



# *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, 2011

Dear Friend in Christ,

Happy Thanksgiving! What a wonderful month to recognize the great gifts God has given to each one of us! *“Bless the LORD, O my soul: and forget not all his benefits.”* (Ps. 103:2)

This month, we would like to encourage you to do something a little extra during your daily time with the Lord. Starting now, write a couple of blessings that God has given you today. Continue the list throughout the month. On page 35 of the devotional, we have provided a page for you to make your list. You will be amazed at the end of the month at the daily blessings of our Saviour! You may even want to share them with your friends and family over the holidays as a testimony to the goodness of God.

Have a great month, and may the Lord abundantly bless you as you seek Him above all else!

In Christ,

*The Bread of Life Devotional Staff*

# Tuesday

November 1

**Morning:** *Jeremiah 31-32*

**Evening:** *Titus 2*

## Be Rid of Religion

*“How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?”*  
*Hebrews 9:14*

Due to Mary’s Catholic upbringing, she had a hard time accepting the forgiveness of sins through grace alone. She felt she needed to pay penance and make it up to God when she sinned. She would try hard to “be good” and then when the inevitable failure came, she would sink low. Eventually a subtle resentment of God and His impossible demands crept into her heart.

Dictionary.com defines the idiom “get religion” as, a. to acquire a deep conviction of the validity of religious beliefs and practices, and b. to resolve to mend one’s errant ways.

Both of these definitions sound good. After all, we want people to have convictions and morals. Yet, uncloaked, they are a damaging ideology of earning favor with God through our own efforts. It becomes about what we do, instead of about what Christ has done. There are many people of various religions today doing “good works.” We may applaud that until we remember God calls their good deeds dead works. Whatever the motivation for these works, whether it be to make themselves feel good, to earn heaven, or to make the world a better place to live; all of these are in contrast to true goodness and righteousness which only comes from God. We are unable to please God without the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ.

I have accepted God’s gift of salvation by grace, but I find myself living like religious acts are necessary for God to be happy with me. The book of James speaks of the absolute necessity of good works; but when my motivations are to look good to others and make God love me more, I reap failure and discouragement. Only when I realize that Jesus’ blood and forgiveness of sins makes me accepted by God, do I realize that I am free to serve Him in gratitude and through His power.

Paul said in Romans, “*Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid.*” Grace is not an excuse for living any way you want, but God is not pleased with our religious works done to earn credit with Him. It is all about God and His glory. Do not get religion; get a true heart of repentance and humility before God—by His grace you are saved. ~AJH

## Scripture Fill-In

“Let your \_\_\_\_\_ 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

“That which we should value in ourselves and in one another is the dignity of God’s image and the great price at which we were bought.”  
~Anonymous

# Wednesday

November 2

**Morning:** *Jeremiah 33-35*

**Evening:** *Titus 3*

## God's Rights

*“He spake also this parable; A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came and sought fruit thereon, and found none.” Luke 13:6*

There are days when everybody is seeking his or her own rights—Poor people march for their rights; different trades strike for their right—everybody seems to be working for themselves. There is very little said about God's right. This parable reminds me that God also has some rights. This is a beautiful story. In the story the man represents God the Father; the vinedresser represents the Lord Jesus. So what does God have a right to expect from us?

1. God has a right to expect fruit from us. (Prov. 11:30; Gal. 5:22-23)
2. God has a right to own me. (I Cor. 6:19-20)
3. God has a right to cut me down if I do not bear fruit. (Jn 15:1-6; I Cor. 11:30; I Cor. 5; Acts 5)

Now there is one difference. Here is Jesus—He loves us. He does not want us to suffer so He comes to God and pleads on our behalf. He asks God to give us a chance to bear fruit. There is a beautiful picture given in Isaiah 5:1-6 which tells what the vinedresser did to make the tree bear fruit. Read Isaiah 5:2 and notice all that he did to it: *“And he fenced it, and gathered out the stones thereof, and planted it with the choicest vine, and built a tower in the midst of it, and also made a wine-press therein: and he looked that it should*

*bring forth grapes, and it brought forth wild grapes.”*

All of these things are simple proof that God will patiently wait for us to bear our fruit. When we do not, He cuts us down. His judgment is sure. ~OV

## Scripture Fill-In

“Let your \_\_\_\_\_ 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

**Short Answer:** Answer the question in the spaces provided.

1. What kind of tree bore no fruit, and Jesus cursed it? (Mt. 21:19) \_\_\_\_\_
2. Which of the following is NOT a fruit of the spirit: love, peace, goodness, or empathy? (Gal. 5:22-23) \_\_\_\_\_
3. What two fruits are mentioned in Song of Solomon 7:12? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Quote of the Day

“Next to the might of God, the serene beauty of a holy life is the most powerful influence for good in all the world.” ~Anonymous

# Thursday

November 3

## A Time to Reap

*“And he knew it, and said, It is my son's coat; an evil beast hath devoured him; Joseph is without doubt rent in pieces.” Genesis 37:33*

As Jacob looked at the blood stained coat that he had given to his son, he assumed that his son was dead. He was inconsolable. His beloved son was gone just like his true soul mate Rachel. The plan of his other sons had worked to perfection. There was no way for Jacob to discern that the blood on the coat was not actually the blood of his son, but the blood of a goat. Jacob had no idea that Joseph's step-brothers had sold him into slavery and lied to their father for their own selfish reasons. He also was completely unaware that he was reaping what he had sown.

Galatians 6:7 says, ***“Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.”*** Years earlier, Jacob had killed a goat in a deceptive plot to steal a blessing that belonged to his own brother. Years later, his children did the same thing to him.

This should cause us to stop and think. When Jacob deceived his father, he thought that he was getting away with something. He thought that it was in his best interest to steal the blessing meant for his brother, but he was actually demonstrating his lack of faith by trying to manipulate circumstances to promote himself. God is in control; He will work out His purpose. I wonder if Jacob would have deceived his father if he knew the pain that it

**Morning:** *Jeremiah 36-37*

**Evening:** *Philemon*

would eventually cause him. I think that he would have let Esau keep the blessing and trusted God instead. ~DLW

### Scripture Fill-In

“Let your \_\_\_\_\_ be without \_\_\_\_\_; and be \_\_\_\_\_ with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will \_\_\_\_\_ 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

**Unscramble:** Unscramble the following words found in today's devotional.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. L O D B L O
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. E E D E D I C V
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. U R P S O E P
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. C J O A B
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. E P A I G N R
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. B S E N G L S I

### Quote of the Day

“Looking at the wound of sin will never save anyone. What you must do is look at the remedy.”  
~D. L. Moody

## The Laughter of God

*“He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision.”  
Psalm 2:4*

What makes you laugh? Although most humorous experiences, when told, fall under the category of “guess you had to be there.” I will attempt to explain to you one such instance in my life that I found funny.

A senior. Middletown Christian High School. Mr. Kennedy’s class. He was the son of a missionary and had grown up on the mission field in both Africa and Germany. (On more than one occasion the German “sternness” came out of him. But I do not know what he said because he spoke German and six other languages). It was his familiarity with multiple languages that caused the laughter.

Before class started, we were discussing the unique keyboard that he had for his computer that could type the different accent marks that are necessary for the German language. This triggered the question of whether or not there were different types of keyboards for all languages. In the midst of the discussion, one of our classmates blurted out, “Can you imagine a Chinese typewriter?” Knowing that the Chinese language is famous for the thousands of congee characters, our classmate began acting like he had a gigantic typewriter all around him with Chinese characters on it. Why it was so funny I will never know, but what ensued was fifteen minutes of uncontrolled laughter. Every time it would begin to die down, someone in the room would make a typing sound and the laughter would pick back up. A one

point, I think Mr. Kennedy said, “I’m on the verge of throwing you out of class!” But once again, “guess you had to be there.”

We all can recall instances in our lives where something made us laugh uncontrollably. It is hard for some of us, however, to see the Creator of the Universe with His head thrown back and His mouth wide open. But the Psalmist records the laughter of a Holy God. And so, I ask myself, “What makes God laugh?” The answer: people who fight against Him. The Psalmist says that God not only laughs at those who think they can throw off His rule, but He has them in “derision.” The idea is that of ridicule. And so I ask, “Does your life make God laugh?” Not laugh like “you’re a funny guy,” but are your actions a joke to Him? When you decide that you know better than He does, you make Him laugh. What do you need to do to stop the laughter?  
~PO

### Scripture Fill-In

“Let your \_\_\_\_\_ be without \_\_\_\_\_; and be \_\_\_\_\_ with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will \_\_\_\_\_ leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may \_\_\_\_\_ say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.” Hebrews 13:5-6

### Quote of the Day

“A proud man is always looking down on things and people; and of course, as long as you’re looking down, you can’t see something that’s above you.”  
~C. S. Lewis

# Saturday

November 5

## John the Baptist: A Great Man of God

Read Luke 1: 11-17

In this passage the coming of John the Baptist is foretold. The faithfulness of John's parents set the stage for his arrival. They were servants of God. In fact, the angel of the Lord speaks to Zacharias while he is about his duties in the temple. The angel tells him that John will be great.

