



the **bread** *of* **life** devotional guide

“And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.” - Luke 4:4

November 1, 2010

Dear Fellow Believers,

Happy Thanksgiving! Psalm 118:1 says, *“O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: because his mercy endureth for ever.”*

God has truly blessed our nation! We have an abundant supply of food and resources. As one travels to distant countries, an appreciation for the American lifestyle grows.

This Thanksgiving make sure God is the center of your celebration. Give thanks to the Giver of life itself, Jehovah God!

The Daily Bread Devotional Staff

Monday

November 1

Morning: *Jeremiah 31-32*
Evening: *Titus 2*

Paul's Gospel Is A Revelation

“For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ. But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man. For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ.” Galatians 1:10-12

The true Gospel, when received by the revelation of Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit, will change your life, while the Gospel presented by man will have no life changing result in your life.

Think about your life before salvation. Can you remember your opinion about Christian pastors and church attendees? Now, after you received the Gospel according to Jesus Christ, you immediately started to appreciate other Christian moral values and pastors. Why? The reason is that God separated you from this world unto His service. Paul praises God for revealing His Son to him.

Write down what a difference Christ makes in your life:

~OV

Scripture Fill-In

“For whom the Lord _____ he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?” Hebrews 12:6-7

Bible Quiz

Who Said It? After reading the following quotes, determine who spoke the words, and write your answer in the blank.

_____ 1. “It is not in me: God shall give Pharaoh an answer of peace.” Gen. 41:16

_____ 2. “What is thy servant, that thou shouldest look upon such a dead dog as I am?” 2 Sam. 9:6-8

_____ 3. “Who am I? and what is my life, or my father's family in Israel, that I should be son-in-law to the king? 1 Sam. 18:18

_____ 4. “I am innocent of the blood of this just person.” Mt. 27:24

Quote of the Day

“When we come to Christ by faith, we find salvation rest (Mt. 11:28). When we yield and learn of Him and obey Him by faith, we enjoy submission rest (Mt. 11:29-30).”

~Warren Wiersbe

Tuesday

November 2

Are You Ready for Your Appearance?

*“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.”
2 Corinthians 5:10*

The Scripture is clear on the fact that all saved people will give an account for what they have done. This reckoning will take place before Christ. We will have to stand and answer to the One Who left Heaven to pay for our sins. He is the One Who took off His eternal robes of majesty and came from the presence of the ministering angels to put on a shroud of human flesh that was subject to cold, hunger, exhaustion, and pain. The One Who created all things came and became part of His creation. The One Who was sinned against became the sacrifice to pay for that sin. What more could He have done?

The intended purpose of all that Christ did was to restore a relationship with fallen mankind. Once that sin is removed and that relationship is restored, Christ wants us to use our lives and all that is within us to bring glory to Him. He also wants us to bring other people to a place where they can understand what He has done for them as well.

Are you ready for that day? What have you done for the One Who gave everything for you? What is your excuse for not doing more? Who will you bring with you as you stand before Christ on that great day? ~DLW

Morning: *Jeremiah 33-35*

Evening: *Titus 3*

Scripture Fill-In

“For whom the Lord _____ he _____, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?” Hebrews 12:6-7

Bible Quiz

Multiple Choice: Circle the correct answer.

1. “For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be ____: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.” Mt. 7:2
A. Punished C. Penalized
B. Judged D. Forgiven
2. “And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the ____.” Heb 9:27
A. Heavenlies C. Paradise
B. Judgment D. Hell fire

Quote of the Day

“How can we help our people get over the idea that God exists just to help run their businesses or fly their airplanes? God is not a railway porter who carries your suitcase and serves you. God is God. He made heaven and earth. He holds the world in His hand. He measures the dust of the earth in the balance. He spreads the sky out like a mantle. He is the great God Almighty. He is not your servant. He is your Father, and you are His child. He sits in heaven, and you are on the earth.” ~A.W. Tozer

Wednesday

November 3

The No Name Daughter

“And she said unto him, My father, if thou hast opened thy mouth unto the LORD, do to me according to that which hath proceeded out of thy mouth; forasmuch as the LORD hath taken vengeance for thee of thine enemies, even of the children of Ammon.”
Judges 11:36

In Judges 11, we find the story of Jephthah’s daughter. She is nameless, but her story is significant. Jephthah said to the Lord, *“If thou shalt without fail deliver the children of Ammon into mine hands, then it shall be, that whatsoever cometh forth of the doors of my house to meet me, when I return in peace from the children of Ammon, shall surely be the LORD’s, and I will offer it up for a burnt offering.”* When Jephthah returned from battle, his daughter came from the house celebrating the victory of Israel.

Jephthah was heart sick upon realizing what he had done. Scholars have various opinions on what was done to his daughter. Some believe that she was indeed sacrificed. Others believe that she lived but never married. Whatever the true scenario, this was a tremendous vow for her pay.

I am amazed at the response of Jephthah’s daughter. She replied, *“Do to me according to that which hath proceeded out of thy mouth.”* All she asked for was two months to go away to the mountains and grieve. Wow! She could have run away. She could have yelled at her father and refused to pay for his rash vow. But instead, she was submissive and obedient. Yet,

Morning: *Jeremiah 36-37*

Evening: *Philemon*

we do not even know the name of this incredible young woman.

Sometimes in life, we are called to make sacrifices. Sometimes those sacrifices, whether great or small, go painfully unnoticed. Jephthah’s daughter is not even known by her own name. Does that make her sacrifice less significant. Absolutely not! The goal in life is to please our Saviour, and friend; God sees every sacrifice. ~MFV

Scripture Fill-In

“For whom the Lord _____ he _____, and scourgeth every _____ whom he receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?” Hebrews 12:6-7

Bible Quiz

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

- _____ 1. Jesus healed a man with a withered hand on the Sabbath day. Mk. 3:1-5
- _____ 2. Jesus gave the disciples the power to heal. Mk. 3:13-15
- _____ 3. Alphaeus and Thaddeus were both part of Jesus’ twelve disciples. Mk. 3:16-19

Quote of the Day

“We must all have the spirit of martyrdom, though we may not all die martyrs.”

~George Whitefield

Thursday

November 4

Behave Like Christ

“For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men.” 1 Peter 2:15

Have you ever considered that sometimes people think so poorly of Christians because of the shabby example of Jesus we have placed before them. If we are to call ourselves Christians, meaning Christ lives within us, then it is logical for people to expect us to behave like Him. We are not perfect, but as much as possible, we need to behave like the Son of God.

Peter does not even ask his readers to say anything about their faith in Christ here. Instead, he asks them to show their faith with actions. Why do we do what we do? If we are doing whatever we are called to do for the glory of Christ and as a testimony of His grace, then the world around us will know.

When we really behave like Jesus Christ in our daily walk, even those who are against us will have nothing evil to say. They will say we really believe what we say that we believe. Our actions will be the proof.

Could that be said of you? When others see your life, are they convinced that you have been ransomed by the blood of Jesus? If you were on trial, would your actions be enough evidence to prove you guilty of being a disciple of Jesus Christ? If not, perhaps you need to make some changes. Let your walk match your talk so that those around you will be silenced if they question Whose you are. ~DJD

Morning: *Jeremiah 38-39*

Evening: *Hebrews 1*

Scripture Fill-In

“For whom the Lord _____ he _____, and scourgeth every _____ whom he _____. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?” Hebrews 12:6-7

Bible Quiz

Life Application: Think about the following questions, and answer them honestly in the spaces provided.

1. In what ways does your life reflect Jesus Christ? _____

2. In what ways does your life NOT reflect Jesus Christ? _____

Quote of the Day

“A child of God should be a visible beatitude for joy and happiness, and a living doxology for gratitude and adoration.” ~C. H. Spurgeon

Friday
November 5

The Centipede and the Elephant

“Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is He that is in you, than he that is in the world.” 1 John 4:4

The home of Mr. Centipede was in jeopardy. A pack of wild hyenas had moved into the territory and were making havoc of the ground and the inhabitants. Willing to stand up for his family, Mr. Centipede crawled out of his hole in the ground to defend his territory. Since he could not see from his vantage point, he crawled up the leg of Mr. Elephant to get a feel for the massive task ahead of him. Just as he got to where he could see, Mr. Elephant went into a tirade. He was so tired of the despicable actions of the hyenas that he stomped them, tossed them around and ran them out of the area for good. As the events unfolded, Mr. Centipede hung on for dear life. As the hyenas were limping away, Mr. Centipede yelled out, “And if you come back, we will do the same thing to you again!”

