) and at being alone while her lover is away, she longs for the security of his presence. What she wanted most was his praises (v. 7)

It seems that Solomon is complimenting his beloved's beauty and comparing her favorably with the women she feared (vv. 14-17). Just as the cypress blossoms appeared more beautiful in their stark surroundings, his lover's beauty stood out in her surroundings.

What Solomon's bride to be wanted most of all was his praises. This is something my wife has expressed to me many times, and I need to be more mindful of doing this. We will be the wisest husbands around if we ever learn this.

~SW

Morning: *Psalm 10-12*  
Evening: *Acts 17:16-34*

### Scripture Fill-In

James 1:5-6 “If any of you lack \_\_\_\_\_, let him ask of \_\_\_\_\_, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.”

### Bible Quiz

**Fill in the Blanks:** Complete each of the following verses.

1. Samuel 16:7—“For the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward \_\_\_\_\_, but the LORD looketh on the heart.”
2. Proverbs 31:30—“Favour is deceitful, and beauty is \_\_\_\_\_: but a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be \_\_\_\_\_.”

### Quote of the Day

“Sing praise to God who reigns above,  
The God of all creation.  
The God of power, the God of love.  
The God of our salvation;  
With healing balm my soul he fills,  
And every faithless murmur stills:  
To God all praise and glory.”

*From the hymn, “Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above”  
Based on Deuteronomy 32:5  
Written by Johann J. Schutz  
Translated by Frances E. Cox*

# Wednesday

July 14

## Bear One Another's Burdens

*“Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such a one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted. Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself. But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another. For every man shall bear his own burden.” Galatians 6: 1-5*

No man is an island unto himself. We need the emotional, social, financial, and spiritual support of our friends at various times in our life. Paul instructs us to not only carry our own burden, but also to help carry the burden of others.

First, mutual confidentiality will allow others to share their burdens. Second, become a servant. Lastly, ask God for the strength to rest in Him... Be anxious for nothing.

Be an encouragement! Be in prayer, and be willing to help bear the burdens of many until Christ's return. ~OV

### Scripture Fill-In

James 1:5-6 “If any of you lack \_\_\_\_\_, let him ask of \_\_\_\_\_, that giveth to all men \_\_\_\_\_, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.”

Morning: Psalm 13-16

Evening: Acts 18

### Bible Quiz

**Multiple Choice:** Circle the correct answer.

1. How many years did Moses live?  
Deut. 34:7  
A. 100  
B. 120  
C. 150  
D. 200
2. How many days did the Israelites grieve for Moses? Deut. 34:8  
A. 7  
B. 21  
C. 30  
D. 60
3. “There arose not a prophet since in Israel like unto Moses, whom the LORD knew \_\_\_\_\_.” Deut. 34:10  
A. Face to face  
B. Without blemish  
C. As upright  
D. Was upright in heart
4. According to Deuteronomy 34:7, which of Moses' senses was not weakened?  
A. Sight  
B. Hearing  
C. Feeling  
D. Taste

### Quote of the Day

“When you live to please yourself, circumstances that God designs to teach you to trust and obey Him instead become temptations for you to fear and worry.”

~Biblical Counseling Foundation

# Thursday

July 15

## The Only True God

*“And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.” John 17:3*

On May 6, 2010, our nation celebrated our National Day of Prayer. Some people and groups were talking about interfaith prayer meetings. There are many people who believe that all people pray to the same God. That all religious roads lead to Heaven. It just so happens that while I was hearing about all this in the media, I was doing a study on John 17. It appears that Jesus does not share the same opinion as the interfaith prayer groups.

The prayer that Jesus prayed in John 17 took place on the night that Jesus was arrested, just before His trial and crucifixion. As we read this prayer, we listen to Jesus pour out His heart to His father. He is sharing what was most important for Him to say and what was most important for His disciples to hear. When we get to verse 3, Jesus shares some important truths. One truth is that there is only one true God. According to Jesus, either we are praying to the true God, or we are praying in vain. Jesus also states that He is the One that the Father sent as His representative. Later in His prayer, Jesus stated two more times, in verses 21 and 23, that He wanted the world to know that He was One with the Father and that the Father had sent Him. According to Jesus when we pray, we are to pray to the Father in the name of the Son. Are prayers to Allah or Buddha the same as praying to the Father? They are not according to what Jesus taught and exemplified. There-

Morning: *Psalms 17-18*  
Evening: *Acts 19:1-20*

fore, what business does a Christian have in an interfaith prayer meeting? ~DLW

### Scripture Fill-In

James 1:5-6 “If any of you lack \_\_\_\_\_, let him ask of \_\_\_\_\_, that giveth to all men \_\_\_\_\_, and upbraideth not; and it shall be \_\_\_\_\_ him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.”

### Bible Quiz

**Multiple Choice:** Circle the correct answer.

- Solomon’s wives led him to worship other gods. What was his punishment for disobedience? 1 Kings 11:1-13
  - His kingdom taken away after his death
  - The loss of all his children
  - Terminal illness
  - None of the above
- Nabal’s refusal to give David and his men food after they had watched his sheep resulted in what? 1 Sam. 25:2-40
  - Starvation of David’s army
  - Nabal’s death
  - A plague
  - None of the above

### Quote of the Day

“O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.”  
~Psalms 34:7

# Friday

July 16

## Light and Darkness

***“If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth.” 1 John 1:6***

When I was in high school, I worked as a janitor at the church/school that I attended. One of the other employees had a reputation for creativity that border lined on the unusual and weird. He would make lists of things for me to do including: cleaning the bathrooms, mopping the floors, etc. But included on the list would be things like wax the roof, polish the ceiling tile and change the “dark suckers.” Knowing that many things were a joke, I asked him one day what a “dark sucker” was. When I asked, he quickly pointed to the light. He told me to think about it for a little bit. When you flip the switch, those four foot florescent tubes suck the dark right out of the room. “To prove it, he said, “when they no longer work, they turn black. They have sucked out all the dark that they can.”