So why was this man, known for wearing camel hair and eating bugs, known to be a great man? John was great for several reasons. He was great first and most importantly great because God thought so. God's thoughts for anyone are the most important. If no one else ever found John to be great other than God, that would be enough. Second, John was great because he lived a life separated from alcohol, separated unto God, and filled with the Holy Spirit from the time of his childhood. Third, he was great because he turned people's focus to Christ. He did so with same spirit of boldness that Elijah possessed. Finally, he was great because he was preparing a pathway for the coming Messiah.

Any believer today can be great as well. We must, however, follow the model that John set before us. We must choose to be great to God before everyone else. Only when He has first place in our lives can we be mightily used by Him. We should be separated unto Him. We must be filled by the Holy Spirit by studying, memorizing God's Word, and continually

**Morning:** *Jeremiah 40-42*

**Evening:** *Hebrews 2*

submitting to God's leadership in our lives. Finally, if we are seeking to be great for God, we must be a concerned for souls. John pointed people to Christ. With that in mind, we must be a soul-winner in mindset and in action.

Be great for God; live like John!

~DJD

### Scripture Fill-In

"Let your \_\_\_\_\_ be without \_\_\_\_\_; and be \_\_\_\_\_ with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will \_\_\_\_\_ leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may \_\_\_\_\_ say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not \_\_\_\_\_ what man shall do unto me." Hebrews 13:5-6

### Bible Quiz

**Thought Reflection:** Complete the questions in the spaces provided.

1. Who is one of your favorite Biblical characters? Why? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What are some of the character qualities in his life that you want to imitate? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. List some of the Scripture passages in which this Biblical character can be found?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# Sunday

November 6

## Believers in Bonds

### Read Hebrews 11:33-40

Persecution of believers is not a pleasant topic and one that we do not like to discuss. It is as old as time. Remember God was pleased with Abel and his sacrifice, yet his own brother was filled with envy and murdered him. Rejection of God and all His righteousness is the problem. We can target various religious groups for the persecution, but behind it all is Satan. He hates the Creator and His beloved church. It was Satan who declared in Isaiah 14 that He would ascend into heaven and exalt his throne above the stars of God.

Christ warned that we would be persecuted just as He was. True to this day, believers are being held in prisons in many hostile countries throughout the world.

So many have suffered just as Hebrews records in our text. These are people like you and me, except they were “tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection.”

My mind wraps around those brothers and sisters that are alive today and imprisoned. We can pray for their deliverance. As I write this, the world is focused on Pastor Youcef Nadarkhani of Iran who is on trial for refusing to recant his Christian faith in a Muslim society. This is an example of what is taking place in many countries.

Yes, it seems God does deliver at times. I think of Daniel and his release from the mouth

**Morning:** *Jeremiah 43-45*

**Evening:** *Hebrews 3*

of lions. I think of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego—released from the fiery furnace.

The author of Hebrews exhorted the church to pray for him and the others. It seems the purpose in verses 18-19 are so they can be with believers once again. To be set free—Yes, that is it. God does will that some be set free. Shouldn't we remember to pray for those in bonds? God help us to think and pray for our fellow believers that are suffering.

Paul, a prisoner for Christ, closed the book of Philemon with this: “But withal prepare me also a lodging: for I trust that through your prayers I shall be given unto you.” ~*NBM*

### Scripture Fill-In

“Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever.” Hebrews 13:8

### Bible Quiz

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

1. Who was the martyr mentioned in Revelation 2:13? \_\_\_\_\_
2. How was Stephen killed? (Acts 7:59-60)  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Quote of the Day

“Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.” ~*Matthew 5:11-12*

# *The Ultimate Pardon*

**By Paul O'Bradovic**

All ten were to be executed. Due to their given nature, each one would die simply to fulfill the desires of his captures. The yearly festival had arrived and tradition demanded death. The captures were hungry for a celebration; they were hungry for tradition to continue; most of all they were just hungry.

Each year, two of them would be pulled from the cage and brought before the Commander in Chief. No doubt the others never thought they would see them again. It is not clear as to the first to be brought before the Commander in Chief. Stories have been told that date back to the 1800's while others believe that the tradition began in 1947. The truth may never be known. However, for Marshmallow and Yamy their day came in 2005. Flyer and Fryer met the Commander in Chief in 2006. In 2007, May and Flower were taken from the cage. In 2008, Pumpkin and Pecan left their cage in Frying Pan Park for the last time. In 2009, Courage and Carolina were brought before the new Commander in Chief.

Unbeknownst to the others, each year the two that were brought before the Commander in Chief were never killed. Instead, the Commander placed his hand on the head of each of them and granted them a pardon. Execution was no longer a possibility. Instead, each would live out the rest of natural life in either Disneyland or Disney World.

The quirky American tradition of pardoning a turkey on Thanksgiving Day can teach us much. Although the turkey had no clue as to the procedure that saved its life and the attitude of thanksgiving will never be expressed from

the turkey to the President of the United States, we can reflect upon a greater pardon that has been applied to our souls and respond with great thanksgiving.

While it is fun to see a man of such power and prestige lay his hand on the head of a turkey during the Thanksgiving holiday and utter a few words of pardon, imagine the response of America if the President, instead of just speaking, instead of just waving his hand, literally gave his own life so the turkey could live. The American people would be appalled. Even those who did not vote for our current President would object to such action. What will this do to our country? The media would have a field day with such news. No doubt someone would say, "You are the President of the United States. Your life is worth so much more than a turkey. Why would you do that? We are not letting you do that!"

Now, imagine if you will, the scene in Heaven some 2000 years ago. With no disrespect intended, Jesus leans over to the Father and says, "I will die for them." The angels might have gone crazy! "Die for them? You are God! Your life is worth so much more than those humans. They don't even know what you are doing. You are going to give them a pardon and let them live in your Heaven?"

As we approach this next Thanksgiving Day, reflect on the ultimate reason to be thankful. Jesus Christ, the God Who created the world, bought your pardon with His own life. If you have accepted His death as your pardon for sin, your death in Hell will be avoided. Give thanks this year that Jesus Christ would die, even for a turkey like you.

# Monday

November 7

## God's Promise of Strength

*"He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength."*  
Isaiah 40:29

I want you to think about two roads. The roads are not summing in the same direction, and nothing connects the two. One road leads down—down to Hell. The other road leads up—up to Heaven. The road leading down is crooked and wide. The road leading up is straight and narrow. There are some travellers on both roads. The concern is that the travellers on the road which leads downward be picked off that road and set upon the other road.

As we notice the road which leads up, we see that sometimes a traveller will stumble and fall. It is as if he has suddenly become weak. Notice that this person who has fallen gets up and brushes himself off. Why? Because the promise is that strength will be renewed by waiting upon the Lord. At the time when a person realizes his lack of ability to reach Heaven on his own and trusts Jesus for that strength, spiritual strength has been added to the mental and the physical body.

Everyone's body gets tired—even that of a child or a young person. Everyone's mind gets weary. Everyone becomes discouraged with trying to do right. Everyone needs a renewal of strength. This renewal is not needed just for the one time—it is needed time and time again. Isaiah 40:31 tells us how to obtain this renewal of strength and what shall be the results of obtaining it. *"But they that wait upon the*

**Morning:** Jeremiah 46-48

**Evening:** Hebrews 4

*LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."* ~OV

### Scripture Fill-In

"\_\_\_\_\_ Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever."  
Hebrews 13:8

### Bible Quiz

**Matching:** Match the biblical character with his description.

- \_\_\_\_ 1. Abednego
- \_\_\_\_ 2. Shadrach
- \_\_\_\_ 3. Obed
- \_\_\_\_ 4. Og
- \_\_\_\_ 5. Zalmunna

- A. Also called Hananiah (Dan. 1:7)
- B. Grandfather of King David (Mt. 1:5-6)
- C. The giant king of Bashan (Deut. 3:11)
- D. Also called Azariah (Dan. 1:7)
- E. A king of Midian (Jdg. 8:5)

### Quote of the Day

"I love to hear my Lord spoken of, and wherever I have seen the print of His shoe in the earth, there I have coveted to put mine also."  
~John Bunyan

# Tuesday

November 8

**Morning:** *Jeremiah 49-50*

**Evening:** *Hebrews 5*

## Devastation

*“Tell ye your children of it, and let your children tell their children, and their children another generation.” Joel 1:3*

Being a Christian comes with great responsibility. We are to share our foundational history with others; first and most important, with our family. In Joel 1:3, he warns to do just that; share our historical foundation with our families, for all generations to come.

In the book of Joel, chapter 1, Joel is lamenting over the devastation the locusts and caterpillars caused by ravaging the land to atone for Judah’s sins. Joel wanted all to remember that this event could not be paralleled in the ages that were past or in the memory of any living. In essence, this was a big deal. In verse 3, he states, tell your children and all the generations that would follow.

In chapter 2, Joel is calling for all to come to repentance. In verse 1, he tells them to blow the trumpet, sound an alarm—the inevitable is coming. II Chronicles 7:14 states, *“If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.”*

Here is the challenge to God's people; repent, pray, fast, and tell others of God and the Lord Jesus Christ. ~KAH

## Scripture Fill-In

“\_\_\_\_\_ Christ the \_\_\_\_\_ yesterday, and today, and forever.” Hebrews 13:8

## Bible Quiz

**Who Said It?:** Label each quote with its author.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1. “It is not lawful for thee to have her.” (Mt. 14:4)

\_\_\_\_\_ 2. “Master, it is good for us to be here: and let us make three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias.” (Lk. 9:33)

\_\_\_\_\_ 3. “Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God.” (Mt. 22:29)

\_\_\_\_\_ 4. “Take ye him, and judge him according to your law.” (Jn. 18:31)

\_\_\_\_\_ 5. “Ye men of Athens, I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious.” (Acts 17:22)

## Quote of the Day

“Sin is sovereign till sovereign grace dethrones it.” ~Charles Spurgeon

# Wednesday

November 9

## An Act of Obedience

*“And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water; and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” Matthew 3:16-17*

Every believer should follow the Lord in baptism. This is a great verse that teaches us several important doctrinal truths.