Although it is an unusual way to say it, this is somewhat like our conquest of those who have the spirit of antichrist. John reminds his young readers that they “have overcome them.” In verses 1-3, John is speaking of false prophets and those with the spirit of antichrist: those who refuse to acknowledge Jesus as the Christ. They have been overcome, but by whom? According to 1 John 4:4, the young believers had overcome them. *“Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them.”* How did they

Morning: *Jeremiah 40-42*

Evening: *Hebrews 2*

do it? They certainly did not do it in their own strength. God dwelt in them, and by His strength the enemy was overcome. They were just along for the ride. By the mere fact that God lives inside of us, we are overcomers! Please do not live in your own strength. Rely on the One Who lives inside of you. ~PO

Scripture Fill-In

“For whom the Lord _____ he _____, and scourgeth every _____ whom he _____. If ye endure chastening, God _____ with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?” Hebrews 12:6-7

Bible Quiz

Multiple Choice: Circle the correct answer.

- Philip, Andrew, and Peter were all from what city? Jn. 1:44
A. Damascus C. Capernaum
B. Bethsaida D. Macedonia
- Which disciple said, “Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth?” Jn. 1:45-46
A. Andrew C. Nathanael
B. Peter D. John

Quote of the Day

“To one who has faith, no explanation is necessary. To one without faith, no explanation is possible.” ~Anonymous

Saturday

November 6

Belief

*“And Caleb stilled the people before Moses, and said, Let us go up at once, and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it.”
Numbers 13:30*

Caleb, one of the twelve spies sent to survey the land God had promised to the Israelites, saw the same thing that all twelve did. He saw that the land was rich and plentiful, that it was well fortified and that giants lived there, yet he viewed the situation through eyes of faith and believed what God had said. The other spies (except Joshua), seeing the same thing Caleb did, came to another conclusion. They said, *“We be not able to go up against the people; for they are stronger than we...it is a land that eateth up the inhabitants thereof.”* Ten spies failed to remember the wonders and miracles God had shown them over and over in delivering them from Egypt and providing daily manna for their food. All they saw were the grim circumstances; and because of their unbelief, they let the Promised Land slip through their fingers. Their unbelief influenced a whole nation of people negatively.

I wonder how many times our unbelief in God’s ability and promises has prevented us from the good things He had planned for us and others. He may be saying, “Step into the blessings I have waiting for you”—and we hesitate—only seeing the difficulties. We fail to trust. Pray today that God will help you view all your life with eyes of faith and confidently trust in Him. He is faithful and good. ~AJD

Morning: *Jeremiah 43-45*

Evening: *Hebrews 3*

Scripture Fill-In

“For whom the Lord _____ he _____, and scourgeth every _____ whom he _____. If ye endure chastening, God _____ with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the _____ chasteneth not?” Hebrews 12:6-7

Bible Quiz

Multiple Choice: Circle the correct answer.

1. What relationship is NOT mentioned in Micah 7:6?
A. Father/son
B. Mother/daughter
C. Mother-in-law/Daughter-in-law
D. Husband/wife
2. How many chapters does the book of Micah contain?
A. 4
B. 7
C. 10
D. 12
3. Which king did NOT reign during the prophesying of Micah the prophet?
Micah 1:1
A. Jotham
B. Hezekiah
C. Ahaz
D. Manasseh

Quote of the Day

“Without faith, we are as stained glass windows in the dark.”
~Anonymous

Keeping Your Word

By Monica Faith Vernot

“Provide things honest in the sight of all men.”

Romans 12:17

The simple handshake used to be a sign of agreement. One man trusted the other man to fulfill his commitment with no questions asked. With the decline of the handshake, contracts and lawyer bills increased. And with this turn in the agreement process, mankind has become less and less trustworthy. So much so, that when a man gives his word, one naturally assumes the job will probably not be done to complete satisfaction, by the due date, and within the specifications. The second law of thermodynamics loosely states that everything is continuing to move into a greater state of disarray. My friend, this law characterizes the trustworthiness of mankind, and unfortunately, Christians are included in the rapid rate of decline.

“Oh yea, I’ll get that to you tomorrow.” Tomorrow comes, and the deadline is not met.

“Oh, let’s get together sometime and do lunch.” This is stated with no or little intention of fulfillment.

“I estimate the job will cost under a thousand dollars.” When the bill comes, it exceeds well over the estimated amount, and the job is

poorly done.

“Oh, you must be so frustrated and discouraged; I will definitely pray for you.” Quickly after the comment, a half-hearted prayer is lifted up to the gates of Heaven just so “technically” you have fulfilled your feeble commitment to pray.

“Lord, I promise that I am going to be a better husband or wife.” Frankly, your spouse would beg to differ that any change was ever made.

“I will be there at 1:00 P. M.” One o’clock rolls around, and there is no sign of the awaited party. Once again, he is late and inconveniences everyone else’s time with a flip-pant apology explaining how busy life is for him.

“Oh, it is so good to talk with you again! I will definitely call you more often.” The words flow so naturally during the phone conversation, but little does the listener know that you keep rolling your eyes and making faces of disgust to the other people in the room.

Have you found yourself being the recipient of one of these vague, nebulous commitments? Better yet, have you made any one of these commitments and failed to keep your word? I cannot help but think of the question written on bracelets and other paraphernalia that became a Christian fashion statement several years ago: “What would Jesus do?”

God’s Word is filled with promises. Can you imagine not being able to trust God that

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Sunday

November 7

Power Prevented

“And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.” Acts 4:33

This is the triumphant testimony of God to the early Christians. Peter later says, *“And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him.”* (5:32). This same Holy Spirit wants to do the same wonderful things today but is often prevented.

On the Day of Pentecost all were "with one accord" (Acts 2:1). This was not essential in order for the Holy Spirit to come, but it was essential in order for the Spirit to control believers at Pentecost. *"Grieve not the Holy Spirit"* (Eph. 4:30) is the demand of God. The Holy Spirit is a Person (John 16:13-14). He is holy. He has moved in to live within the Christian (1 Cor. 6:19-20). He would normally work through you as "rivers of living water" (John 7:37-39) unless He is hindered. Anything unholy grieves Him. Therefore, Christians should *"let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice"* (Eph. 4:31).

Something else was very evident about these Christians. They said, *“We ought to obey God rather than men”* (Acts 5:29). They had caught a vision and contracted a passion. They were not guilty of "quenching" the Spirit (1Thess. 5:19). They witnessed. We must respond to the Holy Spirit and witness no matter the cost, *"for it is God which worketh in you both to will [desire] and to do of his good*

Morning: *Jeremiah 46-48*

Evening: *Hebrews 4*

pleasure" (Phil. 2:13). Don't offend the Holy Spirit. That cost is too high. ~SW

Scripture Fill-In

“Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.” Hebrews 12:11

Bible Quiz

Birth Order: Put the following Biblical characters in order of their birth. Put a '1' by the first born and continue till number '10.' Refer to Matthew 1:2-8

- | | |
|----------------|--------------------|
| ___ 1. Isaac | ___ 6. Rehoboam |
| ___ 2. Boaz | ___ 7. Johoshaphat |
| ___ 3. Abraham | ___ 8. Jacob |
| ___ 4. Asa | ___ 9. Solomon |
| ___ 5. David | ___ 10. Jesse |

Quote of the Day

“Soul winning is the chief business of the Christian minister, indeed it should be the main pursuit of every true believer.” ~Anonymous

Monday

November 8

Morning: *Jeremiah 49-50*

Evening: *Hebrews 5*

Going Home

*“His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.”
Matthew 25:23*

As a Christian, I am away from home. Heaven is my real home. I am facing a devil of a pitcher in a field full of sinful temptations. I have choices to make: I can be a bench-warmer, or I can take my swing at making a real difference for Christ. Either way, I am going home one day. I can arrive knowing I gave my all in the game, which I can place at the feet of my Savior; or I can arrive with only a ticket to the game that Jesus provided me.

Today, let's all take our stand at home plate, knowing that when we cross it once more, our Savior will be there to welcome us and give us a warm, *“Well done, good and faithful servant.”*

What are you doing today that will make a difference for eternity? Have your thoughts centered more on your earthly home or your heavenly home? What choices have you put off making because you are afraid? ~AP

Scripture Fill-In

“Now no _____ for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.” Hebrews 12:11

Bible Quiz

Birth Order: Put the following Biblical characters in order of their birth. Put a '1' by the first born and continue till number '10.' Refer to Matthew 1:9-16.

- ___ 1. Jotham
- ___ 2. Manasseh
- ___ 3. Josiah
- ___ 4. Ahaz
- ___ 5. Zerubbabel
- ___ 6. Amon
- ___ 7. Eliakim
- ___ 8. Joseph
- ___ 9. Hezekiah
- ___ 10. Matthan

Quote of the Day

“Life is not a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in a pretty and well preserved body, but rather to skid in broadside, thoroughly used up, totally worn out, and loudly proclaiming - WOW!! WHAT A RIDE!!”
~Anonymous

Tuesday

November 9

Bookstore Chatter

*“Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer.”
Psalm 19:14*

As I worked on my laptop at a nationwide bookstore chain, the aroma of coffee continually tried to lure me to the counter. Not succumbing to the temptation, I kept working, occasionally rolling my head around in circles from the cramps in my neck. Several times, I was distracted by the conversations of other patrons. Two men sitting adjacent to me continually talked about the Lord. They spoke of salvation and prayer. Two men sitting in front of me were in a deep conversation about marriage, work, finances, and other things. God did not appear to be part of their conversation. Instead, it was sprinkled with expletives and a mere human philosophy on life. What a contrast between conversations!

