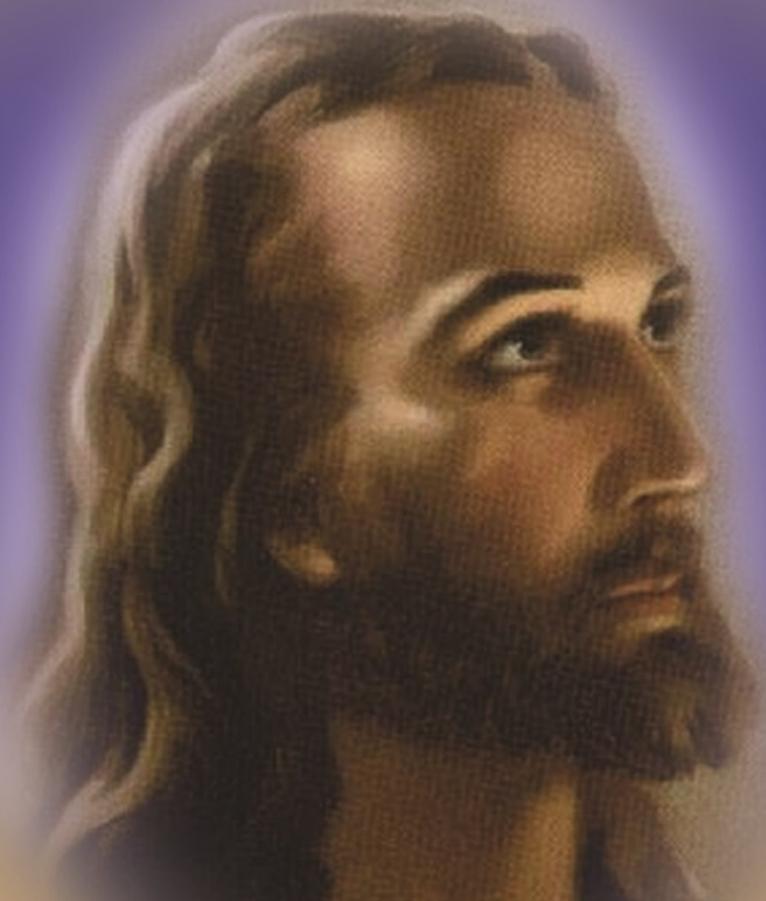


From Creation to Revelation

for *The Rainbow Nation*

(The Complete Bible in One Year with Bite-Sized Daily Devotionals)

**Christ Consciousness
Realized in Man**



**“...and these things
you will do...
and greater...”**

John 14:12



About the Author and this Work

André le Grange grew up on a farm in South Africa. In September 2011 A.D., with the help of his wife, Erika, he started a web page for the Lord, namely www.JesusChristhealingministries.co.za / www.JChm.co.za. In May 2019 A.D. Jesus Christ healing ministries was officially registered as a non-profit organisation (228-818 NPO).

Jesus Christ healing ministries (JChm) was established and "**From Creation to Revelation**" was born as an outflow of intense Bible Study and a desire to share personal spiritual revelations and truths with like-minded sincere seekers.

First publication: December 2023 A.D., in commemoration of 30 years of South African Democracy.

Copyright resides with Jesus Christ healing ministries 228-818 NPO.

No part of this book may be reproduced, unless written permission has been granted by the copyright holder. JChm can be contacted by e-mail at andre@JChm.co.za or by snail-mail at P.O. Box 1539, Dundee, 3000, Umzinyati District, kwa-Zulu Natal, South Africa.

Infringement of copyright is a criminal offence and punishable by federal law.

ISBN: 978-0-6397-1602-2





Preface

The sole purpose of **"From Creation to Revelation"** is to uplift humanity. It offers new hope in a loveless, dark and troublesome world with promises of **LOVE, light and peace.**

We are all special creatures of the Creator of the Universe. We are emotional beings who need more than the mundane material riches and pleasures of this material world. My desire is to present you (the reader) with a little foretaste of a purposeful life.

If you feel that you are trapped and that there is something missing in your life, this book might just help you to find it.

This first edition is made available absolutely free and at no charge as the primary objective is to uplift and inspire as opposed to generation of profit.

Donations are welcomed, however, as printing and distribution does not come cheaply, especially at this high quality standard.

If you feel blessed by the contents of this material, please consider making a regular or one-time donation to this virtual ministry, so that more copies may be printed and made available. No amount, no matter how big or small is to be frowned upon.

Account name: Jesus Christ healing ministries

Bank: First National Bank of South Africa

Account number: 62822543345

Branch name: Lynnwood (The Grove Mall)

Branch code: 250655

Swift code: FIRNZAJJ

NPO number: 228-818 NPO

PBO number: TBE

BBBEE certificate number: TBE

Also remember that books are meant to be read and should not be stowed away in bookshelves. Please pass this book on as soon as you are done with it or if you do not intend reading it. For a free electronic download please visit www.JesusChristhealingministries.co.za or www.JChm.co.za and search under Documents and Brochures.

Introduction by the Author

I would like to share some true stories of my life. I (André junior) was born in Johannesburg General Hospital in South-Africa. My mother Jessica le Grange (Campbell) gave birth to me on Thursday June 12, 1969 A.D. I was a blue baby at birth and had to have an emergency blood transfusion. I am the last born of three siblings. I have an elder brother, Francois who was born on 20 January 1968. He is a retired maize and wheat farmer. He farmed in Northern Natal (Kwa-Zulu, South-Africa) almost all of his adult life. We also have an elder sister, René who was born on 19 October 1966. She is a creative designer and the eldest of the three of us.

* Note: All three of us were brought into this world by unnatural means, i.e. by caesarean section. The relevance of this fact will become apparent shortly.

On Wednesday, September 03, 1969 A.D., our young family went to the drive-inn theatre in Johannesburg to watch a movie on the big screen. The name of the movie was "Buona Sera Mrs. Campbell", which means: "Good Evening Mrs. Campbell." * The relevance of the name of this movie will also become apparent soon.

On the way back from the drive-inn theatre a drunken driver skipped a red traffic light and his car collided with ours from the left. In those days there were no such things as airbags, and the little Peugeot 404 offered little protection to passengers in the event of a collision.

My mother (Jessica) died instantly, with her eyes still wide open. My sister (René) broke a leg and had serious head injuries. My brother (Francois), who was sitting on my mother's lap at the time of the accident, was physically unhurt. My father (André senior) did not sustain any physical injuries either.

Apparently I was picked up on the tarmac. Although I had splinters of glass in my mouth, the examining doctor gave me a clean bill of health.

My maternal grandparents (Patrick Sanderson Campbell and Helene Campbell) offered to raise René on their farm in Amsterdam, Eastern Transvaal (Mpumalanga - South Africa). They did not see their way clear, however, to raise Francois and me as well, because neither of us had been fully potty-trained at the time. Bear in mind that Francois was only 20 months old and I was only 83 days young. Patrick and Helene farmed with trees (South African Pine and Blue Gum) and were devout followers of the Christian Science religion.

My paternal grandparents, on the other hand, offered to raise all three of us, as they believed it would be a bad idea to split us. Louis Francois and Marie were significantly older than Patrick and Helene. I presume their social lives were a little less hectic because of the age difference. Hence taking in two babies and a toddler would not have been such a big deal to them.

Louis, also known as "Spigili", came to retire on a farm in Northern Natal (South-Africa) after retiring from a career in the hides and skins industry during 1961. He served as Managing Director at the time. "Spigili" was the name given to him by the indigenous Zulu people, and means "Nail", as he was known to always "hit the nail spot-on" when assessing a situation.

At the age of fifty Louis suffered a gigantic coronary thrombosis (heart attack) which almost brought his earthly life to an abrupt end. Three years later at age 53, he decided to quit the intense lifestyle of chasing material wealth at the cost of his health.

He made use of his accumulated wealth and bought a piece of land in order to be off grid and do his own thing. He named the farm "Voorspoed", which means "Prosperity" or "ahead of speed" if translated directly.

He bought the lovely thousand acre piece of land on the banks of the perennial Buffalo River on Route 33 between the towns of Dundee and Vryheid. He paid a meagre amount of ZA £9,000 (ZA R18,000) in 1961 A.D. During 2021 A.D. this was actually quite a substantial amount and equal to ZA R1,706,760 when taking into consideration the rate of South African inflation. In terms of the US dollar, it was equal to US \$11,338 back then and US \$102,246 in 2021 A.D. He bought the farm cash from Solomon Mtshali.

Louis Francois was very well educated and realised that work related stress and a diet high in animal fats were the main contributors of the massive heart attack that he had suffered. He immediately eliminated all eggs, butter and most animal fats from his diet. His diet and lifestyle change extended his earthly life by approximately another twenty years.

Admittedly, he also supplemented his diet with blood pressure and cholesterol tablets whilst still enjoying sour farm milk and oil drenched "White Rhino Peanut Butter". As a child, I used to sit on his lap and drink sour milk with him. My siblings refused to drink the sour milk, as it was sometimes a little green with mould. Eventually he died from a heart attack at age 74, on March 07, 1983.

This happened twenty four years after the first heart attack and without medical intervention such as open heart surgery or insertion of stents and the like.

Louis Francois was one of twelve siblings and grew up in a conservative Afrikaans family. They were all members of the Traditional Dutch Reformed Church. During those days the Dutch Reformed Church was very judgementally prejudiced towards English speaking people, people of colour, other races and other religions, like Roman Catholics, Charismatics, non-Christians, Jehovah's Witnesses, Ancestor Worshipers, Sangoma's (Traditional Healers), and the like.

The Church he grew up in, was spiritually dead, which led to the young Louis Francois seeking alternative spiritual food. At age 21, he had an experience in a Spiritualist Church and decided to break away from the conservative Dutch Reformed Church. He became a Spiritualist as Spiritualism met all his needs and stood totally neutral to all other religions, faiths and beliefs, whether Western or Eastern.

Louis Francois studied Psychology and Divinity part time through correspondence and obtained doctorates in both these sciences. Obviously all the le Grange children and grandchildren were raised as Spiritualists. My two siblings and I were regularly mocked at school throughout our school careers. We were referred to as "Spookvangers" (ghost-catchers), by the predominately Dutch Reformed Children. We never attended Sunday school and hardly ever attended church, as there were no Spiritualist Churches in Dundee. We had Bibles and Children's Bibles and we were taught how to pray. We prayed the following simple prayer every night at bedtime:

"Oh Lord, keep us safe this night,
Secured from all our fears.
May angels guard us while we sleep,
Till morning light appears."

We also sang the Lord's Prayer, Christian Hymns and read the Bible during bi-weekly assembly meetings at school.

Our maternal grandparents (Patrick and Helene Campbell), also fondly known as Oupa Pat and Ouma Pie, always came to visit us on our birthdays and we used to thoroughly enjoy these times. Ouma Pie used to bake lovely cupcakes and she was also famous for her "Fly-pie" (raisin tart) and H-bone roast beef, done medium to well. Oupa Pat was a very gentle, introverted and calm soul and a

teetotaller as he did not touch alcohol, not even Ouma Marie's trifle which contained homemade ketoba wine in the sponge cake layer. Ouma Pie Campbell used to enjoy a glass of wine and also enjoyed visiting the casino's in Swaziland with her sisters, to try her luck. Oupa Pat never criticised or judged her. He lived the life of a true believer and never took any medication or visited doctors, except for one time when he burnt himself and the wound turned septic. One day when I was still very young, Oupa Louis Francois and Oupa Pat had a heated argument about matters of religion. Looking back, I assume it was probably about us three siblings not attending Sunday school but attending home séances (circles) instead.

Oupa Louis Francois was also non-judgemental and very humble. He was well known and highly respected amongst the farming community. He was open to all faiths and religions and criticised no-one. He once told us that an evil and ugly looking ghost made himself visible one night in his bedroom, trying to intimidate him. In response he opened the Christian Bible, at which the evil spirit departed, never to return again.

Ouma Marie le Grange suffered from chronic Psoriasis, which is a disorder that causes blistering, itching and redness of the skin. She had this condition for as long as I can remember. Oupa Louis took her to many specialists and doctors during her lifetime, who prescribed many different ointments and medicines. None of these resulted in any significant and lasting improvement to the skin disorder. To this day there is still no proven permanent cure for Psoriasis as many doctors and specialists still only treat symptoms as opposed to the root causes of diseases. During 1979 A.D. Ouma Marie stopped eating animal flesh, as it made her nauseous. Shortly after becoming a vegetarian her Psoriasis miraculously cleared up completely - she had been healed. During the following year (1980 A.D.), after a few months of stomach problems, she was diagnosed with stomach cancer and passed away on May 19, 1980 A.D. at age 69 in a Johannesburg Hospital. At age 10, I had lost the only mother I ever knew.

All evidence points to the possibility that a diet high in greasy foods like roast potatoes, vetkoek (doughnuts), oven roasted chicken and rich gravies could be a possible cause of Psoriasis and also cancer of the stomach and intestines.

We do not have to repeat the poor choices of our ancestors. There is no need for history to repeat itself and prevent us from evolving. Spiritual health is important, but equally so is physical and mental health. We are spiritual beings with a soul that live in a physical body. We are three in one, just like the Triune God (Father, Son and Holy Spirit). Let us be balanced and healthy in all

dimensions (body, soul and spirit). This way we can be more effective to advance God's Kingdom on Earth and to pass on our acquired knowledge and wisdom to our grandchildren's children and to the generations to come.

Let us work together, with God's Kingdom on Earth being our common goal. There is no need to keep up with the Khumalo's, Campbell's, le Grange's, Pillay's or Booyesen's. There is also no need to live in poverty with chronic dis-ease, illness and strife dictating our lives. Let us keep on encouraging one another without prejudice based on race, gender, religion, moral difference and culture. There are many spiritual leaders and masters alive and well on this earth today.

Please do not be prejudiced and judgemental against female teachers, just because they are female or Eastern teachers just because they are from the East. Famous Bible Teacher (Joyce Meyer) and the Eastern Teacher of Quan Yin Meditation Techniques (Supreme Master Ching Hai) are both shining examples of two dedicated Lady Teachers.

Note: No one person has it all together and everybody has some flaws or untruths about them. However, judging by their following, these two lady teachers must be preaching some profound truths. Focus on the truths that resonate with you and discard the rest.

Men are in no way superior to women, and the West is in no way superior to the East, or for that matter the North to the South. We are all human animals made in our Creator's image.

Please take note that this daily devotional cannot replace the Bible and it is not an attempt to do so. It is merely an effort to create a hunger for the inspiring words and promises contained within the scriptures of the Holy Bible.

Most of the Bible quotations that are used are from the Good News Translation (GNT). All Old Testament Scriptures are in black as well as the commentaries. All New Testament Scriptures are in red and so too are its commentaries. All prayers are in blue. The reason for this is to make it easier for the readers to distinguish where the texts originated from.

Where special emphasis is added, the text is normally in purple or Black and of different font and type-setting.

Note: All prayers are personal prayers because this is the way I normally pray, unless I pray in a public setting. I urge you to make these prayers your own just as I have made them my own. My Father is a personal God and my prayers are

private conversations between Him and me. God is my Father and I am His son. He/She is also your Father/Mother and you are His/Her son/daughter. We are all sons and daughters of God our Father/Mother.

Your prayers and the way you pray are personal between you and the God of your understanding. You are free to call Him/Her what you want to, be it Father/Mother/Almighty Creator/Great One/Yahweh/Allah/LORD/Lord/Holy Spirit/uNkulunkulu/uThixo/Modimo/Abba/Daddy/Mwari/Shàngdì/Dieu/Gott/Theós/Bhagavaan/Dio/Kami/Dievas/Bog/Tuhan/Burkhan/Gud/Pan Bóg/Deus/Raba/Dumnezeu/Boh/Ilaah/Dios/Dewa/Mungu/Iraivaṅ/Phracêā/Tanri/Chúa Tròi/Vader/Baba/Ntate/Higher Power/Christ/I Am.

It is a private matter between you and the God of your understanding. There is no right or wrong and this book is not intended to change your religion or beliefs.

We all believe what appeals to our reason.

LOVE, light and peace be with you.