Okay, so I know that it is an unusual or weird way to put it, but the point is this: whether a “light bulb” or a “dark sucker” when you turn it on the darkness is gone. Darkness and light have no fellowship with one another. When there is light, regardless of the magnitude, darkness is gone.

The Apostle John reminds us that we can not have fellowship with the light if we are walking in darkness. ***“If we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another.”*** But the greatest part of this fellowship is this, ***“and the blood of Jesus Christ***

Morning: Psalm 19-21  
Evening: Acts 19:21-41

***His Son cleanseth us from all sin.”*** In other words, we can have the darkness removed from us. When all is said and done, ***“He became sin for us.”*** Walk in the light! ~PO

### Scripture Fill-In

James 1:5-6 “If any of you lack \_\_\_\_\_, let him ask of \_\_\_\_\_, that giveth to all men \_\_\_\_\_, and upbraideth not; and it shall be \_\_\_\_\_ him. But let him ask in \_\_\_\_\_, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.”

### Bible Quiz

**Multiple Choice:** Circle the correct answer.

1. Who hid her infant nephew, Joash, to save him from Athaliah? 2 Ki.11:1-3  
A. Puah                      C. Jael  
B. Abigail                  D. Jehosheba
2. Who tricked her father-in-law?  
Gen. 38:1-30  
A. Tamar                    C. Shiphrah  
B. Bathsheba              D. Rebekah
3. Who feigned hospitality to Sisera and then murdered him? Jdg. 4:17-24  
A. Abigail                  C. Esther  
B. Jael                        D. Jehosheba

### Quote of the Day

“As long as you are alive, God has given you a second chance.” ~Pastor John Jewers

# Saturday

July 17

## God Confidence

*“Now therefore give me this mountain, whereof the LORD spake in that day; for thou heardest in that day how the Anakim were there, and that the cities were great and fenced: if so be the LORD will be with me, then I shall be able to drive them out, as the LORD said.” Joshua 14:12*

In the midst of the division of the land of Canaan, Caleb approaches the leader, Joshua, with a request for an inheritance. In response, Joshua, *“blessed him, and gave unto Caleb . . . Hebron for an inheritance.”* (Josh. 14:13) Caleb knew the land was inhabited with the Anakim, but he displayed a great amount of faith when he said, *“If so be the LORD will be with me, then I shall be able to drive them out.”* Caleb had God confidence. He believed that with the Lord’s help he would rid the land of the Anakim.

Caleb acted on his faith, and we are told in Joshua 15:14, *“Caleb drove thence the three sons of Anak, Sheshai, and Ahiman, and Talmai, the children of Anak.”* Caleb’s confidence in God resulted in a great victory!

What area of your life are you lacking confidence in God? It is interesting to note in Joshua 14:14 the reason why Caleb was give Hebron: *“Hebron therefore became the inheritance of Caleb . . . because that he wholly followed the LORD God of Israel.”* Are you wholly following Jehovah God, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Caleb? God is looking for men and women who wholly follow Him and

Morning: Psalm 22-24

Evening: Acts 20:1-16

claim victories in the name of the Lord before the battle is ever started! ~MFV

### Scripture Fill-In

James 1:5-6 “If any of you lack \_\_\_\_\_, let him ask of \_\_\_\_\_, that giveth to all men \_\_\_\_\_, and upbraideth not; and it shall be \_\_\_\_\_ him. But let him ask in \_\_\_\_\_, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the \_\_\_\_\_ driven with the wind and tossed.”

### Bible Quiz

**Multiple Choice:** Circle the correct answer. Look for the answers in today’s devotional.

1. Which of the following was NOT a son of Anak?  
A. Shehai                      C. Ahiman  
B. Othniel                      D. Talmai
2. What was the name of the land that Caleb Inherited?  
A. Hebron                      C. Edom  
B. Hebron                      D. Chesalon

### Quote of the Day

“The philosophy of one generation in the schoolroom will be the philosophy of the government in the next generation.”

~Abraham Lincoln

## *Witnessing Guide for Believers*

By Sumner Wemp

Share the Gospel with those at your door, in a store, or in their home. Speak calmly; don't come on like gang busters. Start off by giving them a good Gospel tract and saying, "You will like this. It tells you how to go to Heaven. May I ask you a very important question? Do you know for sure you are going to heaven one day? May I tell you how I came to know how to go to Heaven?"

Right here you need to take charge of the conversation and speak with authority, not with arrogance. Satan gets mad right about here and would love to interrupt and get you side tracked. Very briefly tell how you heard God loves you. Tell them the Lord Jesus suffered and died for your sins, rose again, and was seen by hundreds. Explain how you prayed to receive the Lord Jesus, how God gave you a new birth, and changed your life forever.

Then, start the Gospel presentation. Please do not start by saying, "The first thing you need to know is that you are a sinner." It is better to say, "We are all in the same boat; we have all done wrong; we have all sinned. Haven't we?"

If you put one drop of filth or poison in a glass of water, it pollutes the whole glass. Sin does that to you and me. It pollutes us, and we are unfit to go to Heaven. Also, the Bible says, "***The wages of sin is death.***" There is a penalty that has to be paid for our sins.