Yes, it may appear that I was eavesdropping. If I were to be completely honest, I was! I began to think, “What conversations have I been engaged in that have been overheard by John Doe? Were the words of my mouth acceptable in the sight of my Lord and Saviour? Would people know by my conversations that I was a Christian?”

The next time you are at a coffee house, restaurant, store, or the like make sure God is the central topic of conversation. By the words of your mouth, let the world see to Whom you belong. ~MFV

Morning: *Jeremiah 51-52*

Evening: *Hebrews 6*

Scripture Fill-In

“Now no _____ for the _____ seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.” Hebrews 12:11

Bible Quiz

Completion: Complete the following verses.

1. **Proverbs 8:8**—“All the words of my mouth are in _____; there is nothing froward or _____ in them.”
2. **Colossians 4:6**—“Let your _____ be always with _____, seasoned with _____, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.”
3. **1 Peter 3:10**—“For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his _____ from _____, and his lips that they speak no _____.”

Quote of the Day

“Sometimes your medicine bottle has on it, ‘Shake well before using.’ That is what God has to do with some of His people. He has to shake them well before they are . . . usable.”

~Vance Havner

Wednesday

November 10

Morning: *Lamentations 1-2*
Evening: *Hebrews 7*

Herein Is Love

“Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.” 1 John 4:10

How can you tell if someone really loves you? If someone says, “I love you,” does that convince you that he does? Maybe someone will give you a hug when you are sad. Does that let you know that they love you? Perhaps you see love by how much time someone spends with you. Love can be expressed in many ways.

The Apostle John expressed that love of God in a two-fold way. The first is very clear and the second is somewhat cloudy. In verse ten of chapter four, John writes, “Herein is love.” In other words, “this is how you can see real love.” “Not that we loved God, but that He loved us.” John tells his readers that real love, the love of God, was not reciprocal to the love that we showed Him, but regardless of whether we ever loved Him at all. Real love is not dependent upon the actions of others. God loved us and will continue to love us regardless of whether we ever love Him in return.

The second way that the love of God is expressed is not quite as clear: “and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.” Ask yourself this question: What does the word “propitiation” mean? If you studied the Bible or are a regular church attendee, you might surmise that it has something to do with the death of Christ. As true as that might be, “propitiation” goes beyond just a “sacrifice” or “substitute.” Literally, Jesus Christ became the

“only suitable sacrifice that appeased the wrath of God concerning our sin.” When nothing else could appease the wrath of God, Jesus Christ stretched out His arms on the cross and in becoming our “propitiation” demonstrated that He loved us that much. “Herein is love.” ~PO

Scripture Fill-In

“Now no _____ for the _____ seemeth to be _____, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.” Hebrews 12:11

Bible Quiz

Matching: Match the husband and wife.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| ___ 1. Saul (1 Sam. 14:50) | A. Ahinoam |
| ___ 2. Jerahmeel (1 Chron. 2:26) | B. Naomi |
| ___ 3. Joseph (Gen. 41:45) | C. Atarah |
| ___ 4. Hezron (1 Chron. 2:24) | D. Asenath |
| ___ 5. Elimelech (Ruth 1:2) | E. Abiah |

Quote of the Day

“God’s love for me is inexhaustible, and I must love others for the bedrock of God’s love for me.”
~Anonymous

Thursday

November 11

Bad Counsel Leads to Bad Decisions

*“But Amnon had a friend, whose name was Jonadab, the son of Shimeah David’s brother: and Jonadab was a very subtle.”
2 Samuel 13:3*

In this passage, Amnon, a son of King David, confides in his friend Jonadab about his love for Tamar (Amnon’s sister). Jonadab and Amnon devise an evil plan to defile Tamar. Then, Amnon acts on this wicked plan, thus sinning against his sister and against God.

Jonadab, a subtle (crafty) man, was certainly not a good friend. Matthew Henry points out, “Had he been what he pretended (Amnon’s friend), he would have startled at the mention of such horrid wickedness.” But instead of reprimanding Amnon, Jonadab actually helped devise a plan to enable Amnon to commit such a disgrace within the household of King David.

Friends and confidants are so vitally important in the lives of believers for they can point you to Jesus or point you toward worldly desires. When I was in elementary school, I had a friend that I played with in my neighborhood. On more than one occasion, my mother heard this friend take the Lord’s name in vain. My mother warned the friend, “If you say that one more time, you will not be able to play with my child for an entire year.” However, the warning was not heeded, and my friend was banned from playing with me for an entire year. True to her word, my mother enforced her punishment. Now at the time, the penalty seemed somewhat steep, but as an adult, I am so

Morning: *Lamentations 3-5*

Evening: *Hebrews 8*

thankful for my mother’s protection in my relationships.

Are you careful about choosing your friends? Just because someone calls himself a Christian does not make him a true follower of Christ. Do you cut off relationships that do not honor Christ? Do you confront sin that is in the life of your friends? Take a moment to reflect and pray about your relationships. Then, make the necessary changes. One bad relationship can lead to devastating consequences. ~MFV

Scripture Fill-In

“Now no _____ for the _____ seemeth to be _____, but _____: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.” Hebrews 12:11

Bible Quiz

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

- _____ 1. Ahithophel was a good and true counselor to King David. 2 Sam. 15:12
- _____ 2. Joseph’s acquaintance in the prison, the butler, proved to be faithful to him. Gen. 40:23

Quote of the Day

“He who kneels before God can stand before anyone.”
~Anonymous

Friday
November 12

Morning: *Ezekiel 1-3*

Evening: *Hebrews 9*

The Apostles Accepted Paul

“Then fourteen years after I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, and took Titus with me also. And I went up by revelation, and communicated unto them that gospel which I preach among the Gentiles, but privately to them which were of reputation, lest by any means I should run, or had run, in vain.” Galatians 2:1-2

After fourteen years, Paul travels with Barnabas and Titus to Jerusalem (Acts 15). Paul shares that the Gospel to the Gentiles (uncircumcised) was the same Gospel that Peter preached to the circumcised. The results were the same. The evidence was people being saved. Whether someone was circumcised or uncircumcised did not help or hinder the effectiveness of God to save. Some at Jerusalem taught salvation was of Christ plus works. Paul showed that Gentiles came to salvation without the works of circumcision.

Are any these works necessary for salvation?

1. Obedience to the ten commandments
2. Honesty
3. Church Membership
4. Faithfulness
5. Baptism

No. If they were necessary, you and I would fall short. James, Cephas, and John gave Paul and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship, not because of the work of circumcision, but because of the grace of God through salvation.

~OV

Scripture Fill-In

“Now no _____ for the _____ seemeth to be _____, but _____: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable _____ of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.” Hebrews 12:11

Bible Quiz

Matching: Match the husband and wife.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------|
| _____ 1. Isaac
Gen. 24:67 | A. Ruth |
| _____ 2. Ahab
1 Ki. 21:3-5 | B. Leah |
| _____ 3. Ahaz
2 Ki. 18:1-2 | C. Abi |
| _____ 4. Chilion
Ruth 1:1-4; 4:10 | D. Rebekah |
| _____ 5. Hosea
Hosea 1:1-3 | E. Jezebel |
| _____ 6. Mahlon
Ruth 4:10 | F. Orpah |
| _____ 7. Jacob
Gen. 29:20-25 | G. Gomer |

Quote of the Day

“Salvation makes the poorest rich.”

~Anonymous

Saturday

November 13

Shazam!

*“Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.”
Psalm 119:18*

G-O-L-L-Y Shazam! It will be a very long while before Americans eliminate this phrase from their colloquial lingo. How many times have we heard Gomer Pyle use this term when “the lights finally came on?” Wasn’t it an absolute delight to watch his face when he finally got it? We Americans treasure those TV episodes with Private first class Pyle.

I was taught as a teenager to approach God with a special verse prior to studying the Bible. It reads: *“Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.”* (Ps. 119:18). I was challenged to pray that particular verse before attempting my Bible study with the idea that God would truly open the eyes of my understanding to grasp the truths He wanted me to see.

It would be hard to give a good estimate regarding how many times I have prayed that prayer. It taught me to look for the nuggets that God had in store for me. Ah, so many times have the lights came on and my face probably resembled Gomer’s. How sweet the treasures as God revealed supernatural understanding of His Word and my eyes were opened! I am sure God looked on with delight as He, my heavenly Father, watched my face.