Shalom

André

* Being born by caesarean section to a mother that receives a full anaesthetic is very traumatic to a new-born infant. This fact, combined with the accident in which I lost my mother, is the main cause of the separation anxiety that I still tend to experience every time I lose a loved one.

* The relevance of the name of the movie (**Buona Sera Mrs. Campbell**), which we went to see on the night of the accident, is that my mother's maiden name was also Campbell.

This movie is available on YouTube for free download:

<https://youtu.be/UNCQgjQa7w8?si=mHtWgR2cWeY9676j>

It is recommended to watch the **Jesus Film**, which is also available on YouTube, i.e. if you enjoy movies. The following link is helpful to go straight there:

<https://youtu.be/o-o2JHhHXys?si=HRg7ffHMu24QCYAH>

Sample prayers

A Ten-Step Group Prayer for Ladies / Lords (Ladies / Gentlemen)

For its origin, please refer to the Gospel of Saint Luke 11:1-**13**

1. Holy Heavenly Mother / Father, we honour You.
2. Our Kingdom is coming and Divine Will is being done.
3. Thank you for Holy Spirit.
4. Thank you for providing for us in abundance and for pardoning our sins.
5. We gladly share with the less fortunate and we forgive our debtors.
6. Thank you for unconditional LOVE and amazing grace.
7. In amazement we LOVE all of creation graciously and unconditionally.
8. Thank you for leading us to perfection by gently prompting us daily.
9. Thank you for welcoming us in the Kingdom.
10. The Kingdom with all its Power and Glory is ours' through all eternity.

Let it be so, so it is, amen.

A Ten-Step Prayer for a Gentleman

Please refer to the Gospel of Saint Luke 11:1-**13**

1. Holy Heavenly Father, I honour You.
2. My Kingdom is coming and Divine Will is being done.
3. Thank you for Holy Spirit.
4. Thank you for providing for me in abundance and for pardoning my sins.
5. I gladly share with the less fortunate and I forgive my debtors.
6. Thank you for unconditional LOVE and amazing grace.
7. In amazement I LOVE all of creation graciously and unconditionally.
8. Thank you for leading me to perfection by gently prompting me daily.
9. Thank you for welcoming me in the Kingdom.
10. The Kingdom with all its Power and Glory is mine through all eternity.

Let it be so, so it is, amen.

Table of Contents

About the Author.....003

.....Preface.....005

....Introduction by the Author & Sample Prayers....006....

Month Month Name Page #

..01.....January.....014...

02.....February.....046

03.....March.....076

04.....April.....108

05.....May.....140

06.....June.....172

07.....July.....204

08.....August.....238

09.....September.....292

10.....October.....324

11.....November.....356

12.....December.....388

13.....Establishment of JChm.....420

14.....Family Pictures.....423

15.....JChm Mission Statement.....425

16.....A Final Word by the Author.....428

January



01 January

A Brand New Year

The Story of Creation (Genesis 1:1 to Genesis 2:4a)

... God said, "And now we will make human beings; they will be like us and resemble us. They will have power over the fish, the birds, and all the animals, domestic and wild, large and small." So God created human beings, making them to be like himself. He created them male and female, blessed them, and said, "Have many children so that your descendants will live all over the earth and bring it under their control. I am putting you in charge of the fish, the birds, and all the wild animals. I have provided all kinds of grain and all kinds of fruit for you to eat; but for all the wild animals and all the birds I have provided grass and leafy plants for food" - and it was done. God looked at everything he had made and he was very pleased. Evening passed and morning came - that was the sixth day.

(Genesis 1:26-31 GNT)

The Garden of Eden (Genesis 2:4b-25)

... the LORD God took some soil from the ground and formed a man out of it; he breathed life-giving breath into his nostrils and the man began to live.

He said to him, "You may eat the fruit of any tree in the garden, except the tree that gives knowledge of what is good and what is bad. You must not eat the fruit of that tree; if you do, you will die the same day."

(Genesis 2:7 & 16-17 GNT)

Disobedience or sin (forbidden fruit) causes instant spiritual death. My Father created all the land animals and humans in a single day. He put mankind in charge of the entire animal kingdom and provided them with grains and fruit to eat. Before all of this, He created the first man (Adam).

The Birth of Jesus Christ (Matthew 1:18-25)

... he (Joseph) had no sexual relations with her before she gave birth to her son. (Matthew 1:25a GNT)

Mary, the mother of Jesus, was still a virgin (young girl of child bearing age) when she gave birth to him. Joseph, the father of Jesus, did not have a sexual relationship with his mother Mary during her pregnancy.

Heavenly Father, I thank you for sending Jesus to be my redeemer. By faith I believe that your entire Word is true. I voluntarily sacrifice my life to do your will throughout this New Year and beyond. Guide me by your Spirit to succeed in my quest. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

02 January

Eternal Life for the Spiritually Dead

Human Disobedience (Genesis 3:1-13)

Now the snake was the most cunning animal that the LORD God had made. The snake asked the woman, "Did God really tell you not to eat fruit from any tree in the garden?"

"We may eat the fruit of any tree in the garden," the woman answered, "except the tree in the middle of it. **God told us not to eat the fruit of that tree or even touch it; if we do, we will die.**" The snake replied, "That's not true; you will not die. God said that because he knows that when you eat it you will be like the gods and know everything." So she took some of the fruit and ate it.

The LORD God asked the woman, "Why did you do this?"

She replied, "The snake tricked me into eating it."

(Genesis 3:1-5, 6b & 13 GNT)

God Pronounces Judgement (Genesis 3:14-21)

The LORD God said to the snake, "You will be punished for this; you alone of all the animals must bear this curse: I will make you and the woman hate each other; her offspring and yours will always be enemies. Her offspring will crush your head and you will bite their heel."

(Genesis 3:14a & 15 GNT)

Adam and Eve are Sent out of the Garden (Genesis 3:22-24)

Then the LORD God said, "Now the man has become like one of us and has knowledge of everything. **He must not be allowed to take fruit from the tree that gives life, eat it, and live for ever.**" So the LORD God sent him out of the Garden of Eden and made him cultivate the soil from which he had been formed.

(Genesis 3:22-23 GNT)

Jesus and Nicodemus (John 3:1-21)

Jesus answered, "I am telling you the truth: **no one can see the Kingdom of God without being born again (born from above).**"

"**Do not be surprised because I tell you that you must all be born again.**"

For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life. **For God did not send his Son into the world to be its judge, but to be its saviour.**

(John 3:3,7 & 16-17 GNT)

Only my Father's born-again children have access to the tree that gives life.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Word. Holy Spirit, light up my path so that I may live for ever. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

03 January

Holy Living

Human Wickedness (Genesis 6:1-8)

"I will wipe out these people I have created, and also the animals and the birds, because I am sorry that I made any of them." But the LORD was pleased with Noah.

(Genesis 6:7-8 GNT)

Noah (Genesis 6:9-22)

God said to Noah, "I have decided to put an end to the whole human race. I will destroy them completely, because the world is full of their violent deeds. Build a boat for yourself out of good timber; make rooms in it and cover it with tar inside and out."

(Genesis 6:13-14 GNT)

My Father is pleased with people like Noah. He despises human wickedness.

The Return from Egypt (Matthew 2:19-23)

After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Get up, take the child (Jesus) and his mother (Mary), and go back to the land of Israel, because those who tried to kill the child are dead."

Joseph then made his home in a town named Nazareth, and this is where Jesus grew up, and so what the prophets had said came true: "He will be called a Nazarene."

(Matthew 2:19 & 23b GNT)

The Baptism of Jesus (Matthew 3:13-17)

At that time Jesus arrived from Galilee and came to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. But John tried to make him change his mind. "I ought to be baptized by you," John said, "and yet you have come to me!"

But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so for now. For in this way we shall do all that God requires." So John agreed.

As soon as Jesus was baptized, he came up out of the water. Then heaven was opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God coming down like a dove and alighting on him. Then a voice said from heaven, "This is my own dear Son with whom I am pleased."

(Matthew 3:13-17 GNT)

Just like my Father was pleased with Noah, He was also pleased with Jesus.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit who lovingly helps and empowers me to live a holy life. Holy Spirit, lead me, guide me and strengthen me today to seek, find and pursue Divine will. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

04 January

The Key is Obedience

The Flood (Genesis 7)

The LORD said to Noah, "Go into the boat with your whole family; I have found that you are the only one in all the world who does what is right.

Take with you seven pairs of each kind of ritually clean animal, but only one pair of each kind of unclean animal. Take also seven pairs of each kind of bird. Do this so that every kind of animal and bird will be kept alive to reproduce again on earth. Seven days from now I am going to send rain that will fall for forty days and nights, in order to destroy all the living beings that I have made. And Noah did everything that the LORD commanded.

Noah was six hundred years old when the flood came on the earth. He and his wife, and his sons and their wives, went into the boat to escape the flood.

The flood continued for forty days, and the water became deep enough for the boat to float. The water became so deep that it covered the highest mountains; it went on rising until it was about seven metres above the tops of the mountains. Every living being on earth died - every bird, every animal and every person. Everything on earth that breathed died. The LORD destroyed all living beings on the earth - human beings, animals and birds. The only ones left were Noah and those who were with him on the boat. The water did not start going down for a hundred and fifty days.

(Genesis 7:1-7 & 17-24 GNT)

Because of their wickedness, my Father caused a flood to destroy the human race. Because of Noah's obedience, He saved him and his family and many animals by means of the arc that He ordered him to build.

Jesus Teaches, Preaches, and Heals (Matthew 4:23-25)

Jesus went all over Galilee, teaching in the synagogues, preaching the Good News about the Kingdom, and healing people who had all kinds of disease and sickness. The news about him spread through the whole country of Syria, so that people brought to him all those who were sick, suffering from all kinds of diseases and disorders: people with demons, and epileptics, and paralytics - and Jesus healed them all.

(Matthew 4:23-24 GNT)

My Father uses obedient people like Noah and Jesus.

Heavenly Father, thank you for using me just like Noah and Jesus, to achieve your higher purposes. Teach and empower me by your Spirit, to remain obedient so that you can continue using me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

05 January

Loving All People Unconditionally

War with the Amalekites (Exodus 17:8-16)

As long as Moses held up his arms, the Israelites won, but when he put his arms down, the Amalekites started winning.

(Exodus 17:11 GNT)

Teaching about Vows (Matthew 5:33-37)

"Just say 'Yes' or 'No' - anything else you say comes from the Evil One."

(Matthew 5:37 GNT)

I should not use vows when making a promise for it might not be possible to keep it. My "Yes" should be "Yes" and my "No" should be "No".

Love for Enemies (Matthew 5:43-48)

"You have heard that it was said, 'Love your friends, hate your enemies.' But now I tell you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may become the children of your Father in heaven. For he makes his sun to shine on bad and good people alike, and gives rain to those who do good and to those who do evil. Why should God reward you if you love only the people who love you? Even the tax collectors do that! You must be perfect - just as your Father in heaven is perfect!

(Matthew 5:43-46 & 48 GNT)

My Father calls me to love all people, including my enemies. Although I may not like them, I should still love them. All people were created equally in His image and I should not hate a single one of them.

Holy Spirit, help me and lead me to perfection.

Heavenly Father, I thank you for your unconditional love. Teach me by your Spirit to LOVE all people unconditionally. Just like Moses, I hold up my hands high to you. Please give me the victory. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

06 January

The Great Commandment

The Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:1-17)

Do not commit murder. Do not commit adultery. Do not steal, etcetera. Please refer to (Exodus 20:3-17) for the complete list of the commandments.

The Great Commandment (Matthew 22:34-40)

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they came together, and one of them, a teacher of the Law, tried to trap him with a question. "Teacher," he asked, "which is the greatest commandment in the Law?"

Jesus answered, "Love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and the most important commandment. The second most important commandment is like it: 'Love your neighbour as you love yourself.' The whole Law of Moses and the teachings of the prophets depend on these two commandments."

(Matthew 22:34-40 GNT)

Heavenly Father, I thank you for loving me first. I love you with all my heart, all my soul and my entire mind, and I try to love my fellow man as myself. Please continue to fill me with your Spirit and guide me so that I will always be obedient to the Great Commandment. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

07 January

Bless and Do Not Judge

Promises and Instructions (Exodus 23:20-33)

"If you worship me, the LORD your God, I will bless you with food and water and take away all your illnesses."

(Exodus 23:25 GNT)

I worship my Father and I enjoy all the blessings that He lovingly bestows upon me.

Thank you Father, I honour you.

Judging Others (Matthew 7:1-6)

"Do not judge others so that God will not judge you."

(Matthew 7:1 GNT)

I am not allowed to judge people, because I did not create them. People who live in glass houses do not throw stones. I leave judgement to my Father who is allowed to judge his creation, and He judges fairly.

Ask, Seek, Knock (Matthew 7:7-12)

"Do for others what you want them to do for you: this is the meaning of the Law of Moses and of the teachings of the prophets."

(Matthew 7:12 GNT)

If I do unto others as I would have them do unto me, I will automatically obey the Law of Moses and the teachings of the prophets. This is so according to Jesus and per *The Golden Rule*.

Heavenly Father, teach and inspire me through your Spirit to LOVE all people as I love myself. Thank you for sending your Son to show me how, by setting the perfect example during his earthly life and ministry. Holy Spirit, stay with me throughout this day. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

08 January

My Father has Compassion and Pity

The LORD Promises to Be with His People (Exodus 33:12-23)

"I am the LORD, and I show compassion and pity on those I choose."

(Exodus 33:19b GNT)

The Second Set of Stone Tablets (Exodus 34:1-9)

"I, the LORD, am a God who is full of compassion and pity, who is not easily angered and who shows great love and faithfulness."

(Exodus 34:6b GNT)

Jesus Has Pity for the People (Matthew 9:35-38)

As he (Jesus) saw the crowds, his heart was filled with pity for them, because they were worried and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

(Matthew 9:36 GNT)

My Father has compassion and pity for me. He does not want me to die in my state of sinfulness and religious self-condemnation. For this reason He sent Jesus to save me from spiritual death, by pointing the way. Jesus lived the life that I should live and died the death that I deserve. He freely gave his life for a spiritually dead sinner like me. I willingly follow his example and do the same for all the lost and destitute sinners just like me.

Dear Lord Jesus Christ, thank you for living and dying for me and thank you for setting the perfect example. I love you and I live and die for you because you lived and died for me.

Father, thank you for your constant and undeserved LOVE, compassion and pity. I am honoured that you chose me and have been preparing me from a young age and throughout my adult life, to do the Kingdom work that you have predestined for me. Holy Spirit, strengthen me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

09 January

Making Time for my Father

Regulations for the Sabbath (Exodus 35:1-3)

Moses called together the whole community of the people of Israel and said to them, "This is what the LORD has commanded you to do: You have six days in which to do your work, but the seventh day is to be sacred, a solemn day of rest dedicated to me, the LORD. Anyone who does any work on that day is to be put to death.

(Exodus 35:1-2 GNT)

The Question about the Sabbath (Mark 2:23-28)

And Jesus concluded, "The Sabbath was made for the good of human beings; they were not made for the Sabbath. So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath."

(Mark 2:27-28 GNT)

The Old Testament is full of laws, rules and regulations. Jesus came to bring the new covenant of grace. The important message here is that I should take at least one day in seven to rest, dedicated to my Father. I should make time for Him and for rest and quiet contemplation - this is for my own good. Making time for Him is my first priority of every new day.

The Mission of the Twelve (Matthew 10:5-15)

Heal the sick, bring the dead back to life, heal those who suffer from dreaded skin diseases and drive out demons. You have received without paying, so give without being paid.

(Matthew 10:8 GNT)

I make time for my Father and His will is my number one priority in life. I am a true disciple of Jesus the Christ. Miracles, signs and wonders follow me just as it followed the first disciples.

Heavenly Father, I long to do your will. Have your way with me, fill me with your Spirit. Holy Spirit, help me to remain a true non-legalistic disciple of my Lord Jesus the Christ, by obedience, patience and true humility, amen.

10 January

A Call to Holy Living

Animals That May Be Eaten (Leviticus 11)

Do not eat pigs. They must be considered unclean; they have divided hoofs, but do not chew the cud. Do not eat these animals or even touch their dead bodies; they are unclean.