I have really good news for you. Christ suffered and died for our sins. He did not just "die on a cross." The two thieves died on a cross. He did not just "die for us." The military men and women are dying for us. The difference is "Christ died for our sins." He paid our debt in

full. He was buried which is proof that He was dead. Jesus rose from the dead and is alive today. No other so called "savior" ever died for our sins, rose again, and is alive today. Jesus was seen by hundreds of people, proof that He died for our sins and rose from the dead. The whole issue is this; either Jesus died for your sins or he did not. God said He did. Will you believe God that Jesus paid your debt of sin, too? Does that make sense?

Just like a man says, "Yes, I take this woman to be my wife," we need to tell God, "Yes, I will receive the Lord Jesus as my Savior right now. " God said, "***As many as received him, to them he gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.***"(Jn. 1:12) He gives us a brand new spiritual birth with a new nature so we will be changed and can live a new life.

Say, "Would you like to pray with me right now and tell God you want to receive the Lord Jesus as your Savior too?" If they say yes, ask them to bow their head and pray out loud with you. You lead them in what to pray.

Pray, "Dear God- (pause and let them repeat after you) I know I have sinned - I am so sorry- I believe the Lord Jesus died for my sins- I believe He paid my debt in full and rose again- Lord Jesus I receive you as my Savior- come into my heart- give me a new birth and the power to live for you. In Jesus' name."

Now tell them, God said, "***He that believeth on the Son, HAS everlasting life.***" Do you believe on the Lord Jesus as your Savior? Do you have everlasting life?" Tell them how the Bible is our spiritual food. Ask them if they have a Bible, and tell them to begin reading the Gospel of John. Tell them to read three or four chapters a day and underline verses that answer questions and give them spiritual insight. ♦

# Sunday

July 18

## Abiding in Christ

**“Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.” John 15:4**

Jesus was constantly making complex spiritual truths available to His listeners through stories and illustrations from the natural world. Anyone who has even a basic knowledge of trees and vines understands that a branch on the ground separate from its source of life and nourishment will not bear fruit. Jesus goes on to say, **“Without me ye can do nothing.”**

I am constantly trying to do things without Jesus, even good, worthwhile things. My thoughts are that I can handle everything up to this level of difficulty and beyond that I need God’s help, just for the "big" things. I am expecting fruitfulness from efforts of a disconnected branch.

Abiding is trusting, recognizing our inability and thereby gaining life from walking in dependence on Jesus. What is the result of abiding? Fruit is the result and in addition, Jesus adds in verse eleven, **“These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.”** We have an unending source of strength, wisdom, hope, and joy as we abide in Jesus. ~AJD

### Scripture Fill-In

James 1:17 “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

Morning: Psalm 25-27  
Evening: Acts 20:17-38

### Bible Quiz

**Matching:** Match the book of the Bible with the number of chapters that each contains.

- |                       |       |
|-----------------------|-------|
| _____ 1. Joshua       | A. 12 |
| _____ 2. Ruth         | B. 16 |
| _____ 3. Esther       | C. 4  |
| _____ 4. Ecclesiastes | D. 13 |
| _____ 5. Obadiah      | E. 28 |
| _____ 6. Zechariah    | F. 5  |
| _____ 7. Matthew      | G. 10 |
| _____ 8. Romans       | H. 22 |
| _____ 9. Ephesians    | I. 24 |
| _____ 10. Hebrews     | J. 6  |
| _____ 11. 1 John      | K. 1  |
| _____ 12. Revelation  | L. 14 |

### Quote of the Day

“Oh, how great peace and quietness would he possess who should cut off all vain anxiety and place all his confidence in God.”

~Thomas a Kempis

# Monday

July 19

## The Way with Gossip

*“Even a fool, when he holdeth his peace, is counted wise: and he that shutteth his lips is esteemed a man of understanding.”*  
**Proverbs 17:28**

"I hear you made a million dollars in oil in Texas," said one man to another. Replied the second, "Well, that report is substantially correct, except it wasn't in Texas; it was Oklahoma. And, it wasn't in oil; it was gas. And, it wasn't me; it was my brother-in-law. And, it wasn't a million; it was a hundred thousand. And, he didn't make it; he lost it."

While we might chuckle at the above story, it well illustrates the uncontrollable nature of gossip. Once a story has been launched, like a ship without a rudder upon the merciless sea, it is tossed to and fro by the wild imaginations of men who would twist, change, or lie about what they have heard. Common sense tells us to be careful in communication. Facts are often ignored by those who would seek to impress others with either good news, or bad. We are admonished by God's word to "lie not one to another," and to always let our speech be seasoned with salt. Gossip is unhealthy communication. Before passing along any information let us ask the following questions:

- (1) Is it true?
- (2) Is it beneficial to my hearer?
- (3) Is it really all that important that I tell this to others?

Keep in mind that our Lord told us, *“Take heed what ye hear: with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you: and unto*

Morning: *Psalms 28-30*

Evening: *Acts 21:1-14*

*you that hear shall more be given.” (Mk. 4:24)*

One thing is for sure. You cannot go wrong spreading the story, "God loves you, sent the Lord Jesus to suffer and die for your sins, paid your debt in full, rose again, and was seen by hundreds." It would change the world for good for your kids, your friends, and yourself. Let's do it shall we? ~SW

### Scripture Fill-In

James 1:17 "Every good \_\_\_\_\_ and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning."