First, it is a great verse that proves the Trinity. All three members of the Trinity are present in it. Jesus is being baptized; the Holy Spirit is descending upon Him; and the voice of the Father is speaking from heaven.

We learn at least three things concerning baptism from these verses. First of all, Jesus was baptized. If you read the verses before, you find that Jesus was baptized in order to be obedient to God’s plan.

We also see the mode of baptism. Jesus came up out of the water. You will not find people being sprinkled in the Bible, nor will you find babies being baptized. Baptism is a public declaration of our decision to place our faith in Christ as our Savior. Babies can neither place faith nor make a declaration. The word ‘baptize’ means to submerge, not to sprinkle. In John 3:23, we are told that John chose a place with much water to baptize. He would not need much water if he were sprinkling people.

Finally, we see that Jesus’ baptism pleased

**Morning:** *Jeremiah 51-52*

**Evening:** *Hebrews 6*

the Father. When we choose to be obedient and be baptized after we are saved, the Father will also be pleased with us. ~DLW

## Scripture Fill-In

“\_\_\_\_\_ Christ the \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and today, and forever.”  
Hebrews 13:8

## Bible Quiz

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

- When Eli heard that the Ark of God was taken, what did he do? (I Sam. 4:17-18)
  - He pronounced judgment on the nation of Israel.
  - He punished his sons for not taking a leadership position.
  - He fell backward off his seat and broke his neck.
  - He lamented with sackcloth and ashes.
- Eli judged Israel for how many years? (I Sam. 4:18)

A. 50	C. 30
B. 40	D. 20
- Eli mistook Hannah’s crying and prayers for what? (I Sam. 1:12-17)

A. Confession	C. Insanity
B. Drunkenness	D. Illness

## Quote of the Day

“Spiritual maturity comes not by erudition, but by compliance with the known will of God.”  
~Leonard Ravenhill

# Thursday

November 10

## Our Suffering Saviour

*“Therefore he hath poured upon him the fury of his anger, and the strength of battle: and it hath set him on fire round about, yet he knew not; and it burned him, yet he laid it not to heart.” Isaiah 42:25*

In this verse Isaiah shows us a picture of the suffering Saviour. He begins with a description of the Father’s wrath being poured upon Jesus. God is angry with sin—not with the sinner but with the actions of our heart. In His love for the fallen, Jesus stands to take the full force of the wrath of the Father. Jesus also suffers the wounds of the battle for our salvation. On the cross a war was waged. Satan knew that the victory belonged to Jesus, but he still set himself against the Messiah. The battle scars of pierced hands and feet remind Jesus and us that the victory came at an awful price.

Jesus faced the fires of our hell and stands in triumph over them. The punishment of eternal damnation and suffering was laid completely upon Him. In receiving this punishment upon Himself, Jesus freed all who would place their faith in Him for salvation.

Remember the suffering Saviour, and live for Him today! ~DJD

### Scripture Fill-In

“\_\_\_\_\_ Christ the \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_  
and forever.” Hebrews 13:8

**Morning:** Lamentations 1-2

**Evening:** Hebrews 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. Gideon had 7 sons. (Jdg. 8:30)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Gideon was also called Jerubbaal. (Jdg. 7:1)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. One of Gideon’s sons was name Abimelech. (Jdg. 9:1)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Abimelech’s goal was to be head livestock owner in the land. (Jdg. 9:1)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Abimelech killed all of his brothers except for one. (Jdg. 9:5)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. A woman dropped a millstone on Abimelech’s head and cracked his skull. (Jdg. 9:52-57)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Abimelech died at the hand of his armor bearer. (Jdg. 9:52-57)

### Quote of the Day

“The question remains, “How can God be just—that is, true to himself in nature and true to himself in holiness, and yet justify the sinner?” The only solution was for an innocent party to volunteer to die physically and spiritually as a substitution before God. There was only one possibility. God’s own Son was the only personality in the universe who had the capacity to bear in his own body the sins of the world.”  
~Billy Graham

*Friday*  
November 11

**Morning:** *Lamentations 3-5*  
**Evening:** *Hebrews 8*

### Honor to Whom Honor Is Due

*“The glory of young men is their strength: and the beauty of old men is the gray head.”*  
*Proverbs 20:29*

Today, November 11, is Veteran’s Day, the day Americans honor the military men and women that served the country. There are over 24.9 million veterans living in the United States today. “Give honor to whom honor is due.” This quote is based on Romans 13:7. As Americans, it is fitting to honor those who have served this nation and sacrificed their time and lives.

Psalm 78 was written by Asaph. In verses 2-5, we can see the importance of passing down the lessons learned from God to the next generation: *“I will open my mouth in a parable: I will utter dark sayings of old: which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us. We will not hide them from their children, showing to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and his strength, and his wonderful works that he hath done. For he established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children.”*

With age, comes wisdom. God teaches each individual so many things during a lifetime. How important for the older generations to teach the younger ones! How important for the younger generations to honor and respect the elderly, looking for advice and wisdom that has been gained through many years of experience.

Today, we honor our veterans, but let us not lose respect and admiration during the other 364 days of the year. The wisdom gained through age and experience is invaluable to those for the generations to come. A special thanks to those of you who have served—may we always be grateful for your sacrifice and seek to learn from you experience. ~MFV

### Scripture Fill-In

“\_\_\_\_\_ Christ the \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.” Hebrews 13:8

### Bible Quiz

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

- \_\_\_\_ 1. Amos (1:1)
- \_\_\_\_ 2. Joel (I Sam. 8:1-3)
- \_\_\_\_ 3. Obbededom (II Chron. 25:24)
- A. Firstborn son Samuel; wicked judge in Beersheba
- B. A prophet who was of the herdmen of Tekoa; prophesied in the days of Uzziah, king of Judah, and Jeroboam, king of Israel
- C. Stored the vessels of the temple in the time of Amaziah

### Quote of the Day

“To obey God is perfect liberty.”  
~Seneca

# Saturday

November 12

## Revealing Desires

*“But now, after that ye have known God, or rather are known of God, how turn ye again to the weak and beggarly elements, whereunto ye desire again to be in bondage?”  
Galatians 4:9*

We are constantly surrounded by things that stir our desires. Just driving a short distance down an interstate stirs our desires for food, entertainment, and status. It seems a cruel joke that God has put in us strong desires that we cannot satisfy immediately. How nice it would be if we only had the need and desire to eat once a week! Think of all the time and money we would save in preparing food and consuming it. Yet, God created our bodies with appetites that need fuel several times a day. Try not eating for one day and you quickly see how dependent you are on food.

Our desires should lead us to God. If there is a renegade desire running free and out of control, then seek to find complete satisfaction at the throne of God, at the feet of Jesus, not in a bowl of ice cream, a musical group, a book, more work, or the myriad of distractions available. Our desires are not the problem; the problem is that we seek to satisfy them with temporary fixes when our spirits are hungry for God.

A.W. Tozer wrote, “The Church will come out of her doldrums when we find out that Salvation is not a lightbulb only, that it is not an insurance policy against hell only, but that it is a gateway into God and that God is all that we would have and can desire.”

**Morning:** *Ezekiel 1-3*

**Evening:** *Hebrews 9*

Do we understand what we have when we say that we have God in our lives? I confess, I do not understand. If I did, I would live differently. Is it possible that we need to put down the books and studies on how to overcome this problem or improve our lives through these methods and we need to study the character and nature of God?

Ask God today if you really know Him, or if you are serving a God of your imagination. Ask God to help you have the desire to know Him better. He made you for a relationship with Himself; do not settle for cheap substitutes. ~AJH

### Scripture Fill-In

“\_\_\_\_\_ Christ the \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_  
and \_\_\_\_\_.” Hebrews \_\_\_ : \_\_\_

### Bible Quiz

**Who Does Not Belong?** Choose the person(s) who does not fit in the Biblical account.

#### The Capture of Samson: Judges 16

- |            |                |
|------------|----------------|
| A. Samson  | C. Philistines |
| B. Delilah | D. Edomites    |

### Quote of the Day

“Any unmortified desire which a man allows in will effectually drive and keep Christ out of the heart.”  
~Charles Wesley

# Sunday

November 13

**Morning:** *Ezekiel 4-6*  
**Evening:** *Hebrews 10:1-23*

## Ye Serve the Lord Christ

Colossians chapter three contains a great verse in regard to ministry. It tells us three important things: Who we serve, where we serve Him from, and what is promised to them who serve Him.