"I am the LORD your God, and you must keep yourselves holy, because I am holy. I am the LORD who brought you out of Egypt so that I could be your God. You must be holy, because I am holy."

(Leviticus 11:7-8 & 44-45 GNT)

A Call to Holy Living (1 Peter 1:13-25)

Be obedient to God, and do not allow your lives to be shaped by those desires you had when you were still ignorant. Instead be holy in all that you do, just as God who called you is holy. The scripture says, "Be holy because I am holy."

(1 Peter 1:14-16 GNT)

Instructions and Warnings (Hebrews 12:12-29)

Try to be at peace with everyone, and try to live a holy life, because no one will see the Lord without it.

(Hebrews 12:14 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Word, which is a lamp unto my path. Holy Spirit, strengthen me today to be holy and to live at peace with everyone. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

11 January

Love and Hate

Forbidden Sexual Practices (Leviticus 18)

No man is to have sexual relations with another man; God hates that.
(Leviticus 18:22 GNT)

Coming Persecutions (Matthew 10:16-25)

"Everyone will hate you because of me. But whoever holds out to the end will be saved."

(Matthew 10:22 GNT)

My Father hates sin, but He loves every single sinner, no matter the sin. The world hates followers of Jesus, because it is judgemental and hypocritical and its ways are perverse and corrupted.

Father, thank you for sending your Son to be my role model and redeemer. Holy Spirit, help me to LOVE those who hate me and to be an effective disciple maker. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

12 January

Love for People and Discipleship

Laws of Holiness and Justice (Leviticus 19)

"Do not take revenge on anyone or continue to hate him, but love your neighbour as you love yourself. I am the LORD."

(Leviticus 19:18 GNT)

Holy Spirit, teach me and help me to love my neighbours as myself, no matter how they treat me.

Coming Persecutions (Matthew 10:16-25)

"When they persecute you in one town, run away to another one. I assure you that you will not finish your work in all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes."

(Matthew 10:23 GNT)

As a disciple of Christ, I have a whole lot of work to do. There will always be people who need Jesus and I have to continue making disciples while I am still on earth in my fleshly body.

Jesus Appears to His Disciples (Matthew 28:16-20)

"Go then, to all peoples everywhere and make them my disciples: baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and teach them to obey everything I have commanded you. And I will be with you always, to the end of the age."

(Matthew 28:19-20 GNT)

The younger generation needs to be trained up and equipped to become leaders and disciple makers.

Father, thank you for your Word and your commandments. Holy Spirit, equip me to LOVE all people and to make disciples. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

13 January

Consulting the Holy Spirit

Laws of Holiness and Justice (Leviticus 19)

"Do not go for advice to people who consult the spirits of the dead. If you do, you will be ritually unclean. I am the LORD your God."

(Leviticus 19:31 GNT)

Penalties for Disobedience (Leviticus 20)

"If anyone goes for advice to people who consult the spirits of the dead, I will turn against him and will no longer consider him one of my people. Keep yourselves holy, because I am the LORD your God. Obey my laws, because I am the LORD and I make you holy."

"Any man or woman who consults the spirits of the dead shall be stoned to death; any person who does this is responsible for his own death."

(Leviticus 20:6-8 & 27 GNT)

Confessing and Rejecting Christ (Matthew 10:32-33)

"Those who declare publicly that they belong to me, I will do the same for them before my Father in heaven."

(Matthew 10:32 GNT)

I am sold out to Jesus the Christ and the Holy Spirit is available to guide me and lead me. As I have the Holy Spirit, I do not need to seek guidance from mediums who consult other spirits.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Son and for your Holy Spirit who leads and guides me. Holy Spirit, please fill me afresh today and continue to empower me to live in victory. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

14 January

Followers of Jesus are Honest

Laws of Holiness and Justice (Leviticus 19)

"Do not cheat anyone by using false measures of length, weight, or quantity. Use honest scales, honest weights, and honest measures. I am the LORD your God, and I brought you out of Egypt. Obey all my laws and commands. I am the LORD."

(Leviticus 19:35-37 GNT)

Come to Me and Rest (Matthew 11:25-30)

"Come to me, all of you who are tired from carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke and put it on you, and learn from me, because I am gentle and humble in spirit; and you will find rest. For the yoke I will give you is easy, and the load I will put on you is light."

(Matthew 11:28-30 GNT)

I follow Christ and put on his yoke. I find rest in him and automatically obey Leviticus 19:35-36. As a follower of Jesus, I am honest, gentle and humble.

Heavenly Father, thank you for sending your Son to teach me how to live. I long to please you and am available to be used by you. Have your way with me and utilise me to the full. Holy Spirit, continue to comfort, empower and strengthen me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

15 January

Healing and Salvation

Penalties for Disobedience (Leviticus 20)

"If a man has sexual relations with another man, they have done a disgusting thing, and both shall be put to death. They are responsible for their own death."

(Leviticus 20:13 GNT)

According to this Old Testament scripture, gay sexual relations are disgusting and punishable by death.

God's Chosen Servant (Matthew 12:15-21)

When Jesus heard about the plot against him, he went away from that place; and large crowds followed him. He healed all those who were ill and gave them orders not to tell others about him.

(Matthew 12:15-16 GNT)

Jesus the Christ came to earth to heal sinners and not to condemn them. In the Old Testament times sinners were condemned and punished by death. Christ brought a new covenant of grace and forgiveness and if I believe in him, I will be saved (John 3:16). As a believer I do not wilfully persist in a sinful lifestyle, but rather follow Christ and seek my Father's will in everything I do. As a true believer, I have become a disciple of Jesus the Christ.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your LOVE and grace. Thank you for sending your Son to show me the way. Holy Spirit, please stay with me and strengthen and inspire me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

16 January

A New Covenant with Holy Spirit Power

An Example of Just and Fair Punishment (Leviticus 24:10-23)

"If anyone injures another person, whatever he has done shall be done to him. If he breaks a bone, one of his bones shall be broken; if he blinds him in one eye, one of his eyes shall be blinded; if he knocks out a tooth, one of his teeth shall be knocked out. Whatever injury he causes another person shall be done to him in return.

(Leviticus 24:19-20 GNT)

In contrast to the Old Testament Law of "An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth", Jesus taught me to do unto others as I would have them do unto me (Matthew 7:12). He also taught me to love my enemies and to bless them (Matthew 5:38-48).

Jesus and Beelzebul (Matthew 12:22-32)

"No, it is not Beelzebul, but God's Spirit who gives me the power to drive out demons, which proves that the Kingdom of God has already come upon you."
(Matthew 12:28 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Word and for your Spirit that empowers me to love my enemies and to experience your Kingdom with all its power and glory. Please reveal your will to me throughout this day. Let your will be done and let your Kingdom come. Holy Spirit, remain with me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

17 January

Obedience and Blessings

Blessings for Obedience (Leviticus 26:1-13)

"If you live according to my laws and obey my commands, I will send you rain at the right time, so that the land will produce crops and the trees will bear fruit. Your crops will be so plentiful that you will still be harvesting corn when it is time to pick grapes, and you will still be picking grapes when it is time to sow corn. You will have all that you want to eat, and you will live in safety in your land."

"I will give you peace in your land, and you will sleep without being afraid of anyone. I will get rid of the dangerous animals in the land, and there will be no more war there."

(Leviticus 26:3-6 GNT)

Jesus and Beelzebul (continued)

"Anyone who is not for me is really against me; anyone who does not help me gather is really scattering. And so I tell you that people can be forgiven any sin and any evil thing they say, but whoever says evil things against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven. Anyone who says something against the Son of Man can be forgiven: but whoever says something against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven - now or ever."

(Matthew 12:30-32 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Word. Thank you for blessing me abundantly. Holy Spirit, help me to know Divine will and empower me to live in obedience with joy and victory. Continue to guide me and lead me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

18 January

Saved and Blessed by Faith

The Priestly Blessing (Numbers 6:22-27)

May the LORD bless you and take care of you;

May the LORD be kind and gracious to you;

May the LORD look on you with favour and give you peace.

(Numbers 6:24-26 GNT)

Temptations to Sin (Matthew 18:6-9)

"If anyone should cause one of these little ones to lose his faith in me, it would be better for that person to have a large millstone tied round his neck and be drowned in the deep sea. How terrible for the world that there are things that make people lose their faith! Such things will always happen - but how terrible for the one who causes them!"

"If your hand or your foot makes you lose your faith, cut it off and throw it away! It is better for you to enter life without a hand or a foot than to keep both hands and both feet and be thrown into the eternal fire. And if your eye makes you lose your faith, take it out and throw it away! It is better for you to enter life with only one eye than to keep both eyes and be thrown into the fire of hell."

(Matthew 18:6-9 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your grace and favour. I believe in your Son and in forgiveness of sins. Holy Spirit, please help me to say no to temptations and to get rid of all things that cause me to stumble and lose my faith. Thank you for past, present and future blessings. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

19 January

Believe and Fear Not

The Spies (Numbers 13)

Caleb silenced the people who were complaining against Moses, and said, "We should attack now and take the land; we are strong enough to conquer it."

But the men who had gone with Caleb said, "No, we are not strong enough to attack them; the people there are more powerful than we are." So they spread a false report among the Israelites about the land they had explored. They said, "That land doesn't even produce enough to feed the people who live there. Everyone we saw was very tall, and we even saw giants there, the descendants of Anak. We felt as small as grasshoppers, and that is how we must have looked to them."

(Numbers 13:30-33 GNT)

If my Father promises something to me, I should pursue the promise and not start doubting towards the end of the journey. **Unbelief and fear** is the greatest sin because it is the opposite of faith.

If I believe, I will be saved. (Refer to John 3:16)

Prohibiting and Permitting (Matthew 18:18-20)

"And so I tell all of you, what you prohibit on earth will be prohibited in heaven, and what you permit on earth will be permitted in heaven."

"And I tell you more: whenever two of you on earth agree about anything you pray for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three come together in my name, I am there with them."

(Matthew 18:18-20 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for a brand new day with brand new challenges. Please increase my faith so that I will not start doubting and becoming fearful of the future. Thank you for all the promises in your Word. I trust in you and I believe all your promises. I shall fear no more. Holy Spirit, strengthen me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

20 January

Stop Complaining and Forgive from the Heart

The People Complain (Numbers 14:1-10)

They complained against Moses and Aaron, and said, "It would have been better to die in Egypt or even here in the Wilderness.

(Numbers 14:2 GNT)

When my Father gives me a vision or a promise, I should pursue it to the end and not long to go back to where I came from (Egypt). I should stop complaining and trust Him fully. In order to move on to new and greater things, I have to let go of the past. Trying to move forward, whilst seeking revenge for past atrocities and living in the past, does not work out. I have to forgive those who hurt me and forget the past to be successful in my future. Is your glass half full or half empty? Mine is half full. The world is my oyster and the sky is the limit. I don't feel sorry for myself - I prefer to stretch out and reach for the stars.

The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant (Matthew 18:21-35)

So he called the servant in. 'You worthless slave!' he said. 'I forgave you the whole amount you owed me, just because you asked me to. You should have had mercy on your fellow-servant, just as I had mercy on you.' The king was very angry and he sent the servant to jail to be punished until he should pay back the whole amount.

And Jesus concluded, "That is how my Father in heaven will treat every one of you unless you forgive your brother from your heart."

(Matthew 18:32-35 GNT)

According to this scripture, I should forgive others from the heart, or face not being forgiven for my transgressions.

Heavenly Father, I have so much to be thankful for. Please inspire me through your Holy Spirit to stop complaining and to forgive freely. Please forgive me for sometimes having a bad attitude concerning forgiving others who have wronged me. Holy Spirit, stay with me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

21 January

Complaining and Unbelief versus Prayer and Faith

Moses Prays for the People / The LORD Punishes the People for Complaining (Numbers 14:11-38)

I, the LORD, am not easily angered, and I show great love and faithfulness and forgive sin and rebellion.

"How much longer are these wicked people going to complain against me? I have heard enough of these complaints!"

"You will die and your corpses will be scattered across this wilderness. Because you have complained against me, none of you over twenty years of age will enter that land."

The men Moses had sent to explore the land brought back a false report which caused the people to complain against the LORD. And so the LORD struck them with a disease, and they died. Of the twelve spies, only Joshua and Caleb survived.

(Numbers 14:18a, 27, 29 & 36-38 GNT)

My Father is slow to anger. He is loving and faithful and forgives sin and rebellion, but continuous sin and rebellion will result in disinheritance.

Continuous complaining and rebellion has to be punished.

Jesus Curses the Fig-Tree (Matthew 21:18-22)

On his way back to the city early next morning, Jesus was hungry. He saw a fig tree by the side of the road and went to it, but found nothing on it except leaves. So he said to the tree, "You will never again bear fruit!" At once the fig-tree dried up.

The disciples saw this and were astounded. "How did the fig-tree dry up so quickly?" they asked.

Jesus answered, "I assure you that if you believe and do not doubt, you will be able to do what I have done to this fig-tree"

"If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer."

(Matthew 21:18-21a & 22 GNT)

If I am ill and I pray and believe for healing, I will be healed. If I extend my faith and do not doubt at all, I shall be cured from any chronic disease.

Complaining, rebellion and unbelief (doubting) hamper my prayers.

Heavenly Father, thank you for forgiving my sins. Thank you for healing my diseases and meeting all my needs. Holy Spirit, please show me where I still have unconfessed sins in my life. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

22 January

The Great Commandment

Laws about Sacrifice / The Man Who Broke The Sabbath (Numbers 15:1-36)

... suppose someone unintentionally fails to keep some of the regulations which the LORD has given Moses. And suppose that in the future the community fails to do everything that the LORD commanded through Moses. The priest shall perform the ritual of purification for the community, and they will be forgiven. But any person who sins deliberately, whether he is a native or a foreigner, is guilty of treating the LORD with contempt, and he shall be put to death. He is responsible for his own death.

Once, while the Israelites were still in the wilderness, a man was found gathering firewood on the Sabbath. So the whole community took him outside the camp and stoned him to death.

(Numbers 15:22, 23, 25a, 30, 31b, 32 & 36a GNT)

Before Jesus brought the new covenant of LOVE and grace, the old Jewish Law was rigorously applied.

For sin pays its wage - death; but God's free gift is eternal life in union with Christ Jesus our Lord.

(Romans 6:23 GNT)

Unintentional sin will be forgiven. Deliberate sin may have consequences and may lead to death if and when unconfessed and unrepented of. All I have to do to receive forgiveness for my sins, is to confess them and to repent.

The Great Commandment (Matthew 22:34-40)

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they came together, and one of them, a teacher of the Law, tried to trap him with a question. "Teacher," he asked, "which is the greatest commandment in the Law?"

Jesus answered, "Love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and the most important commandment. The second most important commandment is like it: 'Love your neighbour as you love yourself.' The whole Law of Moses and the teachings of the prophets depend on these two commandments."

(Matthew 22:34-40 GNT)

Heavenly Father, I love you and I love my neighbours as myself. I no longer wilfully sin. Holy Spirit, please strengthen me and help me to be obedient and to overcome temptations. Thank you Father, for your unconditional LOVE and grace, amen.

23 January

Humility and Obedience

Events at Kadesh (Numbers 20:1-13)

The LORD said to Moses, "Take the stick that is in front of the Covenant Box, and then you and Aaron assemble the whole community. There in front of them all speak to the rock over there, and water will gush out of it."

Moses said, "Listen, you rebels! Do we have to get water out of this rock for you?" Then Moses raised the stick and struck the rock twice with it, and a great stream of water gushed out, and all the people and animals drank.

But the LORD reprimanded Moses and Aaron. He said, "Because you did not have enough faith to acknowledge my holy power before the people of Israel, you will not lead them into the land that I promised to give them."

"Aaron is not going to enter the land which I promised to give to Israel; he is going to die, because the two of you rebelled against my command at Meribah." (Numbers 20:7, 8a, 10b, 11, 12 & 24 GNT)

My Father told Moses to take the stick and speak to the rock. In an angry fit, Moses struck the rock twice, instead. Because of this act of arrogant disobedience, He did not allow Moses and Aaron to lead the people of Israel into the Promised Land.