### Bible Quiz

**Short Answer:** Answer the following questions in the spaces provided?

1. In 1 Corinthians 15:6, Jesus was seen by how many followers after His resurrection?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Gideon led how many people to battle against the Midianites? Jdg. 6-7 \_\_\_\_\_
3. How many sons and daughters did Job have before they were killed by a great wind?  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Quote of the Day

"One response repulses people toward Christianity; another response makes people hunger for it."  
~Brian Harmon

# Tuesday

July 20

## Praise Waiteth for Thee

***“Praise waiteth for thee, O God, in Zion: and unto thee shall the vow be performed.”  
Psalm 65:1***

I was reading in the Psalms recently when this verse spoke to my heart and changed my perspective. It was just the simple phrase, ***“praise waiteth for thee,”*** that spoke to me. I do not know how many times I just read over that verse and thought nothing of it. Praise is what we give to someone because of what they have accomplished. God has already been receiving praise since the beginning of His creation. Praises have been made to Him from all of His creation with the exception of man. Man has been granted free will so that we have a choice regarding love and service. God is worthy of our praise, but we have a choice in the matter.

As I read this verse, I saw praise as something that **is** instead of something that we **do**. Praise has been earned by God through His act of creation through the purchase of our redemption and in the day to day care that He provides for us. Praise has and always will be best used on God. It is just sitting there waiting, waiting for God to do the next thing. It may be an answer to prayer. He may heal a sick and suffering saint. He may reveal some important truth to one of His children as they read His Word. He may grant forgiveness to an angry heart that will lead to restoration. He may call a sinner to repentance and salvation. All we know is that He will do the right thing, and when He does, praise will be right there waiting to make known His awesome Glory.

~DLW

Morning: *Psalm 31-33*  
Evening: *Acts 21:15-40*

### Scripture Fill-In

James 1:17 “Every good \_\_\_\_\_ and every \_\_\_\_\_ gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.”

### Bible Quiz

**Matching:** Match the description with the Biblical character.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Peter’s mother-in-law (Mk 1:30-31)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Unnamed woman (Mk. 5:25-29)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Job (Job 2:7)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Phinehas (Num. 25:10-11)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Zedekiah (2 Ki. 24-25)

- A. Bled for 12 years, touched the hem of Jesus’ robe
- B. Suffered painful sores
- C. Had a fever
- D. Grandson of Aaron
- E. Was blinded after witnessing the execution of his sons.

### Quote of the Day

“O come, let us sing unto the LORD: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms. For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods.” ~*Psalm 95:1-3*

# Wednesday

July 21

## True Winners

*“Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 2:5*

There are times in baseball when it seems like nothing goes right. You drop a fly ball, strike out, ground into a double play, or your team gives up a bunch of runs. . . None of those are very encouraging, and people often get mad and throw fits when they happen. You see this in the pros all the time. Managers especially can throw some of the biggest fits if an umpire does not make the call that they want. You would think that adults would know better!

Athletes and coaches often think that winning is everything. Truthfully, though, it is not. A person's attitude—in both wins and losses—helps determine true winners and losers.

The Bible says that in order to please God, we need to love one another and work together with one purpose. It says that we should not be selfish or to try to impress others, but instead be humble and look out for our teams. God wants us to have the same attitude as Jesus Christ.

In Philippians, the Bible tells us to think on good things, not bad. So next time, instead of throwing a tantrum on the field, think to yourself, "I did my best, and next time, I will do better." Having a Christ-like attitude will bring victory to your life even when you lose a game.  
~AP

Morning: Psalm 34-35

Evening: Acts 22

## Scripture Fill-In

James 1:17 “Every good \_\_\_\_\_ and every \_\_\_\_\_ gift is from \_\_\_\_\_, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variable-ness, neither shadow of turning.”

## Bible Quiz

**Multiple Choice:** Circle the correct answer.

1. Moses' sister, Miriam was healed from what disease? Num. 12
  - A. Cancer
  - B. Leprosy
  - C. A blood disease
  - D. Degeneration of eyesight
2. Many sick people in the New Testament believed they would be healed if what fell on them? Acts 5:15
  - A. A supernatural breeze
  - B. Peter's shadow
  - C. Paul's favour
  - D. A ray of a rainbow

## Quote of the Day


“Your afflictions may only prove that you are more immediately under the Father's hand. There is no time that the patient is such an object of tender interest to the surgeon, as when he is bleeding beneath his knife. So you may be sure if you are suffering from the hand of a reconciled God, that His eye is all the more bent on you.” ~Robert Murray McCheyne

# Thursday

July 22

## God Is Light

*“This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.”*  
1 John 1:5

In Taoist philosophy, you will find the  Taijitu symbol of “yin and yang.” The idea behind this symbol is of the connection between two seemingly opposite forces and how they are connected. For example: men and women; without two opposite sides we would cease to have either. The idea is that even polar opposites rely on each other for existence. Hot and cold; High and low; etc. According to their philosophy, “everything has both yin and yang aspects.” In Western culture, this idea has given way to thought of good and bad. For example, “in every good thing there is something bad and in every bad thing there is something good.”

The Apostle John, however, combats this idea of “yin and yang” with one verse of Scripture. *“God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.”* Without a doubt, in the world around us we see opposite forces working to the balance of the other. Without the idea of “high,” we would not understand the idea of “low.” However, when God is figured into the Taoist equation, the idea of yin and yang is blown apart. God is light. In Him is NO DARKNESS AT ALL. The problem with Taoist philosophy and the ideas of Confucius is that any god they serve would have to have darkness in him. By very definition of Who God is, they can not be serving the one true God.