*And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.*  
*Colossians 3:23 24*

This verse says we serve the Lord Christ. We do not serve just anyone. We serve the Lord Christ—the One Who gave us physical life and died to give us eternal life. He is worthy of our best service, and there is no sacrifice that we can make that we do not owe Him. He gave up Heaven to come to earth and serve us. Now He has returned to Heaven and has left us here to serve Him until He returns for us. We are privileged to have the opportunity to serve Him. He alone is worthy of our service. That is our purpose. We are here to serve the Lord Christ.

This verse also tells us how we are to serve Him. We are to serve Him from our hearts. We are called to serve Him with our whole heart. Commit to serve Him with a heart of passion and with a pure heart. We can never accomplish all that Christ would have us to do if He does not have our hearts. More than anything, God wants our hearts.

The last thing we are told through this verse is the fact that we will receive a reward. We

not only have the privilege of serving the King of kings, but we will receive a reward for our service—an inheritance that is eternal and undefiled that will not fade away.

We know that He is worthy of our service! We know that we have an eternal reward awaiting us. We know that our service will make an eternal difference. We know that God can enable us to do all He wills for us. The only reason that we have to keep us from serving is the matter of the heart. So whatsoever you do, do it heartily as to the Lord, for ye serve the Lord Christ. ~DLW

## Scripture Fill-In

“Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.” Hebrews 13:17

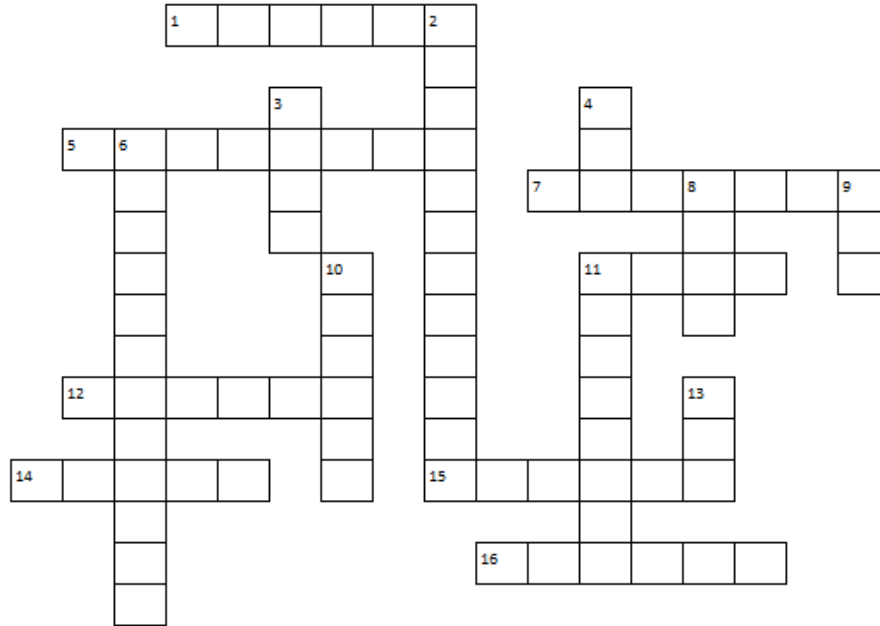
## Bible Quiz

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

1. The Book of Colossians comes before which book?  
A. I Thessalonians      C. Galatians  
B. Philippians          D. Romans
2. Colossians contains how many chapters?  
A. 3                          C. 5  
B. 4                          D. 6
3. In the last verse of the Colossians, Paul tells the church of Colossae to remember what?  
A. His imprisonment      C. Their work  
B. The weak in Christ      D. The king

# CROSSWORD PUZZLE

## "The Book of Philippians"



### ACROSS

1. "I can do all things through \_\_\_ which strengtheneth me." (4:13)
5. Paul was of this tribe. (3:5)
7. "He which hath begun a good work in you will \_\_\_ it until the day of Jesus Christ." (1:6)
11. Author (1:1)
12. "Every \_\_\_ should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord." (2:11)
14. "I press toward the mark for the \_\_\_ of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." (3:14)
15. "Let your conversation be as it becometh the \_\_\_ of Christ." (1:27)
16. The same amount of verses in chapters one and two

### DOWN

2. "In every thing by prayer and supplication with \_\_\_ let your requests be made known unto God." (4:6)
3. "What things were \_\_\_ to me, those I counted loss for Christ." (3:7)
4. "To live is Christ, and to \_\_\_ is gain." (1:21)
6. Paul sent him. (2:25-30)
8. Number of chapters
9. Jesus was made in this likeness. (2:7)
10. "Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of \_\_\_." (2:4)
11. Written to the saints in this city (1:1)
13. "Do \_\_\_ things without murmurings and disputing." (2:14)

# Monday

November 14

## Our Sustainer

*“I laid me down and slept; I awaked; for the LORD sustained me.” Psalm 3:5*

It has been said that there are two types of people in this world: morning people and mourning people. Of the two types, I am the latter. My idea of getting up early is, oh, 9 o'clock or so. When I was a teenager, during the summer, I would stay in bed for as long as I possibly could. I think there were times when I slept until 1:00 or 2:00 in the afternoon. When I was a teenager—who am I kidding; I still try to stay in bed as long as I can, although it is no longer 1:00 or 2:00 in the afternoon. If I have to be somewhere at 8:00 in the morning, I do not want to get out of bed until at least 7:00 (later if possible). There is just something about getting out of bed that I do not like.

My father, however, was the exact opposite. On more than one occasion, I can remember my father springing into my bedroom at the indecent hour of seven o'clock and telling me it was time for me to get ready for school. He had the habit of turning on the light, pulling off my covers, and being excessively happy. He had this unique way of coming down the stairs each morning that my family calls “Eacha Boo” because of the noise he would make as he bounded down the stairs. (Please do not ask me what “Eacha Boo” is because the rest of our family still has not figured that out either.) It was just his way of telling the family that a new day was here and he was glad to be alive.

Regardless of whether you are like me or like my father, one thing is true. If you got up

**Morning:** *Ezekiel 7-9*

**Evening:** *Hebrews 10:24-39*

this morning, the LORD sustained you through the night. The Psalmist said that he lay down to sleep and then he woke up. He never forgot, however, that the only reason why that was so was because God allowed it to happen. So, regardless of how you feel about mornings, remember that you are only allowed to have this morning because God sustained you through the night. So, be grateful. Whether it is over a cup of black coffee by yourself over in the corner or it is singing at the top of your lungs in the shower, remember “the LORD sustained” you! ~PO

### Scripture Fill-In

“\_\_\_\_\_ them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.” Hebrews 13:17

### Bible Quiz

**Fill in the Blank:** Complete Psalm 55:22.

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_ thy (2) \_\_\_\_\_ upon the LORD, and he shall (3) \_\_\_\_\_ thee: he shall (4) \_\_\_\_\_ suffer the (5) \_\_\_\_\_ to be moved.”

### Quote of the Day

“Be it ours, when we cannot see the face of God, to trust under the shadow of His wings.”  
~Charles Spurgeon

*Tuesday*  
November 15

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

## The Ark of the Covenant

*“Which had the golden censer, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant.” Hebrews 9:4*

In Exodus 25-27 it gives a detailed list and description of construction and size of the ark. It was 2½ cubits in length, 1½ in breadth, and 1½ in height. It was plated entirely with gold, and a crown or molding of gold was around it. Four rings of gold were attached, two on each side, and through these rings staves of shittimwood overlaid with gold for carrying the Ark were inserted; and these were not to be removed. A golden cover, adorned with golden cherubims, were placed above the Ark. The Ark was then placed behind a veil.

The ark was carried for many centuries by various groups. Whenever the Israelites went to war, the ark went with them. It has also been believed that the ark would give power and blessings to its possessors. When the Israelites were led by Joshua toward the Promised Land and they arrived at the banks of the River Jordan, the Ark was carried in the lead preceding the people and was the signal for their advance (Josh. 3:3,6). During the crossing, the river grew dry as soon as the feet of the priests carrying the Ark touched its waters. It remained so until the priests with the Ark left the river once the people had passed over. As a memorial, twelve stones were taken from the Jordan at the place where the priests had stood (Josh. 4:1-9).

In the Battle of Jericho, the Ark was carried

round the city once a day for seven days, preceded by the armed men and seven priests sounding seven trumpets of rams' horns (Josh. 6:4-15). On the seventh day, the seven priests sounding the seven trumpets of rams' horns before the Ark, compassed the city seven times; and with a great shout Jericho's wall fell down flat, and the people took the city (Josh. 6:16-20).

When King David was bringing the Ark to Jerusalem, II Samuel 6:6-7 says this: *“And when they came to Nachon's threshing floor, Uzzah put forth his hand to the ark of God, and took hold of it; for the oxen shook it. And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Uzzah; and God smote him there for his error; and there he died by the ark of God.”* In I Samuel 5:1-7, the Philistines took the ark and set it before their God, Dagon. The next day Dagon was face down in front of the ark. The second day he was face down with his head and hands cut off. The Lord's hand was now against them, and He destroyed them and struck them with emerods. They were now very afraid to have possession of the ark. The ark remained seven months with the Philistines, and they sent the ark to Beth-she'mesh. ~KAH

### Scripture Fill-In

“\_\_\_\_\_ them that have the rule over you, and \_\_\_\_\_ yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.” Hebrews 13:17

# Wednesday

November 16

**Morning:** Ezekiel 13-15

**Evening:** Hebrews 11:20-40

## Laboring for the Lord

*“Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither labored in vain.”  
Philippians 2:16*

What does it mean to labor? Labor requires a sacrifice. In order for a person to make a living, grow a garden, move into a new house, or buy a car, they make a choice. They choose to work and save more money, giving up things that are less important than their desire.