If I remain in His will with true humility, being obedient no matter my circumstances, I will reach His predestined goal for my life.

The Parable of the Ten Young Women (Matthew 25:1-13)

In this parable Jesus cautions the reader to always be ready and prepared like the five wise young women who brought extra oil for their lamps. The five foolish young women were not properly prepared and had to go and buy extra oil. The bridegroom arrived at the wedding feast when the foolish young women went to buy extra oil. When they returned, they were refused entry to the wedding feast because the doors had already been shut.

And Jesus concluded, "Be on your guard, then, because you do not know the day or the hour."

(Matthew 25:13 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your goodness and grace. Holy Spirit, please fill me and lead me at all times to remain humble and obedient. Help me to be ready at all times to meet with my Lord, amen.

24 January

Make Use of All Your Talents

A Good Land to Be Possessed (Deuteronomy 8:1-10)

Remember how the LORD your God led you on this long journey through the desert these past forty years, sending hardships to test you, so that he might know what you intended to do and whether you would obey his commands. He made you go hungry, and then he gave you manna to eat, food that you and your ancestors had never eaten before. He did this to teach you that human beings must not depend on bread alone to sustain them, but on everything that the LORD says.

(Deuteronomy 8:2-3 GNT)

I should not depend on bread alone, but rather use all my gifts and talents.

The Parable of the Three Servants (Matthew 25:14-30)

"After a long time the master of those servants came back and settled accounts with them. The servant who had received five thousand coins came in and handed over the other five thousand. 'You gave me five thousand coins, sir,' he said. 'Look! Here are another five thousand that I have earned.' 'Well done, you good and faithful servant!' Said his master. 'You have been faithful in managing small amounts, so I will put you in charge of large amounts. Come on in and share my happiness!'

Then the servant who had received one thousand coins came in and said, 'Sir, I know that you are a hard man; you reap harvests where you did not sow, and you gather crops where you did not scatter seed. I was afraid, so I went off and hid your money in the ground. Look! Here is what belongs to you.'

'You bad and lazy servant!' His master said. 'You knew, did you, that I reap harvests where I did not sow, and gather crops where I did not scatter seed? Well, then, you should have deposited my money in the bank, and I would have received it all back with interest when I returned. Now, take the money away from him and give it to the one who has ten thousand coins.'

(Matthew 25:19-21 & 24-28 GNT)

If I make full use of the few talents that my Father has given me, He will bless me by giving me more talents. If I hide my talents like the lazy servant, they will be taken away from me.

Heavenly Father, thank you for a brand new day of opportunities. Thank you for all the talents that you have blessed me with. Holy Spirit, please help me and inspire me to use all my talents wisely and to the full, so that I may experience increase and abundance. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

25 January

Serving my Father and Enjoying His Blessings

The Blessings of the Promised Land (Deuteronomy 11:8-32)

"So then, obey the commands that I have given you today; love the LORD your God and serve him with all your heart. If you do, he will send rain on your land when it is needed, in the autumn and in the spring, so that there will be corn, wine, and olive-oil for you, and grass for your livestock. You will have all the food you want."

(Deuteronomy 11:13-15 GNT)

The Final Judgement (Matthew 25:31-46)

"The righteous will then answer him (Jesus), 'When, Lord, did we ever see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you a drink? When did we ever see you a stranger and welcome you in our homes, or naked and clothe you? When did we ever see you sick or in prison, and visit you?' The King (Jesus) will reply, 'I tell you, whenever you did this for one of the least important of these members of my family, you did it for me!'"

(Matthew 25:37-40 GNT)

In order to truly serve my Father, I have to serve my fellow man.

Heavenly Father, I thank you for blessing me with everything I need and even more. Please help me to identify opportunities to serve you by serving the helpless, oppressed and destitute. Let your will be done, let your Kingdom come and may your name be honoured. Holy Spirit, fill me afresh today and give me new strength for the task at hand. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

26 January

My Father Has Always Been Good to Me

The LORD's Covenant with Israel in the Land of Moab (Deuteronomy 29)

You did not have bread to eat or wine or beer to drink, but the LORD provided for your needs in order to teach you that he is your God.

(Deuteronomy 29:6 GNT)

The Final Judgement (continued)

"Then they will answer him (Jesus), 'When, Lord, did we ever see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and would not help you?' The King (Jesus) will reply, 'I tell you, whenever you refused to help one of these least important ones, you refused to help me.' These, then, will be sent off to eternal punishment, but the righteous will go to eternal life."

(Matthew 25:44-46 GNT)

Jesus says that if I refuse to help strangers, it is equivalent to refusing to help him. If I am in a position to help somebody in need, I should grab the opportunity. My Father has always been good to me, and the least I can do is to extend this favour to those in need.

Heavenly Father, thank you for looking after me. Please continue to bless and empower me to be able to reach out to those in need. Blessed be your holy name, now and for evermore. Holy Spirit, remain with me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

27 January

Love and Obedience

Conditions for Restoration and Blessing (Deuteronomy 30)

Today I am giving you a choice between good and evil, between life and death. If you obey the commands of the LORD your God, which I give you today, if you love him, obey him and keep all his laws, then you will prosper and become a nation of many people.

I am now giving you the choice between life and death, between God's blessing and God's curse, and I call heaven and earth to witness the choice you make. Choose life.

(Deuteronomy 30:15-16a & 19 GNT)

Jesus Appears to His Disciples (Matthew 28:16-20)

"Go, then, to all peoples everywhere and make them my disciples: baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and teach them to obey everything I have commanded you. And I will be with you always, to the end of the age."

(Matthew 28:19-20 GNT)

As a believer, I LOVE Jesus and I LOVE my Heavenly Father, and therefore obedience comes naturally.

Heavenly Father, I thank you for your unfailing LOVE and grace. Please reveal your will to me day by day, so that I may align my little will in perfect obedience. I love you and I honour you. Fill me with your Spirit. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

28 January

Holy Spirit Confidence and Determination

God Commands Joshua to Conquer Canaan (Joshua 1:1-9)

"Remember that I have commanded you to be determined and confident! Don't be afraid or discouraged, for I, the LORD your God, am with you wherever you go."

(Joshua 1:9 GNT)

The Preaching of John the Baptist (Mark 1:1-8)

He (John) announced to the people, "The man who will come after me is much greater than I am. I am not good enough even to bend down and untie his sandals. I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

(Mark 1:7-8 GNT)

My Father is with me wherever I go. Jesus baptized me with the Holy Spirit and therefore I can represent him with confidence wherever I go.

Heavenly Father, thank you for always being with me. Holy Spirit, thank you for filling me and giving me confidence to face all situations. Please remain with me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

29 January

My Father Keeps His Promises - He Forgives and Heals

Israel Takes Possession of the Land (Joshua 21:43-45)

The LORD kept every one of the promises that he had made to the people of Israel.

(Joshua 21:45 GNT)

My Father always keeps all his promises to his people. He cannot lie, because He is not a man and He is holy.

Jesus Heals a Paralysed Man (Mark 2:1-12)

Jesus was preaching the message to them when four men arrived, carrying a paralysed man to Jesus. Because of the crowd, however, they could not get the man to him. So they made a hole in the roof right above the place where Jesus was. When they had made an opening, they let the man down, lying on his mat. Seeing how much faith they had, Jesus said to the paralysed man, "My son, your sins are forgiven."

"I tell you, get up, pick up your mat, and go home!"

While they all watched, the man got up, picked up his mat, and hurried away.

They were all completely amazed and praised God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

(Mark 2:2b-5 & 11-12 GNT)

When sins are forgiven, healing normally results. Forgiveness of sins and healing go hand in hand.

Heavenly Father, I thank you for always being true to your Word. Thank you for forgiving my sins and for healing my illnesses and dis-eases. Thank you for sending Jesus to show me the truth and the way back to you. Please continue to bless me with your Holy Spirit. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

30 January

The Law and Grace

Joshua Sends the Eastern Tribes Home (Joshua 22:1-9)

"Make sure you obey the law that Moses commanded you: love the LORD your God, do his will, obey his commandments, be faithful to him, and serve him with all your heart and soul."

(Joshua 22:5 GNT)

Jesus Calls Levi (Mark 2:13-17)

Some teachers of the Law, who were Pharisees, saw that Jesus was eating with these outcasts and tax collectors, so they asked his disciples, "Why does he eat with such people?" Jesus heard them and answered, "People who are well do not need a doctor, but only those who are sick. I have not come to call respectable people, but outcasts."

(Mark 2:16-17 GNT)

Jesus came specifically for sinners, outcasts and lawbreakers. He brought a new covenant of grace and forgiveness. He was significantly different than the teachers of the Law, in that he did not criticise, judge and condemn. He actually reached out to sinners and outcasts.

Heavenly Father, thank you for Jesus and for the New Covenant of grace and forgiveness of sins. Reveal your perfect will to me day by day through your Holy Spirit. Empower me to align my little will with yours in total obedience. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

31 January

I Serve a Gracious Father

Joshua Speaks to the People at Shechem (Joshua 24:1-28)

"If you are not willing to serve him (the LORD), decide today whom you will serve, the gods your ancestors worshipped in Mesopotamia or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are now living. As for my family and me, we will serve the LORD."

(Joshua 24:15 GNT)

The Question about the Sabbath (Mark 2:23-28)

And Jesus concluded, "The Sabbath was made for human beings; they were not made for the Sabbath. So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath."

(Mark 2:27 GNT)

The Bible is a book of my Father's LOVE and instruction, to help me, and not to condemn me. It should not be treated as a book of rules that condemns me for every little thing, like for example, working on the Sabbath. My Father looks at my heart and is not a tyrant that tries to find a reason to punish me. Jesus made this quite clear to his contenders.

Heavenly Father, I thank you for your unconditional LOVE and grace. Fill me with your Spirit and empower me to meet all your expectations. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

February



01 February

Don't Make Vows - Have Faith

Jephthah (Judges 10:6 - 11:33)

Jephthah promised the LORD: "If you give me victory over the Ammonites, I will burn as an offering the first person that comes out of my house to meet me, when I come back from the victory. I will offer that person to you as a sacrifice."

(Judges 11:30-31 GNT)

Because of his promise to my Father, Jephthah had to sacrifice his own daughter. It is not a very wise thing to make vows.

Jairus' Daughter and the Woman Who touched Jesus' Cloak (Mark 5:21-43)

There was a woman who had suffered terribly from severe bleeding for twelve years, even though she had been to many doctors. She had spent all her money, but instead of getting better she got worse all the time. She had heard about Jesus, so she came in the crowd behind him, saying to herself, "If I just touch his clothes, I will get well."

She touched his cloak, and her bleeding stopped at once; and she had the feeling inside her that she was healed of her trouble.

Jesus said to her, "My daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace, and be healed of your trouble."

(Mark 5:25-29 & 34 GNT)

Heavenly Father, I thank you for your LOVE and miraculous power to heal all my diseases. Holy Spirit, help me not to make vows that I cannot keep and increase my faith for the miraculous. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

02 February

My Father Strengthens and Purifies My Heart

Hannah's Prayer (1 Samuel 2:1-10)

"The LORD has filled my heart with joy; how happy I am because of what he has done! I laugh at my enemies; how joyful I am because God has helped me! No one is holy like the LORD; there is none like him, no protector like our God. He makes some poor and others rich; he humbles some and makes others great. He lifts the poor from the dust and raises the needy from their misery. He protects the lives of his faithful people, but the wicked disappear in darkness; a man does not triumph by his own strength."

(1 Samuel 2:1, 2, 7, 8a, 9 GNT)

My Father is sovereign and righteous. He judges fairly and protects the faithful. He is my strength.

The Things that Make a Person Unclean (Mark 7:14-23)

"Nothing that goes into a person from the outside can really make him unclean, because it does not go into his heart but into his stomach and then goes on out of the body." (In saying this Jesus declared that all foods are fit to be eaten.) And he went on to say, "It is what comes out of a person that makes him unclean. For from the inside, from a person's heart, come the evil ideas which lead him to do immoral things, to rob, kill, commit adultery, be greedy, and do all sorts of evil things; deceit, indecency, jealousy, slander, pride, and folly - all these evil things come from inside a person and make him unclean."

(Mark 7:18b-23 GNT)

Heavenly Father, I thank you for strengthening me and for lifting me up. Use me and have your way with me. Thank you for your Spirit that leads me and guides me day by day and purifies my heart. Holy Spirit, fill me with LOVE, power and self-control. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

03 February

Pleasing My Father with My Life

The Prophecy against Eli's Family (1 Samuel 2:27-36)

I will honour those who honour me, and I will treat with contempt those who despise me.

(1 Samuel 2:30b GNT)

Faithfulness to my Father brings success - disobedience brings disaster. I will honour Him at all times because I love Him.

Jesus Speaks about His Suffering and Death (Mark 8:31-38)

Then Jesus called the crowd and his disciples to him. "If anyone wants to come with me," he told them, "he must forget self, carry his cross, and follow me. For whoever wants to save his own life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for me and for the gospel will save it. Do people gain anything if they win the whole world but lose their life? Of course not!"

(Mark 8:34-36 GNT)

Heavenly Father, I honour you and I desire to please you every day with my life and my conduct. Thank you for all my blessings. Please use me as you see fit and achieve your divine purpose with me. Holy Spirit, anoint me afresh and strengthen me throughout this day. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

04 February

Obedience Is Better Than Sacrifice

Saul is Rejected as King (1 Samuel 15:10-34)

Samuel said, "Which does the LORD prefer: obedience or offerings and sacrifices? It is better to obey than to sacrifice the best sheep to him. Rebellion against him is as bad as witchcraft, and arrogance is as sinful as idolatry. Because you rejected the LORD's command, he has rejected you as king."

(1 Samuel 15:22-23 GNT)

Do what is right and fair; that pleases the LORD more than bringing him sacrifices.

(Proverbs 21:3 GNT)

In Old Testament times sin offerings and sacrifices were brought before my Father in order to obtain forgiveness of sins. It was thought that these rituals appeased Him. **At the end of the day, obedience is always better than sacrifice.**

Who Is the Greatest? (Mark 9:33-37)

Jesus' disciples argued about who was the greatest.

Jesus sat down, called the twelve disciples, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must place himself last of all and be the servant of all." Then he took a child and made him stand in front of them. He put his arms round him and said to them, "Whoever welcomes in my name one of these children, welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me, welcomes not only me but also the one who sent me."

(Mark 9:35-37 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Word and your Spirit. Holy Spirit, help me to be obedient rather than bringing sacrifices for disobedience. Help me to always be the least and to serve others rather than exalting myself. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

05 February

Preferring My Father's Kingdom to Riches

David Spares Saul's Life Again (1 Samuel 26:1-25)

The LORD rewards those who are faithful and righteous. Today he put you in my power, but I did not harm you, whom the LORD made king.

(1 Samuel 26:23 GNT)

David had a few opportunities to kill King Saul and to become the new king, but he chose not to do so. Instead he kept on fleeing from him and trusted my Father to protect him and to make him king at the right time.

The Rich Man (Mark 10:17-31)

"It is much harder for a rich person to enter the Kingdom of God than for a camel to go through the eye of a needle."

At this the disciples were completely amazed and asked one another, "Who, then, can be saved?"

Jesus looked straight at them and answered, "This is impossible for human beings, but not for God; everything is possible for God."

(Mark 10:25-27 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for welcoming me in the Kingdom of LOVE and light and righteousness. Help me not to make money and material things more important than you. Let your will be done and let your Kingdom come. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

06 February

Wisdom and Faith

Solomon Prays for Wisdom (1 Kings 3:1-15)

So give me the wisdom I need to rule your people with justice and to know the difference between good and evil. Otherwise, how would I ever be able to rule this great people of yours?"

(1 Kings 3:9 GNT)

Jesus Heals Blind Bartimaeus (Mark 10:46-52)

"What do you want me to do for you?" Jesus asked him.

"Teacher," the blind man answered, "I want to see again."

"Go," Jesus told him, "your faith has made you well."

At once he was able to see and followed Jesus on the road.