The Holy Spirit is our teacher, and illumination is the ministry by which He causes Christians to understand the truths of His precious Word. Call upon Him for understanding

Morning: *Ezekiel 4-6*

Evening: *Hebrews 10:1-23*

as you open your Bible. Ask Him for truth. Ask Him to help you see it. Ask Him for your eyes to be opened. Plead with Him for the nuggets. He so desires to teach you and to watch your face light up as His dear child. He does not desire to withhold knowledge from you. He wants you to have it all. Bow your head and just ask for your eyes to be opened. ~NBM

Scripture Fill-In

“Now no _____ for the _____ seemeth to be _____, but _____: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable _____ of righteousness unto them which are _____ thereby.”
Hebrews 12:11

Bible Quiz

Multiple Choice: Circle the correct answer.

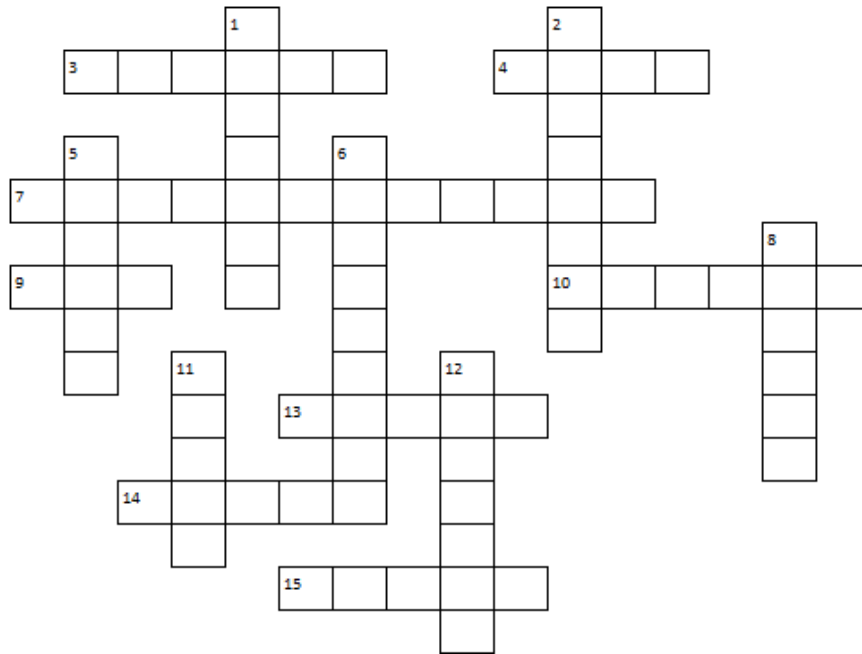
- “Blessed are they that keep his testimonies, and that ____ him with the whole heart.”
Ps. 119:2
A. Search C. Follow
B. Seek D. Love
- “Thy statutes have been my ____ in the house of my pilgrimage.” Ps. 119:54
A. Songs C. Solace
B. Reprieve D. Peace

Quote of the Day

“Dusty Bibles lead to dirty lives.” ~Anonymous

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Thankfulness



ACROSS

3. Paul commended this sister in Christ. Rom. 16:1
4. Jesus gave thanks before distributing this. Jn. 6:11
7. This should always accompany prayer. Phil. 4:6
9. Only this many of the 10 lepers that Jesus healed returned and thanked Him. Lk. 17
10. This devout man blessed God after seeing Baby Jesus. Lk. 2:25-35
13. This man thanked the men of Jabeshgilead for burying King Saul. 2 Sam. 2:4-6
14. "Make known his ____." Ps. 105:1
15. "Enter into his ____ with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name." Ps. 100:4

DOWN

1. Upon meeting this woman, Eliezer, Moses' servant blessed God. Gen. 24
2. At the remembrance of God's ____, give thanks. Ps. 97:12
5. "Do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving __ to God and the Father by him." Col. 3:17
6. Jethro blessed the LORD for delivering the Israelites from these people. Ex. 18:9-10
8. "Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a ____ noise unto him with psalms." Ps. 95:2
11. "____ unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the Most High." Ps. 50:14
12. Miriam used this instrument. Ex. 15:20

Sunday

November 14

Morning: *Ezekiel 7-9*
Evening: *Hebrews 10:24-39*

Assurance of Salvation

“Hereby know we that we dwell in Him, and He in us, because He hath given us of His Spirit.” 1 John 4:13

If you are a Christian, (a true follower of Christ who has accepted Jesus Christ as his Saviour) have you ever doubted your salvation? Have you ever thought to yourself, “Can I really ‘know,’ without a shadow of a doubt that God lives in me and that I will truly live in Heaven with Him one day?”

The Apostle John ties our assurance of salvation, with three solid truths. In verse thirteen, John says, ***“Hereby know we that we dwell in Him, and He in us.”*** In other words, “This is how you know that you truly are saved; that God really does dwell in you.” 1. ***“Because He hath given us of His Spirit”*** (v.13). When you just do not feel like you are saved, when your senses are telling you that you are a miserable failure and that you can not possibly have trusted in Christ, be still and allow the Spirit of God Who dwells in you to witness with your spirit and remind you that you are the child of God. 2. ***“And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son”*** (v.14). If the Spirit of God is not enough to convince you of your salvation, if that seems all too mystical for you, trust in the cold hard fact that God sent Jesus to die on the cross for you. It is an historical fact. Jesus died for your sins. 3. ***“Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him”*** (v.15). Finally, ask yourself “Do I confess that Jesus is the Son of God?”

Allow the Trinity to convince you of your

salvation; do not rest in your own strength. By the way, if His Spirit does not witness with your Spirit, if you are trusting anything but Jesus Christ for your salvation: Hell is too hot and too long to hope you are saved. Come to Christ today! ~PO

Scripture Fill-In

“Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: for our God is a consuming fire.” Hebrews 12:28-29

Bible Quiz

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

- ___ 1. Jesus came to give life and life more abundantly. Jn. 10:7-10
- ___ 2. In John 10, Jesus refers to Himself as the Good Shepherd.
- ___ 3. Jesus’ sheep will never be taken away from Him. Jn. 10:27-29
- ___ 4. The Jews wanted to stone Jesus for during good works for bad people. Jn. 10:32-39

Quote of the Day

“We don’t live on explanations. We live on promises.”
~Warren Wiersbe

Monday
November 15

A Good Life Equals A Closed Mouth

“For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile.” 1 Peter 3:10

It has been said that it is better to be silent and have people think you to be wise than to speak and put an end to all doubt. Some people do not say very much at all. Whether wise or not, their silence decreases the chance they will say something that they wish they had not.

If we are honest, most of us can recall numerous occasions where we have spoken words that we later regret. If we had chosen to hold our tongue, perhaps an argument could have been avoided. Refraining from speaking could have saved people’s feelings, and some of our relationships would still be intact.

People who love life most likely spend very little of their time complaining. With a closed mouth, they enjoy instead of criticize. They see good days because they are looking for them. If we go looking for trouble, we will find it. Conversely, if we look for the blessings we have been given by God, we certainly should be able to find them as well.

Jesus kept His peace even while He was being beaten for us. He understood that His suffering was for our gain. If we can keep His sacrifice at the forefront of our minds, we can find it easier to hold our tongues in the times when we want to speak.

Morning: *Ezekiel 10-12*
Evening: *Hebrews 11:1-19*

This does not mean being passive when evil takes place. It means asking God to give us the wisdom to hold our tongues from evil and speak only when necessary. The result will be us seeing more good days. ~DJJ

Scripture Fill-In

“Wherefore we receiving a _____ which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: for our God is a consuming fire.” Hebrews 12:28-29

Bible Quiz

Multiple Choice: Circle the correct answer.

1. Which was the mother of Adonijah?
2 Sam. 3:4; 1 Ki. 1:5
A. Haggith B. Maacah
C. Abigail D. Bathsheba
2. Which woman gave birth to the next king of Israel, following King David?
1 Chron. 23:1; 1 Ki. 1:11
A. Haggith B. Maacah
C. Abigail D. Bathsheba

Quote of the Day

“In judging and censuring our brethren, we meddle with that which does not belong to us: we have work enough to do at home; and, if we must needs be judging, let us exercise our faculty upon our own hearts and ways.” ~Henry

Tuesday

November 16

Our Soul Anchor

*“Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which entereth into that within the veil.”
Hebrews 6:19*

The writer of Hebrews makes an awesome statement in this verse. He insures us that we have hope, not just a wish or a desire but a extreme confidence; for our hope is sure and steadfast. What is the source of our hope? Our hope is in God. As we examine this verse, we see some great things about why we have a steadfast and sure hope in God. The passage reveals that there is no greater authority than our God (verse 13). Our hope is founded upon God’s authority which can not be overruled because there is no authority greater than His. It also tell us that it is impossible for God to lie (verse 18). Every promise that we have in Him is sure. So God’s character makes it impossible for Him to lie, and His authority makes His decrees final.