Some labor to fill their bank account until they are comfortable. Some labor pulling every weed and trimming every edge to have a pristine lawn. Or perhaps, some spend countless hours chasing a ball so their child will be the greatest athlete in the world.

In any case, they work diligent long hours pursuing their dream. What should that look like for those who would say that they serve Christ? What does it mean to labor for Him?

Paul tells us it requires a concerted effort—a singleness of mind if you will. Laboring for the Lord requires that we be spiritually minded, focused on the eternal and not the temporal. He tells us, *“Brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, ALWAYS abounding in the work of the Lord . . . that your labor is not in vain.”* (1 Cor. 15:58) We need to labor for the Lord with our mind set on heavenly things. Anything else we seek will be left here when we die, but the things of God have eternal blessing.

In like manner, we labor for those we love.

Working longer hours to save for a gift makes the time invested seem like nothing. When it is done for the purpose of pleasing another, we can do it with joy knowing the end result will be their pleasure in our labor of love.

Does Jesus Christ feel that we have given Him a labor of love? Do we have eternity in mind and yet still give Him the leftovers of our time, talent, money, and most importantly our heart? If we are laboring for Jesus and Heaven, should it not be the greatest joy of our lives? Are we holding forth the Word of Life? Will we rejoice in the day of Christ? Are we running and laboring in vain? Let us make our lives count in the labor of the Lord. ~DJJ

## Scripture Fill-In

“\_\_\_\_\_ them that have the rule over you, and \_\_\_\_\_ yourselves: for they \_\_\_\_\_ for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.” Hebrews 13:17

## Bible Quiz

**Who Does Not Belong?** Choose the person(s) who does not fit in the biblical account.

### Jesus' First Miracle: John 11:1-10

- |                  |                     |
|------------------|---------------------|
| A. Jesus Christ  | E. The Apostle Paul |
| B. Mary          | F. The Servants     |
| C. Pilate        | G. Timothy          |
| D. The Disciples |                     |

# Thursday

November 17

## Spent for Jesus

*“And I will very gladly spend and be spent for you, though the more abundantly I love you, the less I be loved.” II Corinthians 12:15*

The Apostle Paul said that he had abundant love for the people to whom he ministered. Paul’s abundant love caused Him to give of himself. He said that he would willingly give of his possessions to meet the needs of those to whom he ministered. *“I will gladly spend for you.”* If we truly love like Paul, we will give of what we have for others.

Paul was also willing to give of himself if it was required. *“I will gladly be spent for you”.* Paul gave more than possessions, he gave of his person. He gave his time, his energy, and his knowledge to help the people at Corinth.

Paul also indicated that if we are to have abundant love we have to make a conscious choice. He said, *“I will very gladly.”* Paul knew that sometimes the people in our lives are not easy to love. We must make a choice of obedience in order to have the abundant love that God wants us to have.

Another thing we can learn from this verse is that sometimes our love for others will not be appreciated. As mature Christians, we come to realize that we do not love to be loved; we love because of Christ’s love in us and because it is right.

Finally, Paul received joy from ministering to the people at Corinth. He said, *“I will very gladly.”* He was glad to make the sacrifice.

**Morning:** Ezekiel 16

**Evening:** Hebrews 12

What about you? Are you ministering with abundant love? ~DLW

### Scripture Fill-In

“\_\_\_\_\_ them that have the rule over you, and \_\_\_\_\_ yourselves: for they \_\_\_\_\_ for your souls, as they that must give \_\_\_\_\_, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.” Hebrews 13:17

### Bible Quiz

**Listing:** List some of the character qualities of Jesus based on the Scripture passages given.

1. Acts 22:14 - \_\_\_\_\_
2. Jude 1:25 - \_\_\_\_\_
3. Isaiah 28:16 - \_\_\_\_\_
4. I Peter 2:25 - \_\_\_\_\_
5. Philippians 2:7 - \_\_\_\_\_

### Quote of the Day

“When we hear people ready to speak of the faults of others, or to censure them as holding scandalous errors, or to lessen the wisdom and piety of those about them, that they themselves may seem the wiser and better, this is a sign that they have but a vain religion.”

~Matthew Henry

*Friday*  
November 18

## **Fellowship with Father and Son and Fullness of Joy**

*“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*

Jesus has set up certain patterns for the continued life of the world and the universe. He is watching over His creation to keep it going in the ways He has planned. Man sinned and turned his back upon his Creator, but Jesus loved people enough to make a way for them to be brought back to God. When a person gets saved, he learns that he has taken on a completely new life. He finds himself to be possessor of a new nature. He also finds that he has retained the old nature. The new Christian finds that a conflict has started in his life and that he must deal with it or be frustrated in his new-found faith.

Do we want to be close to God—to talk with Him and to have His directions made plain to us? James 4:8 says, **“Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.”** Being a member of the family of God does not necessarily mean that we are having a close walk with the Lord. Drawing close to Him and walking in His light means that we are able to have fellowship with Him. So what happens when we sin? Do we lose our salvation? Are we cast out of God’s family? NO—we lose the joy of our salvation. The fellowship is restored sweetly again when we confess our sin. (1 Jn. 1:9). The reason that

**Morning:** Ezekiel 17-19

**Evening:** Hebrews 13

the instruction about how to maintain fellowship with God was given is that our joy may be full. This joy is the main ingredient of the Christian life—both now and hereafter.  
~OV

### **Scripture Fill-In**

“\_\_\_\_\_ them that have the rule over you, and \_\_\_\_\_ yourselves: for they \_\_\_\_\_ for your souls, as they that must give \_\_\_\_\_, that they may do it with \_\_\_\_\_, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.”  
Hebrews 13:17

### **Bible Quiz**

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

1. Who was known to be a man after God’s heart? (Acts 13:22)  
A. King Solomon                      C. King David  
B. John                                      D. Peter
2. “[He] was a just man and perfect in his generations,” was said of whom? (Gen. 6:9)  
A. Adam                                      C. Abraham  
B. Methuselah                              D. Noah

### **Quote of the Day**

“Whatever weakens your reason, impairs the tenderness of your conscience, obscures your sense of God, or takes away the relish of spiritual things; in short, whatever increases the strength and authority of your body over your mind—that thing is sin to you.”

~Susannah Wesley

# Saturday

November 19

## A Debt of Gratitude

*“And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.” II Corinthians 5:15*

Have you ever felt a debt of gratitude to someone? Maybe your car broke down on the side of the road and a stranger stopped to help you. Maybe you were short on your rent money and a friend helped you get by, expecting no repayment. How did you feel toward that person? If you're like me, you wished there were some way you could show your appreciation. The words “thank you” just did not seem strong enough.

Now think about what Jesus did for your you. He died for you. What an amazing thought! No one forced him to go to the cross. He went of His own free will and paid the price for your sins. He gave His life for you. He made it possible for you to be forgiven and receive eternal life.

Do you feel gratitude today toward Jesus for what He did? There is simply no way we could ever repay Jesus for His sacrifice. It is impossible for us to completely show our appreciation.

Yet the Apostle Paul teaches that there is something we can do to show our gratitude. Jesus died for us; now we should live for Him. That means that we should put Him first in our lives. We should seek to know and obey His will. We should strive to fulfill His purpose for

**Morning:** *Ezekiel 20-21*

**Evening:** *James 1*

our lives on this earth. In that small way, we can show our thanks to Him for what He did.  
~DJB

### Scripture Fill-In

“\_\_\_\_\_ them that have the rule over you, and \_\_\_\_\_ yourselves: for they \_\_\_\_\_ for your souls, as they that must give \_\_\_\_\_, that they may do it with \_\_\_\_\_, and not with grief: for that is \_\_\_\_\_ for you.” Hebrews 13:17

### 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. Melchizedek was a king of Judah. (Gen. 14:18)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Melchizedek was described as a priest of the Most High God. (Gen. 14:18)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Abram gave Melchizedek his tithes. (Gen. 14:18-20)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. The writer of Hebrews compares Paul to Melchizedek. (Heb. 6:20)

### Quote of the Day

“Some people complain because God put thorns on roses, while others praise Him for putting roses among thorns.” ~Anonymous

# Sunday

November 20

## A Jealous God

*“I am the LORD: that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images.” Isaiah 42:8*

Oprah Winfrey once said that the notion of a jealous God made her uncomfortable. She claimed it was contrary to her belief in a loving God and that He would never be jealous but tender. When a person does not understand the God of the Bible and uses their own perception rather than biblical foundations, confusion will always be the result.

The believer should desire a God that is jealous; jealous not in a paranoid way, but in a “you are precious to me and I will not share you with another” kind of way. God expresses this kind of jealousy here. Israel had on countless occasions prostituted herself in the worship of idols. God made it clear that He alone was their Redeemer and as such He refused to allow worship that rightfully belongs to Him to be showered upon any other.

Graven images demonstrate the folly of this thought. Why would someone worship what they had crafted with their own hands? It is easy to understand how those who do so are in error. What is harder to see, in ourselves, are the times we have allowed worship of self, career, children, things or hobby to take His place. We may never knee before a statue or some saint, but we will allow our time to be stolen away from God with investments or activities that will have no eternal value.