(Mark 10:51-52 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for giving me Divine Wisdom and the ability to discern between good and evil. Please strengthen my faith so that I may experience miracles. Pour out your Spirit on me and anoint me afresh this day. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

07 February

My Father Answers the Prayer of Faith

Solomon's Prosperous Reign (1 Kings 4:20-34)

God gave Solomon unusual wisdom and insight, and knowledge too great to be measured. Solomon was wiser than the wise men of the East or the wise men of Egypt.

(1 Kings 4:29-30 GNT)

Solomon prayed earnestly, a prayer of faith, asking for wisdom. **My Father answered this prayer of faith and blessed Solomon with unusual wisdom.**

The Lesson from the Fig Tree (Mark 11:20-26)

Peter remembered what had happened and said to Jesus, "Look, Teacher, the fig-tree you cursed has died!"

Jesus answered them, "Have faith in God."

"For this reason I tell you: When you pray and ask for something, believe that you have received it, and you will be given whatever you ask for."

(Mark 11:21-22 & 24 GNT)

It is important to pray in faith and to believe that my Father will answer my prayer. He honours a prayer that is made in faith.

Heavenly Father, I thank you for always answering my prayers that are made in faith. Please continue to bless me on my life journey. Holy Spirit, guide me and strengthen me today. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

08 February

Just Be Obedient and Have Faith

Elijah and the Prophets of Baal (1 Kings 18:1-40)

At the hour of the afternoon sacrifice the prophet Elijah approached the altar and prayed, "O LORD, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, prove now that you are the God of Israel and that I am your servant and have done all this at your command. Answer me, LORD, answer me, so that this people will know that you, the LORD, are God, and that you are bringing them back to yourself."

The LORD sent fire down, and it burnt up the sacrifice, the wood, and the stones, scorched the earth and dried up the water in the trench.

(1 Kings 18:36-38 GNT)

Patience and Prayer (James 5:7-20)

The earnest (heartfelt, continued) prayer of a righteous man makes tremendous power available [dynamic in its working].

(James 5:16b AMP)

In Mark 10:46-52 Jesus restored the eyesight of Blind Bartimaeus, after he told Jesus that he would like to see again. The simple fact that he made his request known to Jesus was sufficient evidence of childlike faith. Hence, Jesus replied to him that his faith had made him well, and instantly he was able to see again.

Heavenly Father, thank you for a brand new day and for abundant life and excellent health. I trust you during good times and bad, and I believe that you always answer my prayers, made in faith. Please continue to empower me, by your Spirit, to face the challenges that every new day brings. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

09 February

Supernatural Anointing

The Death of Elisha (2 Kings 13:14-21)

Elisha died and was buried. Every year bands of Moabites used to invade the land of Israel. Once, during a funeral, one of those bands was seen, and the people threw the corpse into Elisha's tomb and ran off. As soon as the body came into contact with Elisha's bones, the man came back to life and stood up. (2 Kings 13:20-21 GNT)

Elisha had an exceptionally strong supernatural anointing on his life. A corpse even came back to life when it came into contact with Elisha's bones sometime after Elisha had already died. My Father's supernatural power works in mysterious ways.

Jesus Appears to the Eleven (Mark 16:14-18)

Last of all Jesus appeared to the eleven disciples as they were eating. He scolded them, because they did not have faith and because they were too stubborn to believe those who had seen him alive.

"Believers will be given the power to perform miracles: they will drive out demons in my name; they will speak in strange tongues; if they pick up snakes or drink any poison, they will not be harmed; they will place their hands on sick people, who will get well."

(Mark 16:14 & 17-18 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit and for the breath of life in my lungs. Thank you for another day in which I may experience life on earth. Thank you for blessing and empowering me to reach out to those in need and to actually make a difference. Anoint me afresh today to experience and walk in the supernatural. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

10 February

The Key is Obedience

King Manasseh of Judah (2 Kings 21:1-18)

He sacrificed his son as a burnt-offering. He practised divination and magic and consulted fortune-tellers and mediums. He sinned greatly against the LORD and stirred up his anger.

(2 Kings 21:6 GNT)

I really LOVE my Father, so I steer clear from things like these and remain obedient to his Word.

The Birth of Jesus Is Announced (Luke 1:26-38)

The angel Gabriel told the Virgin Mary that she was going to become pregnant by the Holy Spirit. He also reminded Mary that her relative Elizabeth was six months pregnant, even though it was said that she could not have children.

"For there is nothing that God cannot do."

(Luke 1:37 GNT)

The Holy Spirit impregnated the Virgin Mary and this changed the world. I never doubt my Father's promises, but take His Word as absolute truth. If I am obedient from my side, then all His promises will be fulfilled in my life. The key is obedience.

Heavenly Father, thank you for all your promises. Holy Spirit, good morning and welcome in my life. Please fill me afresh and remain with me throughout the day. Teach me humility, patience and obedience and increase my self-control. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

11 February

Prayer, Faith and Healing

The Descendants of Judah (1 Chronicles 4:1-10)

But Jabez prayed to the God of Israel, "Bless me, God, and give me much land. Be with me and keep me from anything evil that might cause me pain." And God gave him what he prayed for.

(1 Chronicles 4:10 GNT)

If I pray in faith for my Father's protection and blessings, like Jabez did, He will honour my requests and give me what I ask for.

Jesus Heals Many People (Luke 4:38-41)

After sunset all who had friends who were sick with various diseases brought them to Jesus; he placed his hands on every one of them and healed them all.

(Luke 4:40 GNT)

There was nobody who couldn't be healed by Jesus. My Father's will is to heal all who come to Him for healing. If I pray in faith, He will heal me from any disease.

Heavenly Father, I thank you for hearing my prayers and for healing me when I am sick. Thank you for answering my prayers and giving me my heart's desires. Holy Spirit, please remain with me throughout this day. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

12 February

Confess, Repent and be Healed

The Death of King Saul (1 Chronicles 10:1-14)

Saul died because he was unfaithful to the LORD. He disobeyed the LORD's commands; he tried to find guidance by consulting the spirits of the dead instead of consulting the LORD. So the LORD killed him and gave control of the kingdom to David, son of Jesse.

(1 Chronicles 10:13-14 GNT)

If I am obedient to my Father's commands, I will live. My greatest enemy is disobedience.

Jesus Heals a Paralysed Man (Luke 5:17-26)

"Is it easier to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Get up and walk'?"

(Luke 5:23 GNT)

Forgiveness of sins and healing go hand in hand. Once I accept that my sins are forgiven, then I am healed. Accepting forgiveness and receiving healing requires faith.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your unconditional LOVE and grace. Thank you for forgiving and healing me when I turn away from my wicked ways and towards you. I would like to always follow the example of Jesus and do your perfect will. Please reveal your perfect will to me, so that I may align my little will with yours. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

13 February

Praising My Father and Seeking His Will

The Glory of the LORD (2 Chronicles 5:11-14)

"Praise the LORD, because he is good, and his love is eternal."

(2 Chronicles 5:13 GNT)

My Father in heaven is good and he loves me unconditionally. I should never moan or groan and complain, but always continue to praise Him, even when things are not going my way.

Jesus Calls Levi (Luke 5:27-32)

Jesus answered them, "People who are well do not need a doctor, but only those who are sick. I have not come to call respectable people to repent, but outcasts."

(Luke 5:31-32 GNT)

This is what Jesus replied to the Pharisees and teachers of the Law, when they complained to his disciples that he ate and drank with tax collectors and other outcasts. Jesus came to earth specifically for sinners and outcasts. He came to bring his saving grace for the masses and multitudes that are lost in sin.

Heavenly Father, I honour you because you are good and your love is eternal. Please reveal your perfect will to me and continue showing me the purpose of my life. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

14 February

Repentance and Obedience

God Appears to Solomon Again (2 Chronicles 7:11-22)

"Whenever I hold back the rain or send locusts to eat up the crops or send an epidemic on my people, if they pray to me and repent, and turn away from the evil they have been doing, then I will hear them in heaven, forgive their sins, and make their land prosperous again."

(2 Chronicles 7:13-14 GNT)

On 19 July 2008 A.D. I decided to turn back to my Father and repent from my evil ways. This irreversible decision came with lots of opposition and misunderstanding from friends and loved ones. The enemy used those closest to me to question my decision and I had to face many trials and tribulations.

These are normal growing pains and they pass as time goes by.

Be alert, be on the watch! Your enemy, the Devil, roams around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour.

(1 Peter 5:8 GNT)

Judging Others (Luke 6:37-42)

"Do not judge others, and God will not judge you; do not condemn others, and God will not condemn you; forgive others and God will forgive you."

(Luke 6:37 GNT)

I have been unforgiving and judgemental towards others, I should repent before my Father and forgive them. He will forgive me too and bless me, because He is the Righteous Judge.

Heavenly Father, thank you for being the Righteous Judge. Strengthen me by your Spirit to continue walking in obedience. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

15 February

Divine Healing

The End of Asa's Reign (2 Chronicles 16:11-14)

In the thirty-ninth year that Asa was king, he was crippled by a severe foot disease; but even then he did not turn to the LORD for help, but to doctors. Two years later he died.

(2 Chronicles 16:12-13 GNT)

Jairus' Daughter and the Woman who Touched Jesus' Cloak (Luke 8:40-56)

As Jesus went along, the people were crowding him from every side. Among them was a woman who had suffered from severe bleeding for twelve years; she had spent all she had on doctors, but no one had been able to cure her. She came up in the crowd behind Jesus and touched the edge of his cloak, and her bleeding stopped at once.

(Luke 8:42b-44 GNT)

Today's two scriptures indicate that mankind tends to put more trust in doctors than in my Father. He should be the first resort and doctors the last resort and not vice versa.

"Are any of you ill? You should send for the church elders, who will pray for them and rub olive oil on them in the name of the Lord. This prayer, made in faith will heal the sick; the Lord will restore them to health, and the sins they have committed will be forgiven. So then, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, so that you will be healed. The prayer of a good person has a powerful effect."

(James 5:14-16 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your LOVE and grace. Thank you for healing all my diseases. Please forgive me for sometimes doubting. Holy Spirit, please continue to strengthen me. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

16 February

Doing my Father's Will

Ezra reads the Law to the People (Nehemiah 8:1-12)

"The joy that the LORD gives you will make you strong."

(Nehemiah 8:10b GNT)

As a believer, the joy of the LORD is my strength. Joy is also one of the nine fruit of the Holy Spirit.

The Fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23)

...the Spirit produces love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, humility, and self-control. There is no law against such things as these.

(Galatians 5:22-23 GNT)

If I remain in constant fellowship with the Holy Spirit, I will live a joyful life no matter my challenges.

Jesus sends out the Twelve Disciples (Luke 9:1-6)

The disciples left and travelled through all the villages, preaching the Good News and healing people everywhere.

(Luke 9:6 GNT)

As a believer and a follower/disciple of Jesus, I am called to preach the Good News and heal the sick.

The Mission of the Twelve (Matthew 10:5-15)

Go and preach, 'The Kingdom of heaven is near!'

Heal the sick, bring the dead back to life, heal those who suffer from dreaded skin diseases, and drive out demons. You have received without paying, so give without being paid.

(Matthew 10:7-8 GNT)

Heavenly Father, I thank you for life and for all my blessings. Thank you for giving me purpose in life. Thank you for calling me to become a disciple-making disciple of the Lord Jesus Christ. Thank you for giving me peace and joy as I freely do your will. Holy Spirit, please guide me and lead me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

17 February

Success and True Happiness - Seeking My Father's Will

True Happiness (Psalm 1)

The righteous are guided and protected by the LORD. They succeed in everything they do.

(Psalm 1:3b & 6a GNT)

Righteousness is the key to success and true happiness. As a true believer I will always be joyful and at peace, no matter my circumstances. Misfortune and disappointments are only temporary to me, because I keep a positive attitude. It is important for me to remain joyful and in good spirits throughout challenges and tribulations. When I look back at my life, I realise that I have never been let down by my Father. Unbelief is the greatest sin. Believing in my Father is what separates me from unbelievers. Are you a real believer or an unbelieving believer?

Jesus Speaks about His Suffering and Death (Luke 9:21-27)

And he said to them all, "Anyone who wants to come with me, must forget self, take up their cross every day, and follow me."

(Luke 9:23 GNT)

As a follower of Jesus, I have to forget self and take up my cross every day. This does not imply that I have to be a martyr. Jesus already suffered and there is no need for me to suffer as he did. What it actually means is to seek my Father's will and to give up my own self-centred materialistic ambitions if needs be. The ego has to subside and the greater cause of mankind should take preference over my self-centred personal ambition.

Heavenly Father, thank you for the written Word. Holy Spirit, thank you for guiding me in a Divine way to be truly righteous at all times, whether it be to my own perceived detriment or not. Help me to transform from a materialist to a spiritualist. Guide me, oh Great Spirit of Light, to become more like Jesus day by day. Guide me in the process of becoming a true living Christ whilst journeying this life. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

18 February

Respecting My Father and Reaching Out to the Sick

God's Chosen King (Psalm 2)

Serve the LORD with fear; Happy are all those who go to Him for protection.
(Psalm 2:11 & 12b GNT)

The fear of my Father is a reverential fear and does not mean I have to be afraid of Him. It means to respect and to honour Him for who He is and to seek His will. After all, He sustains me and is the very life-giving force within me. He is my Protector and Comforter and His Spirit empowers me to negotiate and overcome all obstacles in my way. Serving Him means to live for his higher purposes and to seek His will daily and at every given moment. Sometimes I need to be very still in order to hear His voice.

Jesus sends out the Seventy-Two (Luke 10:1-12)

Whenever you go into a town and are made welcome, eat what is set before you, heal the sick in that town, and say to the people there, 'The Kingdom of God has come near you.'

(Luke 10:8-9 GNT)

As a disciple of Jesus, I am to heal the sick wherever I am welcomed. I am also to eat whatever is offered to me, whether I consider it clean or unclean. All food is good when accepted with thankfulness. As a vegetarian I do not normally eat meat or any animal products. I should however accept any food with thankfulness and thanksgiving to my Father. It is not what goes into the mouth and stomach that makes me unclean, but rather what comes out of the mouth from within the heart that can make me unclean.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Holy Spirit who resides within me. Holy Spirit, continue to lead and guide me to separate myself daily from all the noise and distractions, and to become still, in order to hear your voice clearly. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

19 February

Praying and Believing

Morning Prayer for Help (Psalm 3)

I am not afraid of the thousands of enemies who surround me on every side.
Victory comes from the LORD - may he bless his people.

(Psalm 3:6 & 3:8 GNT)

King David was a man who prayed and trusted my Father fully in all circumstances. He wrote this psalm whilst fleeing from his son Absalom. Prayer is very important to strengthen the faith of the believer.

The Unbelieving Towns (Luke 10:13-16)

Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever listens to you listens to me; whoever rejects you rejects me; and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me."

(Luke 10:16 GNT)

Whoever listens to believers listens to Jesus; whoever rejects believers rejects Jesus; and whoever rejects Jesus rejects my Father. As a believer, I pray every day and take heed of Jesus' teachings.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Thank you for sending Jesus as forerunner and perfect example to teach me to always pray and seek your will. Holy Spirit, anoint me afresh today and increase my faith that I may become more Christ-like. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

20 February

Praying, Believing and Trusting Irrespective of Feelings

Evening Prayer for Help (Psalm 4)

Offer the right sacrifices to the LORD, and put your trust in him.

When I lie down, I go to sleep in peace; you alone, O LORD, keep me perfectly safe.

(Psalm 4:5 & 4:8 GNT)

Are you experiencing difficulty to fall asleep at night? Are you worried and anxious about the future and fearful of death? Have you lost your sense of direction and purpose in life? Have you lost your joy and peace? Reading King David's psalm helped me to regain control of my life.

The Return of the Seventy-Two (Luke 10:17-20)

Listen! I have given you authority, so that you can walk on snakes and scorpions and overcome all the power of the Enemy, and nothing will hurt you.

(Luke 10:19 GNT)

Jesus has given me the authority to overcome all the power of the enemy, nothing will hurt me. Do I actually believe this? If I do not believe it, then I am an unbeliever and not a believer. I believe in the Holy Spirit who resides within me and guides and protects me. I trust my Father who equips me with his Spirit. This is what being a believer is all about. I fear no more - I believe in my Higher Self (The Spirit within me), I follow Jesus and I trust God.