Morning: Psalm 36-37  
Evening: Acts 23:1-11

Dear Christian, rest assured that the God of the Bible is the one true God; in Him is no darkness at all. However, do not be satisfied to know God is holy. Be ye holy, for He is holy.  
~PO

### Scripture Fill-In

James 1:17 “Every good \_\_\_\_\_ and every \_\_\_\_\_ gift is from \_\_\_\_\_, and cometh down from the \_\_\_\_\_ of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.”

### Bible Quiz

**What Location?:** Label each event with the city in which it took place. Pick from the following cities: Capernaum, Nazareth, Samaria, Jericho, Bethany, Bethlehem.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. The woman Jesus talked to at the well was from location. Jn. 4
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. After leaving His hometown of Nazareth, Jesus dwelt in this town. Mt. 4:12-17
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. In this village, Jesus was anointed by a grateful woman. Mk. 14:3-9

### Quote of the Day

“Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.”  
~Psalm 103:1-2

# Friday

July 23

## Dealing with the Brethren

*“Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such a one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.” Galatians 6:1*

Only in God’s family of believers do you find so much loving concern for one another. God’s family ministers in the areas of spiritual restoration, support bearing, and Bible teaching. God gives very clear guidelines when helping a brother in a fault: “Ye which are **spiritual**, restore such a one in the spirit of **meekness**.” From your understanding of the word meekness, explain why it is so vital in the ministry of restoration:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

There is a warning at the end of verse one: Make certain you do not become tempted by the same fault that overtook your brother. ~OV

### Scripture Fill-In

James 1:17 “Every good \_\_\_\_\_ and every \_\_\_\_\_ gift is from \_\_\_\_\_, and cometh down from the \_\_\_\_\_ of lights, with whom is no \_\_\_\_\_ neither shadow of turning.”

Morning: *Psalm 38-40*  
Evening: *Acts 23:12-35*

### Bible Quiz

**Listing:** Look at each Biblical reference and write the name used for Jesus within the verse.

1. Matthew 9:15: \_\_\_\_\_
2. John 10:11-18: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Matthew 1:23: \_\_\_\_\_
4. John 1:29: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Matthew 16:16: \_\_\_\_\_
6. Luke 2:11: \_\_\_\_\_
7. John 15:1: \_\_\_\_\_
8. John 1:1: \_\_\_\_\_

### Quote of the Day

“It is only when we want to take our lives out of the Father’s hands and have them under our own control that we find ourselves gripped with anxiety. The secret of freedom from anxiety is freedom from ourselves and abandonment of our own plans. But that spirit emerges in our lives only when our minds are filled with the knowledge that our Father can be trusted implicitly to supply everything we need.”  
~Sinclair Ferguson

# Saturday

July 24

## What Compels Us to Witness

The rich man in hell prayed and pleaded for someone to go witness to his brothers. ***"Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father that thou wouldest send him to my father's house: for I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment."*** (Lk. 16:27-28)

This passage compels me to share the Gospel with that waitress, that salesman, that clerk, that casual contact, with every person for you can be sure someone in hell is pleading for them too. Wouldn't it be great and wouldn't it transform the world if each Christian had that great a burden for the lost today?

Perhaps the number one excuse or hindrance to witnessing is the fear of rejection or that someone would be offended. Dear people, 99% of the time, people respond the same way we approach them. If we are gracious, they will be gracious. If they revile you, great will be your reward in heaven. (Matt 5:12) If we don't share the Gospel with a tract or testimony or try, God will be offended that we do not obey Him. We must gently, graciously, and kindly get the Gospel to "every" (Mk. 16:15) person we have that moment of contact. Just look for the ones God has ready. If they are not ready, just plant the seed as we are expected to do (Matt. 13).

When someone is ready and they pray to receive the Lord Jesus, you can say with the Lord Jesus, ***"I have meat to eat that ye know not of."*** (John 4:32) ~SW

Morning: Psalm 41-43

Evening: Acts 24

### Scripture Fill-In

James 1:17 "Every good \_\_\_\_\_ and every \_\_\_\_\_ gift is from \_\_\_\_\_, and cometh down from the \_\_\_\_\_ of lights, with whom is no \_\_\_\_\_, neither \_\_\_\_\_ of turning."

### Bible Quiz

**Matching:** Match the description with the Biblical character.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Naaman  
(2 Ki. 5)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Apostle Paul  
(Acts 20:7-12)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Peter  
(Acts 9:36-42)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. King Hezekiah  
(2 Ki.20:1-11)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Elijah  
(1 Ki. 17:17-24)

- A. Brought widow's son back to life
- B. Washed in Jordan River and was healed of leprosy
- C. Prayed for healing and was healed
- D. Brought Dorcas back to life
- E. Raised Eutychus from the dead

### Quote of the Day

"If my heart is right with God, every human being is my neighbor." ~Oswald Chambers

# Sunday

July 25

## Serve God Today

***“Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.” Matthew 6:34***

In the context of this passage, Jesus is giving instruction regarding worry. He says several interesting things. In verse 27, we are taught that worrying cannot change our circumstances. This passage also teaches us that we need not concern ourselves with daily food because our Heavenly Father feeds the birds. Nor should we fret about clothing because God gave beautiful adornment to the flowers in the fields. We are far more valuable to our Heavenly Father than flowers or fowl.