**Morning:** *Ezekiel 22-23*

**Evening:** *James 2*

God is jealous because He longs for our fellowship. Those who are growing will long for His return. ~DJD

### Scripture Fill-In

“And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.” Colossians 3:15

### Bible Quiz

**Fill in the Blank:** Complete the following verses.

1. **Exodus 20:4-5**—“Thou shalt not make unto thee any \_\_\_\_\_ image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a \_\_\_\_\_ God.”
2. **Exodus 34:14**—“For thou shalt worship no other god: for the LORD, whose name is \_\_\_\_\_, is a jealous God.”
3. **Deuteronomy 4:24**—“For the LORD thy God is a \_\_\_\_\_ fire, even a jealous God.”

### Quote of the Day

“An inordinate sorrow for the loss of any worldly good is a sign we made an idol of it.”  
~Matthew Henry

# Praise & Thanksgiving

By Monica F. Vernot

During this special holiday, thankfulness is especially on the heart and mind. Philippians 4:6 says, *“Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.”* Not just during the month of November, but every single day of the year, giving thanks to God should be a daily practice. Paul says in his letter to the church of Philippi that every prayer should be accompanied with thanksgiving. God is worthy of our praise, and He desires our praise and adoration. God has given His children so many things; the list is innumerable. But, I would like to focus on a gift, a character quality, and an ability of God that His children should acknowledge and praise.

First, God **GAVE HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON**. This gift should be at the top of the thank-you list. Without this special gift, mankind would be forever doomed to eternal hell, but God sent His only Son to take the penalty of sin and give to mankind the gift of salvation. *“Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift.” (II Cor. 9:15)*

*“Praise ye the LORD. O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: for his mercy endureth forever.” (Ps. 106:1)* The American Tract Society Dictionary explains **MERCY** as, “The divine goodness exercised towards the wretched and the guilty, in harmony with truth and justice.” This character quality of our Lord is incredible. The idea that a perfect Saviour is merciful to wicked mankind is inconceivable. Plus, the psalmist says in Psalm 106 that His mercy endures forever; it does not cease.

God is omnipotent, meaning “all powerful.” He makes the decisions. In fact, Proverbs 21:1 says, *“The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, as the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will.”* Our highest form of rule on earth is under the sovereign hand of the Lord, and someday every knee will bow to Him. *“We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned.” (Rev. 11:17)*

The gifts, character qualities, and abilities of God are innumerable. There is certainly plenty in which to give thanks. His gift of salvation, His character of mercy, and His all-powerful ability is just skimming the surface. Starting your prayers with praise, adoration, and thanksgiving is a great way to begin talking to the Lord. *“After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. (Matt. 6:9)* In Jesus’ example of prayer, He began with praise. He said, “Hallowed be thy name.” Some other words that describe hallowed are the following: sacred, holy, blessed, sanctified, and consecrated. John Wesley says about the Lord’s prayer, “He who best knew what we ought to pray for, and how we ought to pray, what matter of desire, what manner of address would most please himself, would best become us, has here dictated to us a most perfect and universal form of prayer.”

I challenge you to make praise and thanksgiving a vital part of your prayer life. Start a list of the gifts, qualities, and abilities of God in which you are thankful.

# Monday

November 21

**Morning:** *Ezekiel 24-26*

**Evening:** *James 3*

## Worship the King

*“Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.” Psalm 29:2*

Worship consists of adoration, confession, prayer, and thanksgiving. Worship can be in all kind of forms. We can worship God anywhere at anytime.

John 4:23-24 gives us one way to worship the Lord, *“But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.”* We have to learn how to *worship the Lord from our spirit*, which means that we have to learn how to worship Him from our heart. Also, we must learn how to *worship the Lord in the Holy Spirit*. The Holy Spirit lives and dwells in our human spirits. The Holy Spirit enters into our human spirits the moment we accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior.

Here are some reminders as we seek to worship the Lord:

1. Worship the Lord in truth and spirit.
2. Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.
3. Worship at His footstool.
4. Worship and bow down.
5. Give unto the Lord the glory due to His name.
6. Exalt the Lord our God, and magnify His name.

As you continue to grow and mature in your walk with the Lord, the Holy Spirit will start to open your mind and eyes. He will show you how to truly worship the Lord from your heart.  
~KAH

## Scripture Fill-In

“And let the \_\_\_\_\_ of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.”  
Colossians 3:15

## Bible Quiz

**Name that Tune:** Match the lyrics to the hymn.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. All Things Bright and Beautiful
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Come Ye, Thankful People, Come
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Rejoice, The Lord Is Come
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. We Gather Together

- A. “God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell how great is God Almighty, Who has made all things well.”
- B. “So from the beginning the fight we are winning; Thou, Lord, wast at our side, all glory be Thine.”
- C. “God our Maker doth provide for our wants to be supplied.”
- D. “Jesus the Saviour reigns, the God of truth and love; when He had purged our stains, He took His seat above.”

## Quote of the Day

“O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker.”

~Psalm 95:6

# Tuesday

November 22

## Praise Him!

*“From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same the LORD’s name is to be praised.” Psalm 113:3*

How much do you praise the LORD? When the sun came up, did you praise Him? When you got out of bed, did you praise Him? When you ate breakfast, did you praise Him? When you started the car, did you praise Him? When you arrived at work, did you praise Him? When work got hard, did you praise Him? When you sat down for lunch, did you praise Him? When you went back to work, did you praise Him? When your boss found an error in your work, did you praise Him? When you clocked out, did you praise Him? When you were in the construction zone on the way home, did you praise Him? When you took your shoes off and relaxed on the couch, did you praise Him? When you ate a hot meal, did you praise Him? When your kids asked for homework help, did you praise Him? When you raked the leaves, did you praise Him? When you watched the evening news, did you praise Him? When you climbed into bed, did you praise Him?

Is this not what the Psalmist meant? Are not we supposed to praise the name of the LORD every waking moment we have a chance? Is He not worthy to be praised? Did the sun come up today? Did you praise Him? Did the sun go down? Did you praise Him?

What would your relationship with God be like if you took the time to praise Him throughout the day? When you praise your child, is not

**Morning:** Ezekiel 27-28

**Evening:** James 4

your relationship stronger? When you praise your wife, does she not appreciate your comments? How much more should we praise God? Is He not greater than every other person that we praise? Since He is, why do we not praise Him more often? Are you finished reading? Why not start praising? ~PO

### Scripture Fill-In

“And let the \_\_\_\_\_ of God \_\_\_\_\_ in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.” Colossians 3:15

### Bible Quiz

**Who Said It?:** Write the author of each quote in spaces provided.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1. “Sing ye to the LORD, for he hath triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea.” (Ex. 15:21)

\_\_\_\_\_ 2. “My soul doth magnify the Lord.” (Lk. 1:46)

\_\_\_\_\_ 3. “O LORD God of Israel, which dwellest between the cherubims, thou art the God, even thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth; thou hast made heaven and earth.” (II Ki. 19:15)

### Quote of the Day

“Worship is giving to God the best He has given us.”  
~Oswald Chambers

# Wednesday

November 23

## Just Enough Time

*“After this, Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the scripture might be fulfilled, saith, I thirst.” John 19:28*

Transcranial magnetic stimulation refers to a therapy scientists are testing in a quest to shorten the amount of hours humans need to sleep. These new techniques seek to reduce the amount of sleep from the recommended 7-8 hours down to 3-4 hours per night. Think of all the time you would have to be more productive if you only had to sleep 4 hours! Think of all the things you could get done with all that extra time.

Although we have time-saving technologies galore, it seems people are in even more of a time crunch than ever. Maybe the problem is not lack of time, but lack of proper priorities. I used to complain all the time about being so busy and never having enough time to get things done until I read an author that presented a simple thought that hit me hard. He said that Jesus accomplished everything he was supposed to do with the same 24 hours that everyone else has. He only lived shortly past thirty, and yet he accomplished His purpose and changed the world forever. The Bible does not say that Jesus rushed around healing as many people as possible or that He maximized His time by delegating all His tasks to the disciples. Nor does it talk about the time management techniques He used as a sought-after religious figure. The Bible *does* say in Mark 1:35 *“And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he [Jesus] went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed.”* And, Luke

**Morning:** Ezekiel 29-31

**Evening:** James 5

5:16 says *“And he withdrew himself into the wilderness, and prayed.”*

Jesus was God. We do not have His divinity, and therefore we might say that he had the advantage in knowing how to use his time. True, but Jesus is to be our example of a perfect life. He knew the Father’s will for Him because He spent time with the Father.

I have reconsidered whether my life is really lacking time or if I am just doing things I should not be doing. I may be squandering one of the most precious resources I have, and blaming it on having to sleep too much. Let us take time today to examine our priorities and ask whether we are intent on accomplishing the will of our Father or the will of ourselves.  
~AJH

## Scripture Fill-In

“And let the \_\_\_\_\_ of God \_\_\_\_\_ in your \_\_\_\_\_, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.” Colossians 3:15

## Bible Quiz

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

1. Proverbs 12:24—“The hand of the \_\_\_\_\_ shall bear rule: but the slothful shall be under tribute.”
2. Colossians 4:5—“Walk in \_\_\_\_\_ toward them that are without, redeeming the time.”