Heavenly Father, thank you for equipping me with unwavering faith to trust you and to believe in the perfect guidance and protection afforded me by your indwelling Spirit. Thank you for sending Jesus the Christ to demonstrate to me how to live within your perfect will. I honour you and I salute you, amen.

21 February

Divine Will, Neighbourly Love, Protection and Blessing

A Prayer for Protection (Psalm 5)

LORD, I have so many enemies! Lead me to do your will; make your way plain for me to follow.

You bless those who obey you, LORD; your love protects them like a shield.

(Psalm 5:8 & 5:12 GNT)

King David always sought *the will of my Father*, for he knew that obedience to His will always led to *Divine Protection and Blessing*. Am I actively seeking my Father's will on a moment by moment basis every day of my life? As a believer, I have to seriously consider this.

The Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37)

The man (teacher of the Law) answered, "Love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind"; and 'Love your neighbour as you love yourself.'"

(Luke 10:27 GNT)

Furthermore, the teacher of the Law tried to justify the exclusion of certain groups from neighbourly love, by asking Jesus who should be regarded as a neighbour. Jesus responded by telling the parable of the Good Samaritan to make it clear to the teacher of the Law, that everybody should be treated kindly and equally, as a neighbour, and not just those of the same creed.

Heavenly Father, thank you for filling me with your Spirit moment by moment, so that I may always be equipped and empowered to know and do your will.

Thank you for sending Jesus to teach me all about neighbourly LOVE. Blessed be your Holy Name, now and always. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

22 February

My Father is Always Just and Righteous

A Prayer for Justice (Psalm 7)

You are a righteous God and judge our thoughts and desires. Stop the wickedness of evildoers and reward those who are good.

I thank the LORD for his justice; I sing praises to the LORD, the Most High.
(Psalm 7:9 & 7:17 GNT)

Unlike human beings, my Father is always righteous, no matter my perception of circumstances and events. I do not always understand why things happen the way they do, and often I tend to blame Him when things go horribly wrong. This happens as a result of my ignorance and limited understanding of His Higher Ways. I am very quick to judge others even though I only have limited knowledge and information.

Jesus' Teaching on Prayer (Luke 11:1-13)

"Bad as you are, you know how to give good things to your children. How much more, then, will the Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"
(Luke 11:13 GNT)

The Holy Spirit is a good thing and I need him. When I pray, I should always ask my Father for his Spirit to fill me and lead me. When I am truly Spirit-filled I will stop slandering, gossiping and judging others.

Heavenly Father, thank you for Divine Justice and Righteousness. Please fill me afresh this day with your Spirit and lead me to remain within your perfect and flawless will. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

23 February

Committed Believers Actively Seek My Father's Will

God's Glory and Human Dignity (Psalm 8)

You appointed them (human beings) rulers over everything you made; you placed them over all creation.

O LORD, our Lord, your greatness is seen in the entire world!

(Psalm 8:6 & 8:9 GNT)

My Father appointed mankind to rule over all of His creation. As a good steward over all that He has given me, I do my best to look after and protect the entire creation.

Jesus and Beelzebul (Luke 11:14-23)

"Anyone who is not for me is really against me; anyone who does not help me gather is really scattering."

(Luke 11:23 GNT)

There is no place for fence sitters amongst believers. I cannot say that I am a follower of Christ yet in some instances I oppose and judge him. There is no place for lukewarm believers in my Father's Kingdom. It is all or nothing. Anything in between is from the Devil.

"But because you are lukewarm, neither hot nor cold, I am going to spit you out of my mouth!"

(Revelation 3:16 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for appointing me as a steward and ruler over all of creation. Holy Spirit, please continue to lead me and guide me every moment to recognise Divine Will and to stand up and perform my duties unwaveringly with one hundred percent commitment, no matter the criticism of this world. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

24 February

My Father is Just and Rewards Obedience with Pure Joy

Thanksgiving to God for His Justice (Psalm 9)

I will praise you, LORD, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful things you have done.

Those who know you, LORD, will trust you; you do not abandon anyone who comes to you.

(Psalm 9:1 & 9:10 GNT)

My Father is just and fair and will not abandon anyone who seeks His help.

True Happiness (Luke 11:27-28)

But Jesus answered, "Rather, how happy are those who hear the word of God and obey it!"

(Luke 11:28 GNT)

Pure joy and happiness comes when I am obedient to my Father's will. As soon as I become disobedient, I realise it and my joy diminishes quickly. I always seek my Father's perfect will in everything I do. This always results in pure joy.

Heavenly Father, thank you for being a loving Father, yet a righteous judge at the same time. Thank you for rewarding my obedience with pure joy. Thank you that your perfect will is always being done. Thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, continue to convict and correct me when I become disobedient. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

25 February

Trusting My Father for Divine Justice and Loving Discipline

A Prayer for Justice (Psalm 10)

Break the power of wicked and evil people; punish them for the wrong they have done until they do it no more.

(Psalm 10:15 GNT)

I am personally responsible for my actions and the consequences thereof. Being just and fair in all my doings always results in blessings in my life. My Father is just and fair and I reap according to what and how I sow. Sometimes I am inclined to envy wicked people who appear to have it all, but karma is real and what goes around comes around. At the end of the day everyone will reap exactly what they deserve.

Confessing and Rejecting Christ (Luke 12:8-12)

"But those who reject me publicly, the Son of Man will also reject them before the angels of God."

"Whoever says a word against the Son of Man can be forgiven; but those who say evil things against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven."

(Luke 12:9 & 10 GNT)

The Son of Man is merciful and forgives. Karma is real, however, and my Father has an obligation to judge fairly. Punishment will continue until true repentance for wrongdoing has been established. What an awesome Father I serve!

Heavenly Father, thank you for Holy Spirit guidance and inspiration. Thank you for giving me free will. Holy Spirit, guide me and strengthen me. Keep me from wrongdoing and wilful disobedience, so that I may not grieve you. Continue guiding me to use my free will wisely throughout every moment of my life. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

26 February

Trusting my Father in All Situations

Confidence in the LORD (Psalm 11)

The LORD is righteous and loves good deeds; those who do them will live in his presence.

(Psalm 11:7 GNT)

When I am truly in tune with the Holy Spirit, I am always convicted to do good deeds wherever I go. Doing good deeds is not something I have to strive for every day in order to get brownie points. With the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, good deeds come naturally and I do them in an utter state of joyfulness. When I speak to my Father and enjoy His fellowship and presence daily, doing good deeds becomes a lifestyle.

Trust in God (Luke 12:22-31)

"So don't be all upset, always concerned about what you will eat and drink. (For the pagans of this world are always concerned about all these things.) Your Father knows that you need these things. Instead be concerned with his Kingdom, and he will provide you with these things."

(Luke 12:29-31 GNT)

My Father's Kingdom becomes a reality in my life when I seek His will with joyfulness. The Kingdom is not out there somewhere, but lies within me. A prerequisite to experiencing the Kingdom is to trust Him fully in all circumstances.

Heavenly Father, thank you for another day on this beautiful earth. Thank you for your Spirit who guides me and leads me every day to make a positive difference in the lives of others. Holy Spirit, please continue filling me and flowing through me throughout this day to accomplish your higher purpose in my life. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

27 February

Trusting My Father's Promises - Being Ready to Meet Jesus

A Prayer for Help (Psalm 12)

The promises of the LORD can be trusted; they are as genuine as silver refined seven times in the furnace.

The wicked are everywhere, and everyone praises what is evil. Keep us safe, O LORD, and preserve us from such people.

(Psalm 12:6-8 GNT)

As a believer I can trust the promises of my Father. When I approach Him for help in prayer, He always honours my request.

Watchful Servants (Luke 12:35-40)

"And you, too, must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you are not expecting him."

(Luke 12:40 GNT)

This scripture means that I should never have any unfinished business or unresolved issues with anybody, for tomorrow may never come. I should stop postponing important matters and get my life in order. There is no time like the present. I have to make right while there is still time left. Then I can go to bed at night with peace in my heart. I always have to be ready to meet the Son of Man.

Heavenly Father, thank you for all your promises. Thank you for answering my prayers when I approach you for help and protection. Please continue to fill me and empower me with the Holy Spirit. I honour you. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

28 February

A Good and Gracious Father

A Prayer for Help (Psalm 13)

I will sing to you, O LORD, because you have been good to me.

(Psalm 13:6 GNT)

When I look back at my life, I come to the realisation that my Father has always been good to me. Trials and tribulations may come and go, but He has always given me the strength to endure. He has never let me down before, so why should he let me down now? I will sing to Him and praise His holy name.

Turn from Your Sins or Die (Luke 13:1-5)

"What about those eighteen people in Siloam who were killed when the tower fell on them? Do you suppose this proves that they were worse than all the other people living in Jerusalem?" "No, indeed! And I tell you that if you do not turn away from your sins, you will all die as they did."

(Luke 13:4 & 5 GNT)

In this passage Jesus makes it clear that I am in no position to pass judgement on others to whom bad things might have happened. I should rather do introspection on myself and eliminate sins from my own life.

"For sin pays its wage - death;"

(Romans 6:23a GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for always being good to me. Thank you for your LOVE and grace. Thank you for forgiving my disobedience and wrongdoing. Please continue to anoint me with your Spirit. Guide me within your perfect will. Blessed be your holy name. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

29 February

My Father Always Has Time for the Humble

Human Wickedness (Psalm 14)

Evildoers frustrate the plans of the humble, but the LORD is their protection.
(Psalm 14:6 GNT)

Believers are humble. Unbelievers and unbelieving "believers" are very often prideful and arrogant, always depending on their own strength and self-righteousness. The key is to stay humble and faithful and to trust my Father in all circumstances.

Jesus Heals a Crippled Woman on the Sabbath (Luke 13:10-17)

When Jesus saw her (the crippled woman), he called out to her, "Woman, you are free from your illness!" He placed his hands on her, and at once she straightened herself up and praised God.

(Luke 13:12-13 GNT)

Jesus takes pity on those who are ill and in bondage. He calls them to himself and sets them free, no matter the time or place. When the official of the synagogue criticised him for healing someone on the Sabbath, Jesus called him a hypocrite. He compared what he did to untying an ox or donkey from the stall on a Sabbath and giving it water.

Heavenly Father, thank you for always being available to heal me, no matter the time or place. Please continue to be with me and protect me from all types of illnesses and enemies. Lead me on the straight and narrow way every day. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

March



01 March

Following the Straight and Narrow

What God Requires (Psalm 15)

Those who obey God in everything and always do what is right, whose words are true and sincere, and do not slander others. They do no wrong to their friends, nor spread rumours about their neighbours.

They always do what they promise, no matter how much it may cost.

Whoever does these things will always be secure.

(Psalm 15:2-3, 4b & 5b GNT)

If I do my Father's will, in other words, what He requires of me, He will always keep me secure.

The Narrow Door (Luke 13:22-30)

"Do your best to go in through the narrow door; because many people will surely try to go in but will not be able."

(Luke 13:24 GNT)

Wicked people are not welcome in my Father's Kingdom. I should use every day I have to sanctify my wicked heart. The best way to do this is to apply the *Golden Rule* to all situations every day of my life.

"Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

Heavenly Father, thank you for this brand new day. Holy Spirit, thank you for your divine presence in my life. Please help me to treat others the way I would like to be treated. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

02 March

Being Humble, Hospitable, Kind and Non-Judgemental

A Prayer of Confidence (Psalm 16)

Protect me, O God; I trust in you for safety.

Those who rush to other gods, bring many troubles on themselves. I will not take part in their sacrifices; I will not worship their gods.

You, LORD, are all I have, and you give me all I need; my future is in your hands. I praise the LORD because he guides me, and in the night my conscience warns me. I am always aware of the LORD's presence; he is near and nothing can shake me.

And so I am thankful and glad, and I feel completely secure, because you protect me from the power of death. I have served you faithfully and you will not abandon me to the world of the dead.

You will show me the path that leads to life; your presence fills me with joy and brings me pleasure for ever.

(Psalm 16:1, 4-11 GNT)

Humility and Hospitality (Luke 14:7-14)

"For all those who make themselves great will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be made great."

"When you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind; and you will be blessed, because they are not able to pay you back. God will repay you on the day the good people rise from death."

(Luke 14:11, 13-14 GNT)

I always have to remain humble. My Father will exalt me in His time. I have to be hospitable to the poor for they cannot repay me and they appreciate it much more than my rich friends.

Heavenly Father, thank you for Divine protection. I trust you fully for all my needs. Holy Spirit, teach me to be humble, hospitable, kind and non-judgemental. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

03 March

Recognising my Father's Presence and Being Fully Committed

The Prayer of an Innocent Person (Psalm 17)

And when I awake, your presence will fill me with joy.

(Psalm 17:15b GNT)

This is all I need to start the day and to be joyful. I need to acknowledge the presence of my Father when I awake each day. The joy of His presence always strengthens me.

The Cost of Being a Disciple (Luke 14:25-33)

"Those who come to me cannot be my disciples unless they love me more than they love father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, and themselves as well." "In the same way," concluded Jesus, "none of you can be my disciple unless you give up everything you have."

(Luke 14:26 & 33 GNT)

Discipleship is a commitment that requires giving up everything that might come in the way of being one hundred percent loyal and committed. Family, friends and this material world can possibly distract me from being fully committed to Christ.

Heavenly Father, thank you for always being present in my life. I would like to always be one hundred percent committed to do your will. Holy Spirit, please remind me daily that you are with me to strengthen me and lead me. Thank you for enabling me to stay loyal and committed. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

04 March

The Song of a Prodigal

David's Song of Victory (Psalm 18)

How I love you, LORD! You are my defender.

The LORD rewards me because I do what is right; he blesses me because I am innocent.

O LORD, you are faithful to those who are faithful to you; completely good to those who are perfect. *Holy Spirit, please lead me to perfection.*

O LORD, you give me light; you dispel my darkness. *Amen!*

The LORD lives! Praise my defender!

Proclaim the greatness of the God who saves me.

(Psalm 18:1, 20, 25, 28 & 46 GNT)

Worthless Salt (Luke 14:34-35)

"Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, there is no way to make it salty again. It is good for the soil or for the manure heap; it is thrown away. Listen, then, if you have ears!"

(Luke 14:34-35 GNT)

Thank you for the Word, Lord Jesus.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your words from the Word. Holy Spirit, lead me and guide me throughout this day. Help me to remain salty. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

05 March

Jesus Came for the Lost

The Law of the LORD (Psalm 19:7-14)

The Laws of the LORD are right, and those who obey them are happy.
No one can see his own errors; deliver me, LORD, from hidden faults!
Keep me safe, also, from wilful sins; don't let them rule over me. Then I shall be perfect and free from the evil of sin.
May my words and my thoughts be acceptable to you, O LORD, my refuge and my redeemer!

(Psalm 19:8a & 12-14 GNT)

Father, may the meditation of my heart and the words of my mouth be acceptable to you.

The Lost Sheep (Luke 15:1-7)

The Pharisees and the teachers of the Law started grumbling, "This man welcomes outcasts and even eats with them!"

So Jesus told them this parable: "Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them - what do you do? You leave the other ninety-nine sheep in the pasture and go looking for the one that got lost until you find it. I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine respectable people who do not need to repent.

(Luke 15:2-4 & 7b GNT)

Holy Spirit, thank you for reaching out to me when I go astray and carrying me back onto the straight and narrow way.

Heavenly Father, thank you for seeking me when I lose my way. Thank you for picking me up and returning me to the rest of the flock. Holy Spirit, please continue to guide me and lead me according to Divine will. Strengthen me and keep me joyful, hopeful and peaceful on my predestined journey. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

06 March

Non-Profit Plans Always Succeed

A Prayer for Victory (Psalm 20)

May he give you what you desire and make all your plans succeed.

Some trust in their war-chariots and others in their horses, but we trust in the power of the LORD our God.

(Psalm 20:4 & 7 GNT)

Father, give me what I desire and make all my plans succeed, according to your perfect will.

Luke 16

"No servant can be the slave of two masters; such a servant will hate one and love the other or will be loyal to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money."