This verse brings out two more important facts about our hope. First, our hope is described as a anchor. We are secure as long as we are fastened to Him. How could we have a better anchor than an authority that can not be overruled and a truth that can not be tainted?

Finally, this verse shows the location of our hope. Jesus our hope is located within the veil, with the Father in Heaven. So we are anchored to Jesus; our heavenly Father can not lie, and there is no higher authority than Him. No wonder we have a hope that is sure and steadfast.
~DLW

Morning: *Ezekiel 13-15*

Evening: *Hebrews 11:20-40*

Scripture Fill-In

“Wherefore we receiving a _____ which cannot be _____, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: for our God is a consuming fire.” Hebrews 12:28-29

Bible Quiz

Short Answer: Answer the following questions in the spaces provided. Refer to Exodus 16.

1. How often did the Israelites gather manna?

2. On what day were they to gather twice as much manna? _____
3. What was the shape of the manna?

4. What did manna taste like? _____
5. Where was an omer full of manna kept so that the generations to come could see what God fed the Israelites in the wilderness? _____
6. How many years did the Israelites eat manna? _____

Quote of the Day

“In the dark? Follow the Son.” ~Anonymous

Wednesday

November 17

David's Cry in the Psalms

"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

This year, I have been reading through *The Reese Chronological Bible*. The venture has been very interesting to me. This Bible arranges the verses, chapters, and books in the order in which they chronologically happened. Right after David fled from his son, Absalom, he wrote Psalm 63, crying out to the Lord God. One can imagine the agony of your own flesh and blood turning against you. David went to the Rock and poured his heart out in this psalm.

Throughout the life of David, he wrote many psalms unto the Lord. It has been interesting to read where these psalms fit within his life. After David committed adultery with Bathsheba, the Lord told David, through the prophet Nathan, that the baby would die. Several psalms were written during this time period, including Psalm 51, 32, 38, 103, and 6. David cries in Psalm 6:1-2, as he intercedes for his sick child, *"O LORD, rebuke me not in thine anger, neither chasten me in thy hot displeasure. Have mercy upon me, O LORD; for I am weak: O LORD, heal me; for my bones are vexed."*

Seeing the psalms in the light of the circumstance written behind them has been encouraging. When David faced trouble, He ran to God and poured out his heart to Him. To whom are you running today? When the babies are screaming and dinner is supposed to be fin-

Morning: Ezekiel 16
Evening: Hebrews 12

ished, do you just get frustrated and lash out to those around you? When your boss is down your neck and the finances are getting tighter each month, do you complain to your friends? David ran to God when the waters were threatening to take him under. Next time your trials are running over, stop and spend some time with your Father. Ask Him for peace that passes all understanding. ~MFV

Scripture Fill-In

"Wherefore we receiving a _____ which cannot be _____, let us have _____, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: for our God is a consuming fire." Hebrews 12:28-29

Bible Quiz

Multiple Choice: Circle the correct answer.

- Which of the following jobs did David perform for King Saul. 1 Sam. 16:21-23
A. Armor Bearer C. Both A & B
B. Musician D. Neither A & B
- Who was the prophet that rebuked David? 2 Sam. 12
A. Nathan C. Jeremiah
B. Samuel D. Isaiah

Quote of the Day

"I cast all my cares upon You.
I lay all of my burdens down at Your feet.
And any time that I don't know what to do:
I will cast all my cares upon You."

~Kelly Willard

Thursday

November 18

Meekness

“Now the man Moses was very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth.” Numbers 12:2

The man chosen to lead God’s people, the man to whom God spoke directly, the man who worked miracles, was also a man who was meek above all men. This seems like a contradiction—how could Moses have been humble above anyone while having such high position and important task? I think a key is the forty years in the desert tending sheep and living an obscure, humble life.

Does life ever feel like a desert of nothing but routine with no glory attached? When our eyes are focused on ourselves and getting recognition for what we do, we are the opposite of meek. When we are able to perform any task and lift it up as a gift and service to God for His glory, then we have stepped into the realm of meekness. With meekness comes happiness. Matthew 5:5 says, *“Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.”*

The more spiritual disciplines I practice and the more service I do in the church, the more I feel pride and self-importance welling up in me. I want to remember the lesson of Moses, who after forty long years of obscurity was deemed ready for one of the greatest tasks in history. His meekness stands out as the pinnacle quality of a great leader and servant of God.
~AJD

Morning: Ezekiel 17-19

Evening: Hebrews 13

Scripture Fill-In

“Wherefore we receiving a _____ which cannot be _____, let us have _____, whereby we may _____ God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: for our God is a consuming fire.” Hebrews 12:28-29

Bible Quiz

Short Answer: Answer the following questions about prophets in the Old Testament.

1. Micah was of what nationality? Micah 1:1

2. What was Amos’ occupation? Amos 1:1

3. Who was Isaiah’s father? Isaiah 1:1

4. What did Nehemiah do when he heard of the affliction of the Jews and the destruction of the walls of Jerusalem? Nehemiah 1

5. What was the name of Hosea and Gomer’s first son? Hosea 1:1-5 _____

Quote of the Day

“Keep your face to the sunshine and you cannot see the shadows.”
~Helen Keller

Morning: Ezekiel 20-21
Evening: James 1

Set Apart from the World

“Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.” Jeremiah 1:5

The Bible tells us that Jeremiah was "set apart before he was born." Set apart meant that he had a specific job, just like you. You have been set apart for many things—to witness, to love, to serve, and more. The Bible tells us that God gave Jeremiah the ability to perform his task, and the same is true for you.

I know it is tough to be a Christian, but you have God to lead you. You have God to give you the words. You have God to keep you guarded. God is there. Bottom line: You have a choice to believe this and live accordingly or wimp out and make excuses. God filled Jeremiah's mouth with words. He will fill you, too!

1. What kind of excuses do we make for not speaking out for God?

2. How could you speak for God on your campus or at your job?

~AP

Scripture Fill-In

“Wherefore we receiving a _____ which cannot be _____, let us have _____, whereby we may _____ God acceptably with _____ and godly fear: for our God is a consuming fire.” Hebrews 12:28-29

Bible Quiz

Short Answer: Answer the following questions in the spaces provided. Refer to 1 Corinthians 11:23-26.

1. During the Lord’s Supper, what does the bread represent? _____

2. What does the cup represent? _____

3. For how long does the church need to continue with the Lord’s Supper? _____

Quote of the Day

“There is a needs-be for us to give ourselves for the life of the world. An easy, non-self denying life will never be one of power. Fruit bearing involves cross-bearing. There are not two Christs—an easy-going one fore easy-going Christians, and a suffering, toiling one for exceptional believers. There is only one Christ. Are you willing to abide in Him, and thus bear much fruit?” ~Hudson Taylor

Saturday

November 20

My Heart Is Fixed on Praise

“My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed: I will sing and give praise.” Psalm 57:7

In this verse, the psalm writer makes both a decision and a declaration. We would do well to consider both of them ourselves.

First, he says, *“My heart is fixed.”* This is how he expressed his decision. He fixed his heart on his God, choosing to put Him in His rightful place. We can make the same choice today. We do not know what the day may hold, but we do have control over our focus. On what is your heart fixed? Is your heart fixed on work, money, a sickness, a conflict, or a trial? Or, is your heart fixed on God, on the love He has for you, on the salvation that He has purchased for you, on the resources that He has provided for you, on the purpose that He has planned for you, and the future home that He has prepared for you? Your heart will be fixed on something. You have control over what you allow to become your focus.

Notice that his decision resulted in a direction of life. Once his heart was fixed, it resulted in two things, singing and praising. Focusing on God will always result in worship. If you do not have a song in your heart, you are focused on something other than God. Because, when we see Him as He is, we cannot help but worship Him. What about you? Are you worshipping Him? If not, on what is your heart fixed?

~DLW

Morning: Ezekiel 22-23

Evening: James 2

Scripture Fill-In

“Wherefore we receiving a _____ which cannot be _____, let us have _____, whereby we may _____ God acceptably with _____ and godly fear: for our God is a consuming _____.” Hebrews 12:28-29

Bible Quiz

Matching: Match the Biblical character with her description.

____ 1. Jerusha

____ 2. Michal

____ 3. Jeroboam’s wife

- A. Told King Saul that David was sick to spare David’s life (1 Sam. 19:12-17)
- B. Disguised herself and went to see Ahijah the prophet to enquire about her sick son (1 Ki. 14:1-18)
- C. Mother of King Uzziah, daughter of Zadok (2 Ki. 15:32-33)

Quote of the Day

“God is here. I have joyously discovered that He is always up to something in my life, and I’m learning to quit second-guessing Him and simply trust the process.” ~Anonymous

Keeping Your Word

By Monica Faith Vernot

Continued from pg. 9

He will do what He says He will do? God promises that we can find rest in Him. *“Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.”* (Mt. 11:28) God promises that He will always be there. *“For he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.”* (Heb. 13:5) God promises that He will answer our prayers. *“He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honor him.”* (Ps. 91:15) We can completely rely on God. He will fulfill every promise. He has proven Himself time and time again.