# Thursday

November 24

## Daily Benefits

*“Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation. Selah.” Psalm 68:19*

Happy Thanksgiving! What a wonderful holiday. One of my favorite things to do today is go around the dining room table and listen to each family member tell of the blessings God has given this past year. What has God done for you?

Sometimes, when we try to think of God’s blessings, our minds immediately go to the grandiose answers to prayer. This is not bad, in fact, we should be very grateful for those blessings. By no means do I want to deemphasize God’s miraculous answers to prayer. However, we need to be careful not to quickly bypass on the “little” things God does daily. The fact that you got out of bed today is a miracle. Did you use your hands to eat breakfast? Do you have a job to go back to on Monday morning? Were you able to talk to a loved one during the week? Did you see God’s protection today? Did you have a Bible to read this morning? Are you wanting for food, or have you ate pretty heartily today? You see, God’s blessing are around every corner. When we fail to recognize them, negative thoughts and attitudes can start to develop.

Our verse today says that God *“daily loadeth us with benefits.”* Not only on Thanksgiving but every day of the year, we should acknowledge and thank Him for His daily blessings? How can you do this every

**Morning:** Ezekiel 32-33

**Evening:** I Peter 1

day? What changes will you make today that you can implement on a regular basis? ~MFV

## Scripture Fill-In

“And let the \_\_\_\_\_ of God \_\_\_\_\_ in your \_\_\_\_\_, to the which also ye are called in \_\_\_\_\_ body; and be ye thankful.” Colossians 3:15

## Bible Quiz

**Unscramble:** Unscramble the following words which are found in today’s devotional.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1. t a h n n i g i k s v g

\_\_\_\_\_ 2. n e b i f s t e

\_\_\_\_\_ 3. v a t o s l a i n

\_\_\_\_\_ 4. s b e l s n i g s

\_\_\_\_\_ 5. o p e c t o i r n t

## Quote of the Day

“[Let us thank God] for His kind care and protection of the people of this country previous to their becoming a nation . . . for the great degree of tranquillity, union and plenty which we have enjoyed . . . for the peaceable and rational manner in which we have been enabled to establish constitutions of government for our safety and happiness.”

*George Washington  
Thanksgiving Proclamation, 1789*

*Friday*  
November 25

## Golden Nuggets

*“Seek the LORD, and his strength: seek his face evermore.” Psalm 105:4*

It has been a tradition in our household to go shopping on Black Friday. I would say we are rather serious shoppers. On Thanksgiving Day, we look through all the ads to determine which stores to visit. Then, we set up a schedule, based on the time that each store opens. Last year, we began our shopping extravaganza at midnight and finished around 10:00 A.M. We shopped all night long! And, as you read this devotional, I have probably just completed another all night rendezvous.

I am a bargain shopper. Weekly, I collect coupons and look for deals around the area. Just this past week, I haphazardly went through the paper and did not find too many deals. Upon a second perusal, I realized I had missed over half of the coupons. In order to find deals you have to diligently seek them out.

If we are to grow into a deeper and closer relationship with God, we must earnestly seek Him. There are so many golden nuggets that He is willing to show us if we would just take the time to diligently look through His Word. Living a holy life that is acceptable to God is a constant goal—one just doesn’t arrive at this pinnacle overnight. It is a lifetime process. So how are you doing? Are you diligently seeking His face, searching for every nugget that He has for you? Or, does your Christianity consist of going to church and quickly getting through you Bible reading for the day’s assignment? Dear friend, seek Him diligently—there is so much He is waiting to show YOU! ~MFV

**Morning:** *Ezekiel 34-35*

**Evening:** *I Peter 2*

## Scripture Fill-In

“And let the \_\_\_\_\_ of God \_\_\_\_\_ in your \_\_\_\_\_, to the which also ye are called in \_\_\_\_\_; and be ye thankful.” Colossians 3:15

## Bible Quiz

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

1. “Oh that thou wouldest bless me indeed, and enlarge my coast, and that thine hand might be with me, and that thou wouldest keep me from evil, that it may not grieve me!” (I Chron. 4:10) Who prayed this prayer?  
A. Jabal                      C. Kish  
B. Jabez                      D. Kitron
2. “\_\_\_\_ ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near.” (Is. 55:6)  
A. Seek                      C. See  
B. Search                    D. Meet

## Quote of the Day

“It has seemed to me fit and proper that [the gifts of God] should be solemnly, reverently, and gratefully acknowledged with one heart and one voice by the whole American people. I do, therefore invite my fellow citizens . . . To set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next as a day of thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father Who dwelleth in the heavens.”

*Abraham Lincoln*  
*Thanksgiving Proclamation, 1863*

# Saturday

November 26

## Levi God Saved!!!

*“And after these things he went forth, and saw a publican, named Levi, sitting at the receipt of custom: and he said unto him, Follow me. And he left all, rose up, and followed him.” Luke 5:27-28*

Levi is another name for Matthew in the Bible. Matthew was a tax collector for the Roman government. This made him quite unpopular with Jewish people. Publicans (tax collectors) got rich by over taxing and skimming off the top. They were considered the worst of sinners. Something great happened in our text. Jesus looked beyond Levi’s sins and invited him to follow Him. And Levi GOT SAVED! We find proof of his conversion through four things in our story.

Levi experienced the kind of salvation that caused him to follow the Lord. The Bible tells us that Levi left all and followed the Lord.

Levi experienced the kind of salvation that caused him to forsake the past. He had become very wealthy collecting taxes. Now he would be unemployed and forced to trust God. Many of the other disciples went back to fishing in bad times, but there was no going back for Levi.

Levi experienced the kind of salvation that caused him to be concerned for the lost. When you read the remainder of the story, you find Levi hosting a feast so that he can bring his friends to meet Jesus.

There is a lot of evidence that Levi was saved. How about you? ~DLW

**Morning:** Ezekiel 36-37

**Evening:** I Peter 3

## Scripture Fill-In

“And let the \_\_\_\_\_ of God \_\_\_\_\_ in your \_\_\_\_\_, to the which also ye are called in \_\_\_\_\_; and be ye thankful.” Colossians 3:15

## Bible Quiz

**Multiple Choice:** Circle the correct answer, based on today’s devotional.

- Another name for Levi is what?  
A. Luke                      C. Matthew  
B. Mark                      D. Paul
- Tax collectors were called what?  
A. Pharisees                C. Sadducees  
B. Publicans                D. None of the above
- What is some “proof” that Levi got saved?  
A. He followed the Lord.  
B. He forsook the past.  
C. He was concerned for the lost.  
D. All of the above

## Quote of the Day

“I believe Jesus Christ to be the Son of God. The miracles which He wrought establish in my mind, His personal authority, and render it proper for me to believe whatever He asserts. I believe, therefore, all His declarations, as well when He declares Himself to be the Son of God, as when He declares any other proposition. And I believe there is no other way of salvation than through the merits of His atonement.”  
~Daniel Webster

# Sunday

November 27

**Morning:** Ezekiel 38-39

**Evening:** I Peter 4

## Love the Church

*“But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.” I Timothy 3:15*

The church is an absolute beautiful institution put in place by our Lord Jesus. I love the way our text refers to the church: “the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.” I am personally thankful to be a member of a vibrant, soul winning church where the pastor lovingly shepherds, and the people lovingly follow. Ephesians 5:23 tells us that Christ is the Head of the church; thus, everyone is subject to Him. Christ is the Chief Shepherd overlooking His flock, and all we do should glorify Him.

I have recently been on the receiving end of those who are ministering in prayer, meal preparation, and card ministry. When you are the one in need, the ministry of others in a church takes on a whole different dimension.

I am also grateful to see others volunteering to so many areas of service. There are literally about a hundred hours of service given to the Lord each week by our church members just to keep the daily operation on the move.

The church was established for many reasons. It fosters fellowship and rest to the believer, as well as instruction and rebuke. Through the church, Christians find a proper place to worship God and pray. I am reminded that Christ Himself said that the temple should be a place of prayer. It is also a lighthouse

where people can come to find God as their Savior. It is the place to come where one can give God a tithe and an offering. The church has the power to commission missionaries and ordain ministers. The church has the responsibility of a sacred trust to spread the truths of God and His Word to the next generation.

The church is the “bride of Christ.” He loved the church and died for it. Your ability to be in a church is a God-given privilege that came with a great price. Do you really love your church? I am sure most all would answer in the affirmative. However, if you have not thanked God for your church lately, maybe it is fitting to drop to your knees and ask God’s forgiveness. Thank Him today! Determine to love the unlovely; resolve to pray for your pastors weekly; and look for someone to minister to yourself. Praise be to God for the gift of the church! ~NBM

## Scripture Fill-In

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.” Colossians 3:16-17

## Quote of the Day

“You can give without loving, but you cannot love without giving.” ~Amy Carmichael

*Monday*  
November 28

### God Does Not Need Instruction

*“With whom took he counsel, and who instructed him, and taught him in the path of judgment, and taught him knowledge, and showed to him the way of understanding?”  
Isaiah 40:14*

God has never called to ask our advice before choosing to do anything. Why? Because he does not need it. He is the Alpha and Omega. Before time, He was. He is eternal. He does not require that anyone give Him instructions to do anything.