In verse 33, we are instructed to seek first the Kingdom of God and to let God take care of the details. Worrying about tomorrow will not change a thing. It will simply drain us of the energy that we need for today. So instead of handing over a victory to the devil by occupying our minds with regrets of past failures and concerns about future “what if’s,” let’s use today’s energy to seek first the Kingdom of God.

What can you do to impact the Kingdom? You can pray! You can renew your mind with the Word! You can meditate on the character of your Creator! You can find someone to help in the name of Jesus! You can share the Gospel with a lost soul. You can be a light that shines for the Kingdom!

Only you have the power to control your thoughts. Will you be overcome with anxiety, or will you serve God today? ~DLW

Morning: Psalm 44-46

Evening: Acts 25

### Scripture Fill-In

James 4:7-8 “Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye doubleminded.”

### Bible Quiz

**Fill in the Blanks:** Complete the passage of Proverbs 4:23-27.

Keep thy (1)\_\_\_\_\_ with all (2)\_\_\_\_\_; for out of it are the issues of life. Put away from thee a froward (3)\_\_\_\_\_, and (4)\_\_\_\_\_ lips put far from thee. Let thine (5)\_\_\_\_\_ look right on, and let thine eyelids look straight before thee. Ponder the path of thy (6)\_\_\_\_\_, and let all thy ways be established. Turn not to the right hand nor to the left: remove thy foot from (7)\_\_\_\_\_.

### Quote of the Day

“Be on the lookout for mercies. The more we look for them, the more of them we will see . . . Better to lose count while naming your blessings than to lose your blessings to counting your troubles.” ~Maltbie D. Babcock

# Monday

July 26

## A New Journey

**“Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me.” Isaiah 6:8**

I am starting to write this devotional as my plane is moving toward the runway. Every time I fly, there is a feeling of apprehension in the pit of my stomach, yet there is a sense of excitement for the adventure ahead.

Venturing out of your comfort zone to embark on a new journey can be both scary and exciting! God created you for a specific purpose. The journey that He has prepared for you requires your total submission. The Lord’s leading may take you to uncharted territory, and although it may be somewhat daunting, you should embrace His call with full enthusiasm. Isaiah’s words, **“Here am I; send me,”** should be echoed in your heart.

Is God calling you to embark on a new adventure? Is there a ministry in your church that is seeking volunteers? Do you have a friend or neighbor who is in desperate need of the Gospel? Instead of letting anxiety control your steps, place your faith in God alone and say, **“Here am I, send me.”** ~MFV

### Scripture Fill-In

James 4:7-8 “\_\_\_\_\_ yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double-minded.”

Morning: Psalm 47-49

Evening: Acts 26

### Bible Quiz

**Short Answer:** Answer the following questions in the blanks provided. Answers can be found in Joshua 14:1-15.

1. How old was Caleb when he spied out the promised land? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Who was Caleb’s father? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Caleb said in verse eight, “I \_\_\_\_\_ followed the LORD my God.”
4. Because Caleb wholly followed the Lord, Moses said unto him in verse nine, “Surely the land whereon thy feet have trodden shall be thine \_\_\_\_\_.”
5. How old was Caleb when he entered into the promised land? \_\_\_\_\_
6. What land was given to Caleb as an inheritance? \_\_\_\_\_
7. In verse twelve, Caleb said that he would be able to drive out the Anakim of the land on what condition? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Quote of the Day

“Vision encompasses vast vistas outside the realm of the predictable, the safe, the expected.” ~Charles Swindoll

# Tuesday

July 27

## Overcoming Opposition to Prayer

***“Then said (the angel) unto me, Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words. But the (fallen angelic) prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days.”  
Daniel 10:12-14***

Many Christians may feel God's presence as they go through the day, but when they stop to pray, and really talk to Him, suddenly a thousand things are running through their minds. They find that it is hard to concentrate on the Lord. Is there any good way to pray without getting sidetracked by other things? This problem can become so annoying that Christians may give up trying to engage in lengthy and fervent times of prayer.

This is probably a universal phenomenon which accompanies prayer, especially serious prayer, since Satan will do anything to disturb our prayer-life or distract us from praying. He knows that when we pray he is in greatest danger of being defeated with regard to some person he is tormenting or some other evil scheme he is planning. If he can stop us from praying, his defeat is deferred.

When our four children were little, I would settle down to pray at home, and all of a sudden my kids would start yelling, or want to sit on daddy's lap, or have a question, or decide to pull each other's hair out. They could be playing quietly all night and not disturb me, but the minute I would attempt to pray, they started.

Morning: Psalm 50-52

Evening: Acts 27:1-25

After a while it became apparent to me what was happening. This was not just a coincidence. It was a cheap trick of Satan to try to make me have to choose between praying and paying extra attention to my little ones. What a dilemma...to make me choose between those precious ones and my precious Lord. Sometimes, I would recognize the ploy and get annoyed at Satan for putting me in this dilemma, but then if I got angry, it would look to my children that I was angry at them. And so, it was a multi-layered victory for the evil one.  
~SW

### Scripture Fill-In

James 4:7-8 “\_\_\_\_\_ yourselves therefore to God. Resist the \_\_\_\_\_, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye doubleminded.”

### Bible Quiz

**True or False:** Put a *T* in the blank if the answer is true and an *F* in the blank if the answer is false.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Jonathan and his brothers were killed in battle against the Philistines.  
1 Sam.31:1-2
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Saul took his own life. 1 Sam. 31:3-4

### Quote of the Day

“Gratitude is born in hearts that take time to count up past mercies.