(Luke 16:13 GNT)

I have to get all my priorities in order. I have to choose who my master is. I cannot serve two masters. Working for my Father, I cannot be driven by profit.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Word. Open my eyes that I may see. Holy Spirit, illumine me. Continue to reveal all truth to me on my life journey so that my suffering will cease. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

07 March

Rebuking Those Who Cause Little Ones to Fall into Sin

Praise for Victory (Psalm 21)

The king is glad, O LORD, because you gave him strength; he rejoices because you made him victorious. You have given him his heart's desire; you have answered his request.

(Psalm 21:1 & 2 GNT)

When I am obedient to the Spirit's promptings, my Father gives me my heart's desires; he answers my requests.

Sin (Luke 17:1-4)

Jesus said to his disciples, "Things that make people fall into sin are bound to happen, but how terrible for the one who makes them happen! It would be better for him if a large millstone was tied around his neck and he was thrown into the sea than for him to cause one of these little ones to sin. So watch what you do!"

"If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him."

(Luke 17:1-3 GNT)

I should take care not to cause anyone to sin, especially little ones. Children are innocent and naïve. They look up to adults. I have to set a good example.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, continue to lead me and guide me. Help me to stick to my principles and to rebuke those who set a poor example to little ones. Thank you for forgiving my transgressions. Illumine me, O Spirit Divine. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

08 March

Obedience and Selflessness

A Cry of Anguish and a Song of Praise (Psalm 22)

All nations will remember the LORD. From every part of the world they will turn to him; all races will worship him. The LORD is king, and he rules the nations.

All proud people will bow down to him; all mortals will bow down before him.
(Psalm 22:27-29 GNT)

Every knee shall bow before my Father, all humans, be it Christians, Muslims, Jews, Hindus, Buddhists or Unbelievers.

The Coming of the Kingdom (Luke 17:20-37)

Some Pharisees asked Jesus when the Kingdom of God would come. His answer was, "The Kingdom of God does not come in such a way as to be seen. No one will say, 'Look, here it is!' or, 'There it is!'; because the Kingdom of God is within you." "Whoever tries to save his own life will lose it; whoever loses his life will save it."

(Luke 17:20-21 & 33 GNT)

Often in my life, I encounter miracles, i.e. things just seem to fall into place when I am obedient to the Holy Spirit's promptings and leadings. This is a sign of the Kingdom which is within me. The more I give up my personal ambitions and little will and seek the greater will of my Father, the more I start enjoying my life. *The key is obedience and selflessness.*

"There is more happiness in giving than in receiving."

(Acts 20:35b GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for this lovely new day. Thank you for the beauty and splendour of creation all around me. Holy Spirit, thank you for leading and prompting me on how to conduct myself towards other humans, animals and all of creation alike. Please remain with me. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

09 March

My Father Is Good

The LORD Our Shepherd (Psalm 23)

The LORD is my shepherd; I have everything I need.

(Psalm 23:1 GNT)

What a profound statement by King David. Come to think of it, I have always had everything I needed. I might not always have had everything I desired, but looking back, my Father has always provided for me. Being content with what I have is a step in the right direction. Seeking His face and not His hands always results in pure joy. I cannot twist His arm with good works, in order to get something in return. He sees everything and He knows everything. He looks at my heart and at my motives. He is good, all of the time.

The Parable of the Widow and the Judge (Luke 18:1-8)

Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to teach them that they should always pray and never become discouraged. "In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected people. And there was a widow in that same town who kept coming to him and pleading for her rights, saying, 'Help me against my opponent!' For a long time the judge refused to act, but at last he said to himself, 'Even though I don't fear God or respect people, yet because of all the trouble this widow is giving me, I will see to it that she gets her rights. If I don't, she will keep on coming and finally wear me out!'"

And the Lord continued, "Listen to what that corrupt judge said. Now will God not judge in favour of his own people who cry to him day and night for help? Will he be slow to help them?"

(Luke 18:1-7 GNT)

My Father always answers my prayers and meets my needs? He is good, all of the time.

Heavenly Father, thank you for being a good Father to me. Fill me afresh with your Spirit today, so that I will be reminded of your pure goodness and stay joyful in every situation. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

10 March

Peace, Tranquillity and Exaltation for the Humble

The LORD Our Shepherd (continued)

He (The LORD) lets me rest in fields of green grass and leads me to quiet pools of fresh water.

(Psalm 23:2 GNT)

In the time that King David wrote the psalms, being able to rest in fields of green grass at quiet pools of fresh water would have been something very significant. I can picture the scene of this peaceful environment at a time when David was running from King Saul's army and fearing for his life. Are you exhausted, fearful and anxious, running away, so to speak, from someone or something?

"Come to me, all of you who are tired of carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke and put it on you, and learn from me, because I am gentle and humble in spirit; and you will find rest. For the yoke I will give you is easy, and the load I will put on you is light."

(Matthew 11:28-30 GNT)

The Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector (Luke 18:9-14)

"Once there were two men who went up to the Temple to pray: one was a Pharisee, the other a tax collector."

"The Pharisee stood apart by himself and prayed, 'I thank you, God, that I am not greedy, dishonest, or an adulterer, like everybody else. I thank you that I am not like that tax collector over there. I fast two days a week and I give you a tenth of all my income.'"

"But the tax collector stood at a distance and would not even raise his face to heaven, but beat on his breast and said, 'God, have pity on me, a sinner!' I tell you," said Jesus, "the tax collector, and not the Pharisee, was in the right with God when he went home. For all who make themselves great will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be made great."

(Luke 18:14 GNT)

When I acknowledgement who I am and humble myself before my Father, He will exalt me.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your love, goodness and grace. Thank you for leading me by your Spirit, to quiet waters, peace and tranquillity and giving me rest. Thank you for exalting me when I humble myself towards you and all those around me. Blessed be your holy name. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

11 March

The Inner Peace and Joyfulness of my Father's Kingdom

The LORD Our Shepherd (continued)

He (The LORD) gives me new strength. He guides me in the right paths, as he has promised.

(Psalm 23:3 GNT)

Receiving new strength from my Father is essential to be victorious in my daily life journey, especially in these trying times. Being guided to stay on the right path in life is vitally important to me. It is so easy to be led astray by the desires of this world and to stray from the straight and narrow way. The following New Testament text comes to mind:

"Unfaithful people! Don't you know that to be the world's friend, means to be God's enemy? People who want to be the world's friends make themselves God's enemies."

(James 4:4 GNT)

Jesus Blesses Little Children (Luke 18:15-17)

"Remember this! Whoever does not receive the Kingdom of God like a child will never enter it."

(Luke 18:17 GNT)

I need childlike faith to enter my Father's Kingdom. His Kingdom is within me and I can experience it by being still. Like a little child, I have to learn to enjoy the present moment without constantly planning ahead. I can experience His Kingdom in the present moment. Little children live within the present moment (My Father's Kingdom) and are always present and joyful.

"Be still and know that I am God"

(Psalm 46:10a NIV)

My Father resides within me. When I become quiet and go inwards then I experience His Kingdom. The world cannot make me truly content and joyful - there is always a void.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Word. Holy Spirit, help me to be in the present moment and to experience the Kingdom within me. Protect me from all the worldly desires that lure me away from true joy, contentment and inner peace. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

12 March

Trusting My Father When In Fear - He Is Always Good

The LORD Our Shepherd (continued)

Even if I go through the deepest darkness, I will not be afraid, LORD, for you are with me. Your shepherd's rod and staff protect me.

(Psalm 23:4 GNT)

My Father is always with me and when I feel depressed or anxious, I should always remember that I am not alone. As a believer, I know that it is impossible to escape from Him, because He is omnipresent. What an amazing revelation for the depressed or fearful. He is always with me and therefore nothing can be against me. I really have nothing to fear or worry about, because His love always surrounds me.

God is LOVE (see 1 John 4:7-21)

The Rich Man

"Why do you call me good?" Jesus asked him (The Rich Man) who addressed him as 'good teacher'. "No one is good except God alone."

(Luke 18:19 GNT)

Jesus took no pride in himself and gave all credit to our Heavenly Father.

Heavenly Father, thank you for equipping me with your LOVE, goodness and power. Thank you for your Omni-presence in all circumstances, and the peace of mind that this fact instills within me. Holy Spirit, remain with me and continue to guide me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

13 March

Overflow and Abundance to The Committed

The LORD Our Shepherd (continued)

You prepare a banquet for me, where all my enemies can see me; you welcome me as an honoured guest and fill my cup to the brim.

(Psalm 23:5 GNT)

With my Father on my side, I will always experience abundance. When He comes through for me, there are no half measures. As a believer, I do not entertain a poverty mentality. I am an honoured guest in His Kingdom and my enemies look at me with envious eyes. I will never forget that I am His child. I have quit negative chatter and I avoid negative company, gossip and slander. He is simply awesome.

Father, I salute you!

The Rich Man

"... anyone who leaves home or wife or brothers or parents or children for the sake of the Kingdom of God will receive much more in this present age and eternal life in the age to come."

(Luke 18:29-30 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you that I have never ever experienced lack in my life. I have no reason to fear the future. Holy Spirit, keep on reminding me that no one and no thing can separate me from your goodness and overflowing blessings and favour. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

14 March

I Have a Good Father

The LORD Our Shepherd (continued)

I know that your goodness and love will be with me all my life; and your house will be my home as long as I live.

(Psalm 23:6 GNT)

The LOVE and goodness of my Father cannot escape me. He is loving and good and anyone that disputes this does not know Him. His house is my home and I will always be welcome there. Children are always welcome in their parents' home.

Jesus Heals a Blind Beggar (Luke 18:35-43)

"What do you want me to do for you?" "Sir," he answered, "I want to see again."

Jesus said to him, "Then see! Your faith has made you well."

(Luke 18:41-42 GNT)

What do you want Jesus to do for you today? If you have enough faith to ask, he will give you the desires of your heart. Your faith will make you well.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your goodness and LOVE. Thank you for welcoming me back home after I have been lost for a good couple of years, just like the prodigal son. Holy Spirit, please remain with me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

15 March

Salvation Is for Everyone

The Great King (Psalm 24)

The world and all that is in it belong to the LORD; the earth and all who live on it are his;

(Psalm 24:1 GNT)

I am part of the earth from whence I came. I am one with my Father and all of His creation. All earthlings belong to Him and were created in LOVE, for LOVE, by Him, who is LOVE. He is in control of it all and nothing happens by chance.

Jesus and Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10)

Jesus said to him, "Salvation has come to this house today, for this man, also, is a descendant of Abraham. The Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

(Luke 19:9-10 GNT)

I was lost at some stage in my life but fortunately I was delivered. I was looking in the wrong places for gratification and meaning of life. After becoming born-again, I started experiencing true peace and meaning of life.

The following scripture comes to mind:

Jesus answered, "I am telling you the truth, no one can see the Kingdom of God without being born again (born from above)."

(John 3:3 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Thank you for sending Jesus to save me from worldliness, religious slavery and self-condemnation. Thank you, Lord Jesus, for owning me and helping me carry my burdens. Holy Spirit, please remain with me and strengthen me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

16 March

Praying Truthfully and Bringing My Side

A Prayer for Guidance and Protection (Psalm 25)

To you, O LORD, I offer my prayer; in you, my God, I trust. Teach me your ways, O LORD; make them known to me. Teach me to live according to your truth, for you are my God, who saves me. I always trust in you.

(Psalm 25:1-2a & 4-5 GNT)

Prayer is powerful, because verbalising my desires definitely has a significant impact in the spiritual realm to actually make them manifest. When I pray according to my Father's will, my prayers are always answered in the affirmative. Sincere and truthful prayers always become manifest. Be careful what you ask for and make sure it is what you really want, because my Father might give it to you if you pray truthfully and believe. Remember that He knows your thoughts and praying one thing, whilst thinking another will have no success. Hope, pray, believe and be sincere. Your heart's desires will be given you.

"Seek your happiness in the LORD and he will give you your heart's desire."

(Psalm 37:4 GNT)

The Parable of the Gold Coins (Luke 19:11-27)

In this parable the two servants really put in an effort and increased their master's gold coin tenfold and fivefold respectively whereas another servant did absolutely nothing with it. The master took the lazy servant's one coin and gave it to the energetic servant who increased his coin tenfold.

'Well done' he said; 'you are a good servant! Since you were faithful in small matters, I will put you in charge of ten cities.'

(Luke 19:17 GNT)

Be faithful in small things and my Father will put you in charge of greater things. Do not despise small beginnings - just be content and patient and do everything as unto the Him.

Father, thank you for today's powerful message. My desire is to grow my talents exponentially. I know that if I go the extra mile, my rewards will be great. Holy Spirit, help me to grow my talents. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

17 March

My Cornerstone of Love and Faithfulness

A Prayer for Guidance and Protection (continued)

He (The LORD) leads the humble in the right way and teaches them his will. With faithfulness and love he leads all who keep his covenant and obey his commands.

(Psalm 25:9-10 GNT)

When I humble myself and become still before my Father, He will show me His perfect will for my life. When I am obedient, He will lead me and prosper me according to His good and perfect will. Humility with contentment is key, in order to receive His blessing of Divine guidance.

The Parable of the Tenants in the Vineyard (Luke 20:9-18)

In this parable, the tenants beat the owner of the vineyard's slaves on three occasions, when he sent them to collect his share of the harvest. Eventually he sent his own dear son; thinking that the tenants will respect him. Instead, they killed him, thinking that if he is dead, the property will become theirs's.

Jesus looked at them (his audience) and asked, "What, then, does this Scripture mean? 'The stone which the builders rejected as worthless turned out to be the most important of all.' Everyone who falls on that stone will be cut to pieces; and if that stone falls on someone, it will crush him to dust."

(Luke 20:17-18 GNT)

Jesus is my cornerstone and the most important stone in my foundation. I should take care not to reject him, but to build on him. Unbelievers and those who reject Jesus will be crushed to dust.

Heavenly Father, thank you for sending Jesus as Cornerstone on which I can build the foundation of my faith. Holy Spirit, thank you for perfect guidance, faithfulness and LOVE. Please continue to lead me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

18 March

Reverential Obedience in Truthful Guidance - Prosperity

A Prayer for Guidance and Protection (continued)

Those who have reverence for the LORD will learn from him the path they should follow. They will always be prosperous, and their children will possess the land. The LORD is the friend of those who obey him.

(Psalm 25:12-14 GNT)

My Father should be respected and feared in a reverential way, as a child fears his father. When I have reverence for my earthly father, I learn from him and stay on the straight and narrow. Me and my offspring will be prosperous and possess the land. Because I am obedient, my Father is my friend and I can expect blessings.

Trouble and Persecutions (Luke 21:7-19)

"Make up your minds beforehand not to worry about how you will defend yourselves, because I will give you such words and wisdom that none of your enemies will be able to refute or contradict what you say."

"You will be handed over by your parents, your brothers, your relatives and your friends; and some of you will be put to death."

(Luke 21:14-16 GNT)

As a believer and follower of the way of Christ, I should be bold enough to speak up, even if it means trouble and persecution and being handed over by my loved ones.

Heavenly Father, thank you for sending Jesus to inspire and uplift me with his example and radically different teachings. Thank you Jesus, for setting me free from religiosity. Holy Spirit, continue to inspire me throughout this day. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

19 March

The Salvation and Liberation of True Believers

The Prayer of a Good Person (Psalm 26)

Declare me innocent, O LORD, because I do what is right and trust you completely. Examine me and test me, LORD; judge my desires and thoughts. (Psalm 26:1-2 GNT)

When I am obedient and always do the right thing, no matter how I feel, trusting my Father in everything, then I can have confidence in His grace and favour. He always judges fairly and the righteous will never experience any poverty, lack or prolonged sickness. These things should not exist in the mind-set of the righteous. The Holy Spirit always guides me to do the right thing and I should be cautious not to grieve him through disobedience and stubbornness.

Trouble and Persecutions (continued)

"Stand firm and you will save yourselves."

(Luke 21:19 GNT)

Jesus made it clear to his followers that they should not look to any human for their salvation. Jesus cannot save me, but I can save myself through believing in myself and standing firm. From what do I need to be saved? Well, I need to be saved from unbelief, self-condemnation, religiosity, my wicked self and hell on earth. This was Jesus's basic message to humanity, but we have misconstrued it and turned it into a new religion. Religiosity, creed and dogma cannot bring true salvation. Indoctrination is the enemy of true liberation and salvation. My Father is within and not some remote tyrannical being - He is always good.