Sadly, our world has determined that they are uncomfortable with the standards He has established. In response, they think that they should seek to instruct God in the proper execution of His plan. This is plainly seen in phrases such as “I Can’t believe in a God that would do that?” “But the Bible was written so long ago.” Both of these sentiments and the many other statements and questions provided by a godless culture reveal that our temporal world believes that they know better than their Creator.

Even Job was called to task by God when he began to question his circumstances. God’s response was, “Where were you when I laid the foundations of the world?” In other words God was saying that He is timeless and Job had a limited framework of understanding. This limited experience allowed him to only see in part all that God would do.

God is beyond our complete comprehension. Someday we will know Him completely. For now, we must not attempt to

**Morning:** Ezekiel 40

**Evening:** I Peter 5

give Him instructions. We should trust His plan and yield to His direction. He will always do what is right! ~DJD

### Scripture Fill-In

“Let the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.”  
Colossians 3:16-17

### Bible Quiz

**Who Does Not Belong?** Choose the person(s) who is NOT one of the original 12 disciples. Refer to Matthew 10:1-5.

- A. Peter
- B. Andrew
- C. James
- D. John
- E. Philip
- F. Bartholomew
- G. Thomas
- H. Matthew
- I. James
- J. Timothy
- K. Simon
- L. Judas Iscariot

### Quote of the Day

“Everybody wants to harvest, but no nobody wants to plow.”  
~Anonymous

**Tuesday**  
November 29

## **Delilah Entices and Captures Samson**

*“And it came to pass afterward, that he loved a woman in the valley of Sorek, whose name was Delilah. And the lords of the Philistines came up unto her, and said unto her, Entice him, and see wherein his great strength lieth, and by what means we may prevail against him, that we may bind him to afflict him: and we will give thee every one of us eleven hundred pieces of silver. And Delilah said to Samson, Tell me, I pray thee, wherein thy great strength lieth, and wherewith thou mightest be bound to afflict thee.”*  
**Judges 16:4-6**

One of the saddest stories in the Bible is the story of Samson. More than most men in the Bible, it is said of Samson, *“And the Spirit of the Lord came upon him.”* He was no doubt one of the greatest men in the Bible. The Lord even chose to include him in all of the heroes of the faith.

So what was the reason for Samson’s falling? He broke a promise to God when he revealed to Delilah his secret. A broken promise to God is one of the most serious things anyone can do. What a tragedy that someone so mighty fell. Remember, the higher we climb, the longer the fall; and the more serious it is, generally more people are involved!

As we grow in grace, let us be careful that our weakest point does not prove fatal to our strongest point. ~OV

**Morning:** Ezekiel 41-42  
**Evening:** II Peter 1

### **Scripture Fill-In**

“Let the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ dwell in you \_\_\_\_\_ in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.” Colossians 3:16-17

### **Bible Quiz**

**Short Answer:** Answer the following questions in the spaces provided. Refer to Judges 16:20-31.

1. What happened immediately when Samson’s hair was cut? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What did the Philistines do to Samson’s physical body? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. How many Philistines did Samson kill in his death? \_\_\_\_\_

### **Quote of the Day**

“Most of the methods that Satan uses to confuse and tempt can be very beautiful and very alert. He seems to be not the enemy of God, but the uplifter and edifier of man.”  
~Anonymous

# Wednesday

November 30

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

## David's Top Ten

*“Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet: praise Him with the psaltery and harp. Praise Him with the timbrel and dance: praise Him with stringed instruments and organs. Praise Him upon the loud cymbals: praise Him upon the high sounding cymbals. Let everything that hath breath praise the LORD. Praise ye the LORD.” Psalm 150:3-6*

From “Bethlehem,” the greatest city in the world, it’s the “Better Never Late Show” with David, Son of Jessie. Tonight, Dave’s guests include: a man who needs a haircut, *Absalom*; the crippled son of a bosom buddy, *Mephibosheth*; and the musical talent from a sheep field, *Dave and the Sheep Herders*.

But first, we come to the segment of our show we like to call “Top Ten.” Here are the top ten ways to praise the LORD:

NUMBER 10: With the sound of the trumpet (vs. 3a)

NUMBER 9: With the psaltery (vs. 3b)

NUMBER 8: With the harp (vs. 3c)

NUMBER 7: With the timbrel (vs. 4a)

NUMBER 6: With dance (vs. 4b)

NUMBER 5: With stringed instruments (vs. 4c)

NUMBER 4: With organs (vs. 4d)

NUMBER 3: With loud cymbals (vs.5a)

NUMBER 2: With high sounding cymbals (vs. 5b)

And the NUMBER ONE way to praise the LORD:

With your BREATH!!!!

Okay, so maybe David’s life was not exactly like a T.V. talk show, but one thing is for sure. Despite all the things that David went through in his life, the very heart and soul of David longed to do nothing more than praise the LORD. Just think about it: the man who has been called “A man after God’s own heart” is telling us his secret. “Praise the LORD every chance you get.”

Do you praise the LORD? No, I do not mean in church when you are suppose to. I mean, do you praise the LORD on your own time? Does your life resonate the sound of ceaseless praise to the Almighty KING of kings? If not, David has given us a good place to start. This is just a list of ten. Pick one and start praising. ~PO

## Scripture Fill-In

“Let the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ dwell in you \_\_\_\_\_ in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in \_\_\_\_\_ and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.” Colossians 3:16-17

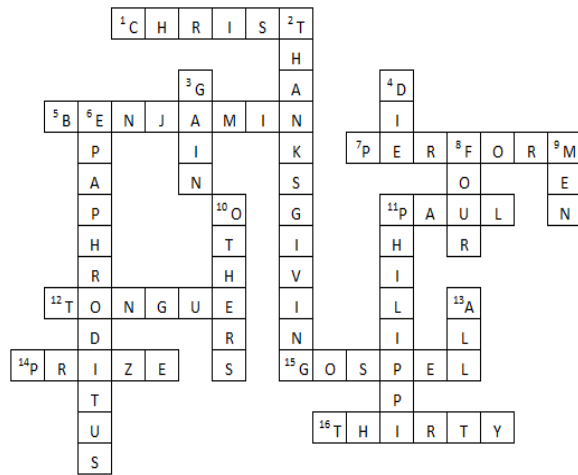
## Quote of the Day

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

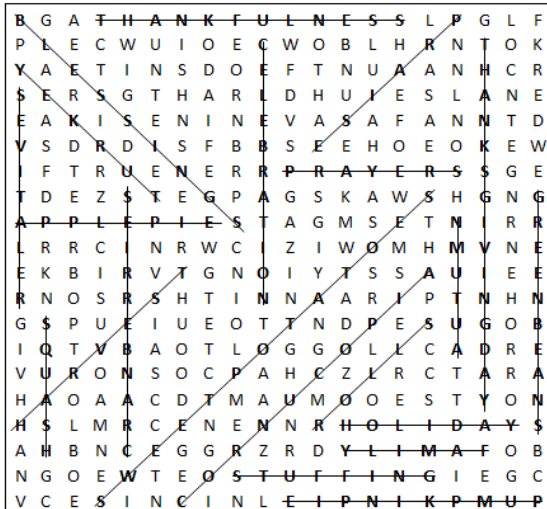


# Answers

## Cross-Word Puzzle



## Word Search



## Bible Quizzes

- Oct. 2 Pg. 3 1. Fig 2. Empathy 3. Grapes & Pomegranates
- Oct. 3 Pg. 4 1. Blood 2. Deceived 3. Purpose 4. Jacob 5. Reaping 6. Blessing
- Oct. 5 Pg. 6 Answers will vary.
- Oct. 6 Pg. 7 1. Antipas 2. He was stoned.
- Oct. 7 Pg. 9 1. D 2. A 3. B 4. C 5. E
- Oct. 8 Pg. 10 1. John the Baptist 2. Peter 3. Jesus 4. Pilate 5. Paul
- Oct. 9 Pg. 11 1. C 2. B 3. B
- Oct. 10 Pg. 12 1. F 2. T 3. T 4. F 5. T 6. T 7. T
- Oct. 11 Pg. 13 1. B 2. A 3. C
- Oct. 12 Pg. 14 D
- Oct. 13 Pg. 15 1. A 2. B 3. A
- Oct. 14 Pg. 17 1. Cast 2. Burden 3. Sustain 4. Never 5. Righteous
- Oct. 16 Pg. 19 C, E & G
- Oct. 17 Pg. 20 1. Just 2. Wise 3. Sure Foundation 4. Shepherd 5. Servant
- Oct. 18 Pg. 21 1. C 2. D
- Oct. 19 Pg. 22 1. F 2. T 3. T 4. F
- Oct. 20 Pg. 23 1. Graven, jealous 2. Jealous 3. Consuming
- Oct. 21 Pg. 25 1. A 2. C 3. D 4. B
- Oct. 22 Pg. 26 1. Miriam 2. Mary 3. Hezekiah
- Oct. 23 Pg. 27 1. Diligent 2. Wisdom
- Oct. 24 Pg. 28 1. Thanksgiving 2. Benefits 3. Salvation 4. Blessings 5. Protection
- Oct. 25 Pg. 29 1. B 2. A
- Oct. 26 Pg. 30 1. C 2. B 3. D
- Oct. 28 Pg. 32 J
- Oct. 29 Pg. 33 1. The glory of the Lord departed from him. 2. They blinded him, bound him with brass fetters, and made him grind in prison. 3. 3000