~Charles Edward Jefferson

# Wednesday

July 28

## Warfare Between the Flesh and the Spirit

*“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another.” Galatians 5: 22-26*

When a farmer plants seed, he expects a crop. When a banker invests money, he expects profit. When God saves an individual from sin, He expects a changed life. **“Yet not I, but Christ liveth in me.”** (Gal. 2:20) A new creature is produced by the union of the Holy Spirit. By the Holy Spirit indwelling and leading, life-changing fruits is harvested.

Take your Bible dictionary and discover the meaning of these words: love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and self-control. Now, if we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. Are you ready to begin today?

Reread Galatians 5:22-26, and begin expecting the fruit. ~OV

Morning: Psalm 53-55  
Evening: Acts 27:26-44

### Scripture Fill-In

James 4:7-8 “\_\_\_\_\_ yourselves therefore to God. Resist the \_\_\_\_\_, and he will flee from you. Draw \_\_\_\_\_ to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye doubleminded.”

### Bible Quiz

**Multiple Choice:** Circle the correct answer.

1. In a vision, Daniel saw what angel in Daniel 12:1?  
A. Michael      C. Lucifer  
B. A cherub      D. Gabriel
2. In what valley did David fight Goliath?  
1 Sam. 17  
A. Elah Valley  
B. Valley of Jezreel  
C. Great Rift Valley  
D. None of the above
3. In which of the following cities did Jesus raise a widow's only son from the dead?  
Lk. 7:11-17  
A. Capernaum  
B. Nain  
C. Galilee  
D. Moab

### Quote of the Day

“Poverty and affliction take away the fuel that feeds pride.”  
~Richard Sibbes

# Thursday

July 29

## The Stench of Sin

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

Recently, I spent about six hours of time doing some strenuous outdoor labour. It was the type of work that wears you out, but when you crawl in bed at night, you feel like you have accomplished a great deal. When I finally got to bed that night, my muscles ached, but it was a “good” ache.

However, long before my body hit the bed, it was necessary that a shower hit my body. I was dirty. I smelled bad. The sweat had permeated my clothes in such a way that I seriously considered discarding them. As a result of taking a shower, I was clean, and without I doubt, I felt better. It was such a relief to rid my body of the filth and stench.

Recently, I spent a minute or two of dirty living. I chose to sin and my spirit was in desperate need of a shower. My life, in the eyes of God and in my own perspective, stunk. I had allowed sin to permeate my soul in such a way that I had to consider if I was even worth God’s time.

Have you ever been there? The truth is this: God has provided a “shower” for your soul. It is called confession. Not only does God’s shower bring forgiveness of your works of sin, it brings cleansing to your soul. Are you struggling under the stench of sin? Do you feel like your life is not even worth God’s time? If you have sinned, you can have forgiveness and cleansing today. Confess your sins.

Morning: Psalm 56-58  
Evening: Acts 28:1-15

He is faithful and just to forgive and to cleanse.  
~PO

### Scripture Fill-In

James 4:7-8 “\_\_\_\_\_ yourselves therefore to God. Resist the \_\_\_\_\_, and he will flee from you. Draw \_\_\_\_\_ to God, and he will draw nigh to you. \_\_\_\_\_ your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye doubleminded.”

### Bible Quiz

**Short Answer:** Answer the following questions in the spaces provided.

1. On what mountain did God show Moses the promised land? Deut. 34:1-4 \_\_\_\_\_
2. This mountain was in the plains of what area? Duet. 34:1-4 \_\_\_\_\_

### Quote of the Day

“God has left the indelible mark of His fingerprints all across the vast face of the universe... This revelation is sufficiently clear and inescapable that it renders all without excuse (see Rom. 1:20). Consequently, there is no such thing as “an innocent native in Africa” any more than there is “an innocent pagan in America”... The problem is not a lack of evidence. The problem is the innate, natural, moral antipathy of mankind to God. The problem is not that the evidence is not open to mankind. The problem is that mankind is not open to the evidence.”  
~Sam Storms

# Friday

July 30

## The Word in John 17

*“I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.”  
John 17:14*

If you read the prayer that Jesus prayed in John 17, you will find that Jesus referred to the world early and regularly. Jesus makes 19 references to the world in the 26 verses of His prayer. As we read His words, we can see His heart. We can see many principles regarding His opinion of a Christian’s relationship to the world. Let’s take a moment to look at what Jesus has said about the world.

Jesus was crowned with glory before the creation of the world. John 17:5

God has decided to keep us in the world for this present time. John 17:11

Jesus desires to keep us from the evil that is in the world John 17:11-12,15

Jesus was hated by the world, and we will be hated by the world. John 17:14

Jesus was not of the world just as we are not of the world. John 17:14,16

Jesus was sent into the world by the Father, and we are sent into the world by Jesus.  
John 17:18

Our unity is one of the things that God uses to reveal Himself to the world. John 17:21

Morning: Psalm 59-61  
Evening: Acts 28:16-31

Jesus wants the world to know that the Father has sent Him. John 17:23

### Scripture Fill-In

James 4:7-8 “\_\_\_\_\_ yourselves therefore to God. Resist the \_\_\_\_\_, and he will flee from you. Draw \_\_\_\_\_ to God, and he will draw nigh to you. \_\_\_\_\_ your hands, ye sinners; and \_\_\_\_\_ your hearts, ye doubleminded.”