Acts 13:22-23 says, *“And when he had removed him, he raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also he gave testimony, and said, I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfill all my will. Of this man's seed hath God according to his promise raised unto Israel a Saviour, Jesus.”* After the sin in the Garden of Eden, God promised a Savior that would redeem mankind from their sin. God's promise was fulfilled in sending His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Dishonesty and untrustworthiness are completely uncharacteristic of the life of Jesus. He came to this earth with the sole purpose of becoming man so He could take the penalty of the sins of all mankind. He fulfilled the single most difficult promise in all of history. He died a horrible death that He did not deserve. He lived a life in which all of mankind can trust.

As Christians, we are called to exemplify Christ. Others should be able to see Christ in

us. Dishonesty and untrustworthiness are sins and have no place in the life of a believer. 2 Corinthians 13:7 says, *“Now I pray to God that ye do no evil; not that we should appear approved, but that ye should do that which is honest, though we be as reprobates.”* We have the responsibility to be honest in all our dealings with others. When we make a commitment, promise, or vow, we exemplify Christ by keeping our word. However, when commitments are broken and promises and vows are just vain, empty words, Christ is not glorified.

Have you broken a commitment recently? Have you made a promise and failed to deliver? Have you spoken flippant words with little or no intention of following through on your commitment? Are you deceitful in your dealings with others? Keeping your word is not a consistent practice in today's society. As Christians, let's be above the status quo. Let's strive for honesty and trustworthiness. In so doing, we will exemplify our Savior, Who gave His life in fulfilling His promise.

“And this is the promise that he hath promised us, even eternal life.”

1 John 2:25

Sunday

November 21

No Negotiation

“ . . . Lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.” 1 Timothy 3:7

As I write, we are in negotiation for the sell of our house. The buyer offers; the seller counters. Then, there is a waiting game, and so goes the drama of selling a home. The game is not very fun, and in the negotiation process, the seller ends with accepting less money than the listed price.

Negotiation. Has the devil ever tried to get you to negotiate with sin in your life. He might tempt with lies like, “Social drinking is fun; it is getting drunk that is a problem.” Proverbs 20:1 says, *“Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.”* Or maybe, he says, “Looking at those pictures is fine; adultery is the “real” sin.” Matthew 5:27-28 say, *“Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.”* Maybe Satan whispers, “You don’t have time to be in the Word today; it won’t hurt to skip this once.” Psalm 1:1-2 say, *“Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.”*

You see, Satan will try to deceive you. He will make sin look appetizing and gradually lure you in to his awaiting net.

Morning: *Ezekiel 24-26*

Evening: *James 3*

There is NO negotiation with sin. Say, “NO,” every time. In the end, you will be so incredibly happy you stayed firm in your commitment to purity and holiness! ~MFV

Scripture Fill-In

“Let brotherly love continue. Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.” Hebrews 13:1-2

Bible Quiz

Multiple Choice: Circle the correct answer based on Mark 5:1-20.

1. The man possessed with many devils went by what name?
A. Legion C. Matthew
B. Devil D. Judas
2. Jesus cast the devils from the possessed man into what kind of animals?
A. Cows C. Horses
B. Sheep D. Pigs
3. The healed man went and told people in what city about the miracle Jesus had done for him?
A. Rome C. Corinth
B. Decapolis D. Damascus

Quote of the Day

“The truly wise man is he who believes the Bible against the opinions of any man [or] . . . body of men . . . The wise man will decide, ‘This book is the Word of Him Who cannot lie.’”
~R. A. Torrey

Monday

November 22

Pray for Healing as God Gives Faith

“Is any among you afflicted? Let him pray. Is any merry? Let him sing psalms. Is any sick among you? Let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.” James 5:13-14

James encourages us to pray:

1. **Prayer for the suffering. (5:13)**

Prayer can remove affliction, but it can also give us the grace we need to endure troubles and use them to accomplish God’s perfect will. The mature Christian knows how to sing while he is suffering.

2. **Prayer for the sick. (5:14-16)**

This is not a blanket formula for the healing of all the sick. However, these verses tell us to pray for healing with faith and confess our sins.

A couple of lessons can be learned from this passage. First, disobedience to God can lead to sickness. Secondly, sin affects the whole church. Finally, there is healing (physical and spiritual) when sin is confessed.

Christians are invited to pray for the sick and to trust for their recovery. We should confess our faults to one another and pray for each other to be healed. Let us often claim this promise. ~OV

Morning: Ezekiel 27-28

Evening: James 4

Scripture Fill-In

“Let _____ love continue. Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels un-awares.” Hebrews 13:1-2

Bible Quiz

Completion: Complete the following Bible verses with the correct word (s).

1. **James 5:16**—“Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be _____. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.”

2. **Matthew 8:13**—“And _____ said unto the centurion, Go thy way; and as thou hast _____, so be it done unto thee. And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour.”

3. **Acts 28:8**—“And it came to pass, that the father of Publius lay sick of a fever and of a bloody flux: to whom Paul entered in, and _____, and laid his hands on him, and healed him.”

Quote of the Day

“God the Holy Spirit writes our prayers; God the Son presents our prayers, and God the Father accepts our prayers. And with the whole Trinity to help us in it, what cannot prayer perform.”
~Charles H. Spurgeon

Tuesday

November 23

God Will Never Fail You

“Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.” Matthew 11:28-29

In life, equipment will fail you; people will fail you; situations will surprise you. But no matter what your circumstances, once you accept the Lord Jesus Christ as your personal Savior, He promises never to leave you nor forsake you. He will be with you in every challenge, and His love will never fail you! Psalm 28:7-8 says, *“The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him. The LORD is their strength, and he is the saving strength of his anointed.”*

When your body fails you, do you lash out? Where do you direct your anger? If you are having a bad day, who do you blame? When you fail a test or bomb a job interview, what is your reaction? In all these situations, God still loves you! He still has a good plan for you! Close by reading Psalm 23 and Psalm 28. ~AP

Scripture Fill-In

“Let _____ continue. Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.” Hebrews 13:1-2

Morning: Ezekiel 29-31

Evening: James 5

Bible Quiz

Matching: Match the place with the event that took place there.

____ 1. Samaria

____ 2. Damascus

____ 3. Jordan River

____ 4. Euphrates River

____ 5. Egypt

A. This city, also called Sychar, is near the land that Jacob gave to his son, Joseph. John 4:5

B. This is the river in which John the Baptist baptized Jesus. Mt. 3

C. God gave Abram’s seed the land from the Nile River to this great river. Gen. 15:18

D. Paul was traveling to this city when he was converted. Acts 22

E. Abram lied about his wife here. Genesis 12

Quote of the Day

“Although personal failure is not a requirement for being a success, our failures can be used as stepping stones to a more meaningful relationship with God.” ~Erwin Lutzer

Wednesday

November 24

Morning: Ezekiel 32-33
Evening: 1 Peter 1

Are You Ready?

“But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear.”
1 Peter 3:15

Are you ready? Peter calls believers to be ready to give their reasons for hope at any moment. This does not mean that everyone’s testimony is the same. We do not all have a dramatic story of salvation from the edge of death, drug abuse, and immorality. Each believer should, however, be able to express how receiving Christ into his life has changed who he is.

Notice here Peter is describing how people will observe our lives and then have questions about the peace and joy we have. Do you have that observable peace and joy? Or do you have your peace and joy so far buried that it cannot be found?

We need to recognize to Whom we belong and live like we know it to be true. Then, when people see us in the good times and in the times of trial, we can point them to Christ. We will be able to share the Gospel with them declaring it to be the reason for our hope. ~DJD

Bible Quiz

Life Application: Answer the following questions in the spaces provided.

1. Are you ready? At a moment’s notice, could you give your testimony of how Jesus Christ changed your life? _____

2. By your words and actions, would others be able to tell you belong to Christ? _____

3. What actions could you take to enable you to witness more effectively?

4. Who has God laid on your heart lately that needs to hear the message of salvation?

Take a few moments to pray to your heavenly Father for those in your life that need Christ.

Scripture Fill-In

“Let _____ continue. Be not _____ to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.” Hebrews 13:1-2

Quote of the Day

“It is only when a person has a personal encounter with God, beginning a definite relationship, that transformation takes places.”
~Anonymous

Thursday

November 25

Praise and Thanksgiving

Read Psalm 150

The air is crisp and the leaves are turning which is a forerunner to the Thanksgiving season. I know for many, Thanksgiving is the most endeared holiday of the year. Praise be to our God for establishing America, and for preserving all the freedoms we enjoy!