### Bible Quiz

**Matching:** Match the mother with her child.

- |  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| _____ 1. Hagar<br>Gen. 16:7-12           | A. Samson           |
| _____ 2. Wife of Manoah<br>Jdg. 13:7, 24 | B. John the Baptist |
| _____ 3. Elisabeth<br>Lk. 1:13           | C. Reuben           |
| _____ 4. Rachel<br>Gen. 30:22-24         | D. Ishmael          |
| _____ 5. Ruth<br>Ruth 4:13-17            | E. Timothy          |
| _____ 6. Leah<br>Gen. 29:32              | F. Joseph           |
| _____ 7. Eunice<br>2 Tim. 1:1-5          | G. Obed             |

### Quote of the Day

“Our worth is not measured by what we do.”  
~Pastor Chuck Whitmire

# Saturday

July 31

## The Still, Small Voice

*“And after the earthquake a fire; but the LORD was not in the fire: and after the fire a still small voice.” 1 Kings 19:12*

Not long ago I heard a story about a young man and an old preacher. The young man had lost his job and did not know which way to turn. So, he went to see the old preacher. Pacing about the preacher's study, the young man ranted about his problem. Finally, he clenched his fist and shouted, "I've begged God to say something to help me, preacher. Why doesn't God answer?"

The old preacher, who sat across the room, spoke something in reply, something so hushed it was indistinguishable. The young man stepped across the room. "What did you say?" he asked. The preacher repeated himself, but again in a tone as soft as a whisper.

So the young man moved closer until he was leaning on the preacher's chair. "Sorry," he said, "I still didn't hear you." With their heads bent together, the old preacher spoke once more. "God sometimes whispers," he said, "so we will move closer to hear Him."

This time the young man heard, and he understood. We all want God's voice to thunder through the air with the answer to our problem. But God's is the still, small voice ... the gentle whisper. Perhaps there is a reason. Nothing draws human focus quite like a whisper. God's whisper means I must stop my ranting and move close to Him, until my head is bent together with His. And then, as I listen, I will

Morning: *Psalms 62-64*  
Evening: *Romans 1*

find my answer. Better still I find myself closer to God. ~SW

### Scripture Fill-In

James 4:7-8 “\_\_\_\_\_ yourselves therefore to God. Resist the \_\_\_\_\_, and he will flee from you. Draw \_\_\_\_\_ to God, and he will draw nigh to you. \_\_\_\_\_ your hands, ye sinners; and \_\_\_\_\_ your hearts, ye \_\_\_\_\_.”

### Bible Quiz

**Multiple Choice:** Circle the correct answer.

1. Which of the following miracles did Elisha NOT perform? 2 Ki. 2:14-24
  - A. Divided waters
  - B. Cured the waters of Jericho with salt
  - C. Destroyed the mocking children at Bethel
  - D. Killed 500 men of Moab
2. Which of the following men was NOT an Old Testament prophet?
  - A. Obadiah
  - B. Haggai
  - C. Joel
  - D. Darius

### Quote of the Day

“Not only did we break God’s law, we also killed His Son.” ~Pastor John Jewers

# Answers

**Cross-Word Puzzle**

**Word Search**

**Bible Quizzes**

July 1 Pg 2 1. C 2. A 3. D  
 July 2 Pg 3 1. Joseph 2. Stephen 3. John 4. Josiah 5. Saul  
 July 3 Pg 4 1. A 2. A  
 July 4 Pg 6 1. F 2. T 3. F 4. F 5. T  
 July 5 Pg 7 1. B 2. D 3. E 4. C 5. A  
 July 6 Pg 8 1. C 2. C  
 July 7 Pg 9 1. F 2. T 3. T 4. F

**Bible Quizzes (continued)**

July 8 Pg 10 1. Jubal, harp & organ (flute) 2. a priest 3. Ahab & Jezebel 4. King Rehoboam His kingdom was divided.  
 July 9 Pg 11 1. B 2. C 3. D  
 July 10 Pg 12 1. Bethlehem 2. Jericho 3. Bethany 4. Nazareth  
 July 11 Pg 14 1. D 2. B  
 July 12 Pg 15 1. B 2. A 3. C  
 July 13 Pg 16 1. appearance 2. vain, praised  
 July 14 Pg 17 1. B 2. C 3. A 4. A  
 July 15 Pg 18 1. A 2. B  
 July 16 Pg 19 1. D 2. A 3. B  
 July 17 Pg 20 1. B 2. A  
 July 18 Pg 22 1. I 2. C 3. G 4. A 5. K 6. L 7. E 8. B 9. J 10. D 11. F 12. H  
 July 19 Pg 23 1. 500 2. 300 3. 10  
 July 20 Pg 24 1. C 2. A 3. B 4. D 5. E  
 July 21 Pg 25 1. B 2. B  
 July 22 Pg 26 1. Samaria 2. Capernaum 3. Bethany  
 July 23 Pg 27 1. The Bridegroom 2. The Good Shepherd 3. Immanuel 4. Lamb of God 5. The Christ, The Son of the Living God 6. Saviour 7. The True Vine 8. The Word  
 July 24 Pg 28 1. B 2. E 3. D 4. C 5. A  
 July 25 Pg 29 1. heart 2. diligence 3. mouth 4. perverse 5. eyes 6. feet 7. feet  
 July 26 Pg 30 1. 40 2. Jephunneh 3. wholly 4. inheritance 5. 85 6. Hebron 7. He would drive them out if the Lord was with him.  
 July 27 Pg 31 1. T 2. T  
 July 28 Pg 32 1. A 2. A 3. B  
 July 29 Pg 33 1. Mt. Nebo 2. Moab  
 July 30 Pg 34 1. D 2. A 3. B 4. F 5. G 6. C 7. E  
 July 31 Pg 35 1. D 2. D