The last hymn of the Psalms concludes with six verses of praise using the word praise thirteen times. We are to praise God wherever we are, whether it be in “his sanctuary” or wherever we might be in the universe. There is no specific time when this praise should take place in this passage; therefore, it seems to be a given constant.

In Psalms 145:2, we read, *“Every day will I bless thee; and I will praise thy name for ever and ever.”* We actually do not have to wait on Thanksgiving to enjoy the blessings of that particular day. EVERY DAY can be a day of Thanksgiving. You may not eat turkey and cranberries, but you can be interactive with your Lord to offer praise wherever you are and for whatever you are eating.

Start your every prayer with praise. It puts God on His throne. Praise Him for just Who He is. Write praises out in your diary or letters. Write His praises to your spouse, children, and grandchildren. Consider changing your voice mail message to a praise. Quote a special verse of praise to your family at the dinner table.

Psalm 150 compels us to praise God *“for His mighty acts . . . according to His ex-*

Morning: *Ezekiel 34-35*

Evening: *1 Peter 2*

cellent greatness.” Every thing that has breath is admonished to praise God. As Warren Wiersbe has stated: “Breath is the weakest thing we have, but we can devote it to the highest service, praising the Lord.” Enjoy *this* day of Thanksgiving. ~NBM

Scripture Fill-In

“Let _____ continue. Be not _____ to entertain _____: for thereby some have entertained angels un-awares.” Hebrews 13:1-2

Bible Quiz

Life Application: Write a prayer of thanksgiving to God on this special day of praise.

Quote of the Day

“Praise is the rehearsal of our eternal song.”
~Charles H. Spurgeon

A Living, Breathing Example

“. . . Be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.” 1 Timothy 4:12

A dear couple in my life just celebrated their 58th wedding anniversary! It is so wonderful to watch them interact. Their love is so apparent 100 yards away. He takes care of his wife and treats her like a queen. She speaks so highly of her husband. Being 57 years behind them in our marital journey, they are such an example to us to always love, encourage, uplift, and serve one another.

Wherever you are in your lifetime journey, whether single, married, retired, or in college, you are a living, breathing example to those around you! And believe me, people are indeed watching you.

I have watched the couple mentioned above. I have seen how the husband sits in church with his arm lovingly around his wife. I have listened to the wife ring her husband's praises. I have watched, and they have showed me a godly marriage, centered on Christ.

What kind of example are you showing to those around you? Do they see a genuine Christian, wholly following the Lord? Or, do they see a mediocre Christian, living on the edge? People are watching YOU! But, most importantly, God is watching. How are you doing? ~MFV

Morning: Ezekiel 36-37

Evening: 1 Peter 3

Scripture Fill-In

“Let _____ continue. Be not _____ to entertain _____: for thereby some have _____ angels unawares.” Hebrews 13:1-2

Bible Quiz

Multiple Choice: Circle the correct answer.

1. Which of the following gifts did Abraham's servant give to Rebekah as bridal presents? Gen. 24:51-53
 - A. Jewels of Silver
 - B. Jewels of Gold
 - C. Raiment
 - D. All of the above
2. In Old Testament law, a groom was to be exempt from what for one year? Deut. 24:5
 - A. Giving sacrifices
 - B. Military duty
 - C. Paying taxes and debts
 - D. None of the above
3. At what event did Jesus turn water to wine? John 2
 - A. A wedding
 - B. A baptism
 - C. A town meeting
 - D. A Funeral

Quote of the Day

“Adam and Eve had an ideal marriage; she couldn't tell him about all the other guys she could have married, and he couldn't tell her about his mother's cooking.” ~Anonymous

Saturday

November 27

The Commandment to Love

“If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? And this commandment have we from Him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.”
1 John 4:20-21

What is the purpose of a commandment? A commandment, by definition, is “something that is commanded.” The person who makes the command is requiring a subordinate to take action in accordance to his directives. In other words, “This is something that you must do.” Commandments are in place to affect and alter behaviour. Commandments are also set in place to reveal the lack of action or proper behaviour.

In 1 John 4, the Apostle John reminds his readers of a commandment that they have from God. In verse 21 he writes, *“And this commandment have we from Him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.”* Notice the linear flow of the commandment. It makes the assumption that we love God first. In addition to loving God, we are to love our brothers.

For someone to say that they love God is easy. God sent Jesus to die for them. He saved them from their sins. He is God. He is love. What’s not to love? However, to love our brother is a different story. He is not God: nowhere near it. He is a sinner. He makes us mad. Frustrates us at times. And so, God gives this commandment, *“He who loveth God love his brother also.”* Before the commandment, the

Morning: Ezekiel 38-39

Evening: 1 Peter 4

Apostle John reminds us of the test of how much we really do love God. *“If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar.”* So, are you following the commandment of loving your brother? That is the test of whether you really love God. ~PO

Scripture Fill-In

“Let _____
continue. Be not _____
to entertain _____:
thereby some have _____
_____ unawares.” Hebrews 13:1-2

Bible Quiz

Multiple Choice: Circle the correct answer.

- Joseph’s name was changed to what?
Gen. 41:45
A. Zaphnathpaaneah C. Zallmanuah
B. Jacob D. Abram
- Who was the idolatrous mother of King Asa? 1 Ki. 15:11-13
A. Maachah C. Madon
B. Michal D. Miriam

Quote of the Day

“How do we react to unlovely persons? With contempt, scorn, disgust, or with compassion, pity, love, patience (endurance)? Never forget that the test of love is the length to which it will go.”
~Anonymous

Sunday

November 28

Transformed

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

A first grade teacher told about the amazing transformation her class witnessed as they saw homely worms turn into beautiful, colorful butterflies. The kids squealed, shouted, and clapped as they released the new butterflies into the sky. They had all watched as the caterpillars formed a beautiful chrysalis that dried up into brown and then were amazed as the butterflies emerged.

God’s work in creation through butterflies is a work He wants to do in each one of His children spiritually. If we are crawling on the ground, He will make us fly. Imagine the perspective change of that butterfly who has never seen earth from the air before. What new wonders are opened to one who allows the process of metamorphosis to take place. God wants to take our fallen selves and broken lives, that seem to have no beauty, and change us into creatures that prove His goodness and testify to His power. ~AJD

Scripture Fill-In

“Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.” Hebrews 13:5-6

Morning: Ezekiel 40

Evening: 1 Peter 5

Bible Quiz

Who Said It? After reading the following quotes, determine who spoke the words, and write your answer in the blank.

_____ 1. “Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt?” Ex. 3:11

_____ 2. “I AM THAT I AM.” Ex. 3:14

_____ 3. “O my Lord, I am not eloquent, neither heretofore, nor since thou hast spoken unto thy servant: but I am slow of speech, and of a slow tongue.” Ex. 4:10

_____ 4. “Who hath made man’s mouth? or who maketh the dumb, or deaf, or the seeing, or the blind?” Ex. 4:11

_____ 5. “Who is the LORD, that I should obey his voice to let Israel go?” Ex. 5:2

_____ 6. “Why is it that thou hast sent me?” Ex. 5:22

Quote of the Day

“A trial is an experiment or search made upon a man, by some affliction, to prove the value and strength of his faith.” ~Henry

Monday
November 29

Morning: *Ezekiel 41-42*

Evening: *2 Peter 1*

A Child of God Is Valued

“Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.”
1 John 3:1

The Bible says in 1 John 3:1 that God loves us enough to call us His children. God sees our hearts and does not base His love on our actions or performances. We are loved unconditionally by our Maker. All God wants is for us to try our hardest with the gifts that He has given us.

Maybe you are a musician, a businessman, an athlete, a nurse or doctor, a housewife, a janitor, a mailman, a pastor, or a secretary. Your occupation does not define who you are or how much you are worth. As a Christian, above anything else, you are a loved and valued child of God.

What defines you? Who ultimately are you working for in life? ~AP

Scripture Fill-In

“Let your conversation be without _____; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.” Hebrews 13:5-6

Bible Quiz

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

1. Revelation 1:8 refers to Jesus Christ as the Alpha and Omega. What do these names mean?

2. Revelation 3:14 gives what name for Jesus Christ? _____
3. What name is given for Jesus Christ in Hebrews 2:10? _____
4. Exodus 3:14 gives what name for God the Father? _____
5. John 14:16 gives what name for the Holy Spirit? _____
6. The name Immanuel means what?
Mt. 1:23

7. What two names are used for God in Exodus 6:3? _____

Quote of the Day

“The heart of Christ became like a reservoir in the midst of the mountains. All the tributary streams of iniquity, and every drop of the sins of his people, ran down and gathered into one vast lake, deep as hell and shoreless as eternity. All these met, as it were, in Christ's heart, and he endured them all.” ~Charles H. Spurgeon

Tuesday
November 30

Cornerstone or Rock of Offense?

*“Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but to them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner, and a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed.”
1 Peter 2:7-8*

To call something precious is to claim that it is of great value. Others may find that the things that we cherish are simple and in their minds even worthless. That is the picture Peter paints here. Those saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ find him to be precious. He has become a treasure. Saints say that He is worth the surrender of all they have in obedience to Him.

The redeemed see Jesus as the Rock upon which they intend to build their lives. No longer do they search in vain for earthly foundations. Hope is secured in their trust of Christ. Their treasure is in Heaven; their eternity is secure; and their goals are to live out life for the glory of God.

Those who have not been regenerated in Christ find Him to be an offense. He is a stone not upon which to build but to stumble over as they trip through life. They fail to recognize His desired redemption of their soul. When looking to the cross, they see a waste of life rather than a willing sacrifice. To them the Bible is rules not a love story. Heaven is only a

Morning: *Ezekiel 43-44*
Evening: *2 Peter 2*

hope to dream to the disobedient instead of a sure reward for the saved.

Make Jesus your cornerstone and not your stumbling stone. ~DJD

Scripture Fill-In

“Let your conversation be without _____; and be _____ with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.” Hebrews 13:5-6

Bible Quiz

Fill in the Blank: Complete the following verse.

Deuteronomy 32:4—“He is the (1) _____, his work is (2) _____: for all his ways are (3) _____: a God of (4) _____ and without (5) _____, (6) _____ and (7) _____ is he.”

Quote of the Day

“The Bible is a harbor where I can drop down my anchor, feeling certain that it will hold. Here is a place where I can find sure footing; and, by the grace of God, from this confidence I shall never be moved.” ~C. H. Spurgeon

Calling All to Faithfulness

By Norma Merrin

Faithfulness is a continual calling for ALL. Many are so very faithful to the Lord and His claims on the life that He has extended to us. We are on different tracks and rest stations in our walk of faith according to how we have exercised our faith over the years.

Usually, Christians become confronted with being faithful during hard times. This is often when we are faced with the choice to live above our circumstances or to give in to the dark clouds swirling about us. Satan readily comes to us with lies and discouragement that may thwart our faithfulness. The unexpected turns of life can be wrenching; and sometimes our faithfulness only culminates in keeping our nose just above the water. Well, I say, "Great." You are standing. It means you are still on the path. It means you are here. Pastor Merrin often says that there are times when all you can do is stand.

Hebrews 10:23 challenges us to "hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering." Holding fast means holding out. Cling to what you know to be true. Cling to the promises. Don't allow the Giant of Despair to have the victory. Make sure your counsel lines up with scripture. Sometimes Christians wring their hands in moments of doubt about what to do. Begin talking about your faith to others. This will help you solidify your resolve for the Lord Jesus, and others will be encouraged as well.

Recently, I was facing a difficult time, and for a couple days; I just had trouble praying and rebounding. I kept saying, "Lord, I am yours. I am here; I am yours." God knew my heart. It actually felt good to reaffirm those words in a different type of "prayer format-

ting," so to speak. Those words meant that I was steady and resolved to not go anywhere. We must be committed to not run or hide, or to just give up. You must be committed to show up and to be visible. At times, that can get hard.

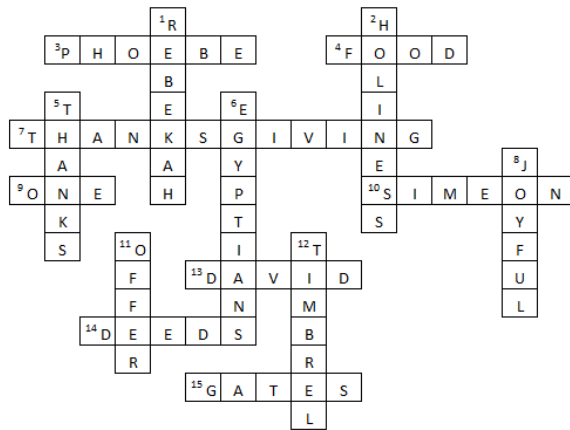
I like what I recently heard Dr. Steve Brown say: "When it gets dark enough, even a little light will do." So, the fact you only have spiritual energy to stand is not such a grave detriment. Take heart, you are standing with the energy to light the world around you, even if only a tiny spark stays lit. Rejoice. The night is not continuous. Daybreak does follow.

Another insight into this living a life of faithfulness is gaining the spiritual jewels that God had for you during the suffering. John Bunyan wrote about this in his allegory, *The Pilgrim's Progress*. A man named Little-faith was robbed of his silver, but had some precious jewels that the rogues did not find. Little-faith was on his journey to the Celestial City, physically suffering for lack of his spending money and being extremely hungry. Yes, he had jewels that he could have sold and used to sustain himself, but he would not. He counted the suffering more valuable to him. The precious gems were his spiritual riches. This parallels with another statement I heard Dr. Brown make. He said: "When it gets dark enough, you can see the stars."

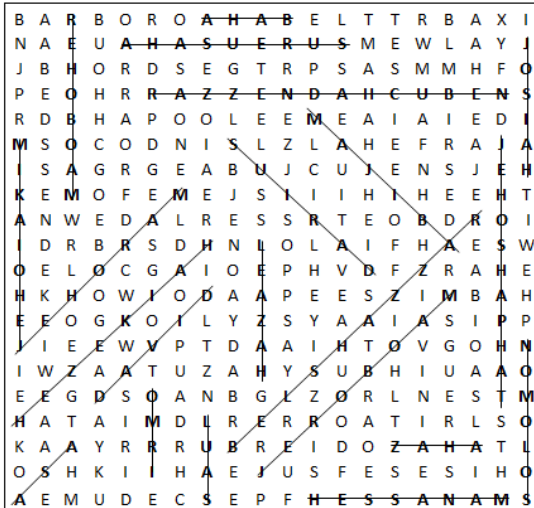
Wow! Praise God for the little lights that help us stand. Look for them. There are jewels to gain. Don't trade them for the bread of Satan. "...a faithful man, who can find?" *Proverbs 20:6*.

Answers

Cross-Word Puzzle



Word Search



Bible Quizzes

- Nov. 1 Pg. 2 1. Joseph 2. Mephibosheth
3. David 4. Pilate
- Nov. 2 Pg. 3 1. B 2. B
- Nov. 3 Pg. 4 1. T 2. T 3. F
- Nov. 4 Pg. 5 Answers will vary.

- Nov. 5 Pg. 6 1. B 2. C
- Nov. 6 Pg. 7 1. D 2. B 3. D
- Nov. 7 Pg. 9 1. 2 2. 4 3. 1 4. 9 5. 6 6. 8
7. 10 8. 3 9. 7 10. 5
- Nov. 8 Pg. 10 1. 1 2. 4 3. 6 4. 2 5. 7 6. 5
7. 8 8. 10 9. 3 10. 9
- Nov. 9 Pg. 11 1. Righteousness, perverse
2. Speech, grace, salt
3. Tongue, evil, guile
- Nov. 10 Pg. 12 1. A 2. C 3. D 4. E 5. B
- Nov. 11 Pg. 13 1. F 2. F
- Nov. 12 Pg. 14 1. D 2. E 3. C 4. F 5. G
6. A 7. B
- Nov. 13 Pg. 15 1. B 2. A
- Nov. 14 Pg. 17 1. T 2. T 3. T 4. F
- Nov. 15 Pg. 18 1. A 2. D
- Nov. 16 Pg. 19 1. Daily 2. Sixth 3. Round
4. Wafers made with honey
5. Ark of the Covenant 6. 40
- Nov. 17 Pg. 20 1. C 2. A
- Nov. 18 Pg. 21 1. Morasthite 2. Herdsman
3. Amoz 4. He wept,
mourned, fasted, and prayed.
5. Jezreel
- Nov. 19 Pg. 22 1. Jesus' broken body
2. Jesus' blood 3. Until Jesus'
return
- Nov. 20 Pg. 23 1. C 2. A 3. B
- Nov. 21 Pg. 25 1. A 2. D 3. B
- Nov. 22 Pg. 26 1. Healed 2. Jesus, believed
3. Prayed
- Nov. 23 Pg. 27 1. A 2. D 3. B 4. C 5. E
- Nov. 24 Pg. 28 Answers will vary.
- Nov. 25 Pg. 29 Answers will vary.
- Nov. 26 Pg. 30 1. D 2. B 3. A
- Nov. 27 Pg. 31 1. A 2. A
- Nov. 28 Pg. 32 1. Moses 2. God 3. Moses
4. God 5. Pharaoh 6. Moses
- Nov. 29 Pg. 33 1. Beginning and Ending
2. Amen 3. Captain of
Salvation 4. I AM
5. Comforter 6. God with us
7. God Almighty and Jehovah
- Nov. 30 Pg. 34 1. Rock 2. Perfect
3. Judgment 4. Truth
5. Iniquity 6. Just 7. Right