Father, thank you for today's word and fresh revelation. It is my prayer that all the different religions will come to the realisation of this truth. Let your perfect will be done as it has always been done. Thank you that your perfect will is being done, amen.

20 March

Loving Liberation from Fear and Death

A Prayer of Praise (Psalm 27)

The LORD is my light and my salvation; I will fear no one. The LORD protects me from all danger; I will never be afraid.

(Psalm 27:1 GNT)

My Father is my light and salvation. He is within every person and not some external and remote God somewhere in heaven above. His light is within me. Carefree and non-religious people know this undisputable fact about His omnipresence. With Him being within and everywhere else, there is no need for doctrines and religion. My light and salvation is the agape LOVE, or God LOVE within me. Realising this fact, I no longer have to fear anything or anyone. With Him on my side, I am truly free from religious enslavement.

The Coming of the Son of Man (Luke 21:25-28)

"When these things begin to happen, stand up and raise your heads, because your salvation is near."

(Luke 21:28 GNT)

In this passage Jesus prophesies about his so called Second Coming and the signs that forego/precede it. People will faint from fear as they wait in anticipation of these terrible disasters. These fearful people will then have divine experiences with Jesus just before totally succumbing to fear and death. Revelation and salvation will come to these lost sheep of Israel.

"He who gives his testimony to all this says, 'Yes indeed! I am coming soon!' So be it. Come, Lord Jesus!

May the grace of the Lord Jesus be with everyone."

(Revelation 22:20-21 GNT)

Father, thank you once again for opening my spiritual eyes and ears that I might understand the hidden messages in your word. Come Lord Jesus and bring with you salvation. Let your LOVE be made real to me and illumine me with complete joy and peace of mind that surpasses all understanding. Liberate me to start living life to the full, free from religious indoctrination. Thank you Jesus. Thank you Holy Spirit, amen.

21 March

Inseparability from my Father - Stop for a Minute

A Prayer of Praise (Psalm 27)

My father and mother may abandon me, but the LORD will take care of me. Teach me, LORD, what you want me to do, and lead me along a safe path. I know that I will live to see the LORD's goodness in this present life. Trust in the LORD, have faith, do not despair. Trust in the LORD.

(Psalm 27:10-11a & 13-14 GNT)

Because my Father is omnipresent and lives inside of me, he cannot and will not abandon me like people sometimes do. I need to recognize this fact and trust in him fully. I have to get rid of all negative thoughts and hopelessness, as these are not from Him.

I have to stop and close my eyes for a minute. I have to be quiet, stop thinking and count all the sounds that I can hear and recognise in a minute. I have to do this meditation daily to quieten my busy mind.

"Be still and know that I am God."

The Lesson of the Fig Tree (Luke 21:29-33)

"When you see the leaves beginning to appear, you know that summer is near."

"Remember, that all these things will take place before the people now living have all died."

(Luke 21:30 & 32 GNT)

In effect Jesus was saying in this passage of the fig tree, that every generation will experience the end-times as well as God's Kingdom and the Son of Man's "Second Coming" within their lifetime. Salvation is a free gift which is available for all generations to come. Salvation is the literal realisation of the Second Coming.

Father, thanks again for salvation. Thank you for your word as spoken by your first begotten Son. Thank you for taking good care of me and leading me on a safe path in this present life. Thank you for removing all fear of death from my mind. Thank you for the assurance that I can never really die and that death is but a change of condition. Thanks for your faithfulness and ever-presence through all seasons of my life, amen.

Stop For a Minute lyric video by Sandra: <https://youtu.be/ibmUxeO4bLc>

22 March

Abolishment of Religious Sacrifices to a Distant God

A Prayer for Help (Psalm 28)

The LORD protects and defends me; I trust in him. He gives me help and makes me glad; I praise him with joyful songs.

(Psalm 28:7 GNT)

My Father always protects and defends those who are humble, sincere and righteous. He blesses me and makes me glad and joyful. There is no one like Him, and he resides within me. Become quiet now and connect to Him, the Higher Self within. There is absolutely no reason to fear the future, as fear cannot exist in the presence of LOVE and faith. No negative emotions can exist in the presence of my Father, who is LOVE.

God is LOVE (see 1 John 4:7-21)

The Lord's Supper (Luke 22:14-23)

Then Jesus took a cup, gave thanks to God, and said, "Take this and share it among yourselves. I tell you that from now on, I will not drink this wine until the Kingdom of God comes." Then he took a piece of bread, gave thanks to God, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in memory of me."

(Luke 22:18-19 GNT)

In this passage Jesus announces that he is becoming a teetotaler until Kingdom come. No-one would accuse him again of being a glutton and a wine drinker. In verse 19, he indicates that he gives himself as a sacrifice to us by sacrificing his fleshly, carnal body for us (his friends).

Father, thank you for protecting and defending me, your righteous child, through all circumstances. Thank you for your perfect LOVE, which drives out all fear. Thank you for sending Jesus to abolish religiosity and animal sacrifice for good, amen.

23 March

Divine Strength and Peace in Joyful Anticipation

The Voice of the LORD in the Storm (Psalm 29)

The LORD gives strength to his people and blesses them with peace.

(Psalm 29:11 GNT)

No matter how big or ferocious the storms are in my lives. No matter what circumstances I am facing and what storms I have to endure. My Father will give me peace amid the storms and the strength to go through them safely and joyfully in anticipation of what lies ahead.

The Lord's Supper (continued)

In the same way, he gave them the cup after the supper, saying, "This cup is God's new covenant sealed with my blood, which is poured out for you."

(Luke 22:20 GNT)

Jesus indicated that his blood will flow for his friends. What a friend we have in Jesus! A new covenant is established. No more animal blood has to flow for the forgiveness of sins. No more unnecessary animal slaughter and killing. A new doctrine is established in order to transition humanity away from animal sacrifice. This was done as a first step of total abolishment of religiosity and religious traditions. I am the church and the body of Christ and I no longer require religion and all its rituals. How about you?

"Obedience is better than sacrifice."

(1 Samuel 15:22)

Father, thank you for being my strength, peace and joy even through the most ferocious storms of life. Thank you for sending Jesus to abolish senseless religious rituals. Holy Spirit, remain with me and continue to guide me. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

24 March

The Prayer Made in Faith Strengthens the Believer

A Prayer of Thanksgiving (Psalm 30)

"Hear me, LORD, and be merciful! Help me LORD!" You have changed my sadness into a joyful dance; you have taken away my sorrow and surrounded me with joy.

(Psalm 30:10-11 GNT)

My Father will always hear me and help me when I call on Him. When I approach Him in humility and sincerity, He changes my sadness to joy. When I become joyful with His joy, I become strong enough to face all challenges on my journey of life.

Jesus prays on the Mount of Olives (Luke 22:39-46)

"Father," he said, "if you will, take this cup of suffering away from me. Not my will, however, but your will be done."

An angel from heaven appeared to him and strengthened him.

(Luke 22:42-43 GNT)

Jesus knew the power of prayer and that my Father always hears prayer and strengthens us when we call on Him. Jesus knew that He might not take his cup of suffering away, but he also knew that He would strengthen him sufficiently to go through with His perfect will.

"The prayer of a good person has a powerful effect."

(James 5:16b GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for listening to my requests and helping me in powerful ways. I honour you. Holy Spirit, continue to fill me and lead me. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

25 March

My Trust Lies in My Father

A Prayer of Trust in God (Psalm 31)

I hear many enemies whispering; terror is all around me. But my trust is in you, O LORD; you are my God.

Be strong, be courageous, all you that hope in the LORD.

(Psalm 31:13a, 14 & 24 GNT)

No matter how much I LOVE my Father, and how many people LOVE me, there will always be a handful of people that despise or hate me. It is impossible to keep everyone happy all of the time.

We know, however, that if God is on our side, that nobody can be against us (refer to Romans 8:31).

Therefore, I should always trust my Father completely and not become doubtful when challenges arise. As a believer, I should always be strong and courageous and never lose hope in Him.

Jesus Is Brought before the Council (Luke 22:66-71)

They (the elders, chief priests and teachers of the Law) all said, "Are you, then, the Son of God?" He (Jesus) answered them, "You say that I Am." And they said, "We don't need any witnesses! We ourselves have heard what he said!" (Luke 22:70-71 GNT)

The elders, chief priests and teachers of the Law knew that Jesus claimed to be the Son of God even though Jesus did not reaffirm it on the night of his arrest. They therefore labelled him as being guilty of blasphemy. Jesus remained calm and collected.

Father, by calling you Father, I am affirming that I am your son. When Jesus called you Father, he was condemned as a blasphemer and sentenced to death. Thank you for sending him as forerunner to liberate me from religion. Holy Spirit, please remain with me. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

26 March

Confess and Repent - Forgive and be Set Free

Confession and Forgiveness (Psalm 32)

When I did not confess my sins, I was worn out from crying all day long. Then I confessed my sins to you; I did not conceal my wrongdoings. I decided to confess them to you, and you forgave all my sins.

The wicked will have to suffer, but those who trust in the LORD are protected by his constant love.

(Psalm 32:3, 5 & 10 GNT)

I cannot hide anything from my Father for he knows everything. When my Lower Self tries to hide something from my Higher Self, this causes imbalance in me and may result in dis-ease and sickness like cancer or bipolar mood disorder. When I confess my wrongs to my Higher Self, balance returns and sickness and dis-ease disappear. Confess, repent and move on. My Father cannot be fooled and it is foolish to think that I can hide things from Him.

Jesus Is Crucified (Luke 23:26-43)

When they came to the place called "The Skull", they crucified Jesus there, and the two criminals, one on his right and the other on his left. Jesus said, "Forgive them, Father! They don't know what they are doing."

(Luke 23:33-34a GNT)

I cannot be forgiven if I keep grudges and unforgiveness against others. I have to confess my sins, forgive myself and others and receive my Father's forgiveness.

Jesus, thank you for your example.

Heavenly Father, forgive me my sins as I forgive those who have sinned against me. Holy Spirit, remain with me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

27 March

The Key Is Obedience

A Song of Praise (Psalm 33)

All you that are righteous, shout for joy for what the LORD has done; praise him, all you that obey him.

The LORD watches over those who obey him, those who trust in his constant love.

(Psalm 33:1 & 18 GNT)

The key to receiving my Father's blessing is to always be obedient to the still small voice of the Spirit, no matter how hard all the other voices shout.

Sometimes when things become too much and I start losing hope and trust in Him, it is time to get away from the world for a week or two. A seven day fast from radio, TV, cell phones, music, and social media works wonders to getting in touch with the Holy Spirit and refocusing on important matters.

The Death of Jesus (Luke 23:44-49)

It was about twelve o'clock when the sun stopped shining and darkness covered the whole country until three o'clock; and the curtain hanging in the temple was torn in two. Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Father! In your hands I place my spirit!" He said this and died.

(Luke 23:44-46 GNT)

Jesus knew my Father's will and his fate to die by crucifixion, yet he remained obedient despite his own will to rather avoid it. The key is obedience.

Jesus, thank you for setting the perfect example.

Father, I praise you and honour you for whom you are. Thank you for your constant LOVE and all your blessings. Holy Spirit, continue to guide and lead me. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

28 March

Repentance and Forgiveness - Total Liberation

In praise of God's Goodness (Psalm 34)

I will always thank the LORD; I will never stop praising him. I prayed to the LORD, and he answered me, he freed me from all my fears. Even lions go hungry for lack of food, but those who obey the LORD lack nothing good. Turn away from evil and do good; strive for peace with all your heart. The LORD watches over the righteous and listens to their cries.

(Psalm 34:1, 4, 10, 14 & 15 GNT)

My Father is a good Father and His Spirit resides within me. When I verbalize my concerns to Him, He always listens and comes to my assistance. The righteous will never experience lack because He is righteous.

Jesus Appears to His Disciples (Luke 24:36-49)

Suddenly the Lord himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, "This is what is written: the Messiah must suffer and must rise from death three days later, and in his name the message about repentance and forgiveness of sins must be preached to all nations, beginning in Jerusalem.

(Luke 24:36b & 45-47 GNT)

When Jesus lived on earth, the majority of Jews were totally enslaved by religion and self-condemnation. He came to liberate humanity with the message of repentance and forgiveness of sins.

Lord Jesus, thank you for liberating me from religious enslavement and self-condemnation.

Heavenly Father, thank you for listening to my prayers and for forgiving my sins when I confess and repent. Thank you for sending Jesus to liberate me from religious enslavement and self-condemnation. Holy Spirit, please continue to help me and make me stand strong. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

29 March

The Truth of My Father's Love, Goodness and Grace

The Goodness of God (Psalm 36:5-12)

How precious, O God, is your constant love! We find protection under the shadow of your wings. Continue to love those who know you and to do good to those who are righteous.

(Psalm 36:7 & 10 GNT)

My Father is a good Father who will always continue to bless the righteous. He does not condemn me when I make a mistake, as his LOVE is constant and unconditional. He does not LOVE me any less or any more based on how well I perform. Hence, there is no need for religiosity. He looks at my heart and not at my performance.

The Word of Life (John 1:1-18)

Out of the fullness of his grace he has blessed us all, giving us one blessing after another. God gave the Law through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

(John 1:16-17 GNT)

The Apostle John refers to Jesus as the Word of Life, which indeed He is. By the words he spoke and by his teachings, he brought life to the spiritually dead, who were enslaved by religion and self-condemnation. Jesus brought a message of grace and truth. There is no more condemnation, as the truth of LOVE and grace is greater.

Jesus, thank you for bringing truth amidst lies and religiosity.

Father, we honour you. Thank you for revealing the truth of your perfect LOVE, grace and goodness, through your Son Jesus. Fill me with your Spirit, so that I may always remember this truth. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

30 March

Do Good and Trust My Father

The Destiny of the Wicked and of the Good (Psalm 37)

Seek your happiness in the LORD and he will give you your heart's desire.
Give yourself to the LORD; trust in him, and he will help you; he will make your
righteousness shine like the noonday sun.

Be patient and wait for the LORD to act.

Don't give in to worry or anger; it only leads to trouble.

(Psalm 37:4-7a & 8 GNT)

My Father will give me my heart's desire because I am righteous and obedient
because of Jesus. I will not give in to worry or anger, as He is on my side. I
take all my concerns to Him in prayer and I trust Him while I wait patiently.
The Holy Spirit will lead me and guide me what to do while I wait on Him. What
an awesome Father I have!

Jesus Goes to the Temple (John 2:13-22)

There in the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep and pigeons and also
the money-changers sitting at the tables. So he made a whip from cords and
drove all the animals out of the Temple, both the sheep and the cattle; he
overturned the tables of the money-changers and scattered their coins; and he
ordered those who sold the pigeons, "Take them out of here! Stop making my
Father's house a market-place!"

(John 2:14-16 GNT)

Jesus did not like the idea of turning the Temple into a market-place. The
temple was to be used for spiritual matters and not materialistic worldly
matters. I can fully understand why He acted in this way.

Father, I trust you fully. Holy Spirit, continue to guide me throughout this day.
In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

31 March

Being Vigilant and Discerning of Would-be Friends

The Destiny of the Wicked and of the Good (Psalm 37)

The humble will possess the land and enjoy prosperity and peace. The LORD guides people in the way they should go and protects those who please him. The righteous will possess the land and live in it for ever. The LORD saves the righteous and protects them in times of trouble. He helps them and rescues them; he saves them from the wicked, because they go to him for protection.

(Psalm 37:11, 23, 29 & 39-40 GNT)

My Father LOVES all people, both the wicked and the righteous, because all are His creation. The righteous and humble, however, will enjoy his favour. Prosperity and peace has been set aside for me because He made me humble and righteous. He protects me from the wicked and I need not be fearful.

Jesus's Knowledge of Human Nature (John 2:23-25)

Many believed in him as they saw the miracles he performed. But Jesus did not trust himself to them, because he knew them all. There was no need for anyone to tell him about them, because he himself knew what was in their hearts.

(John 2:23b-25 GNT)

Like Jesus, we also should not trust ourselves to anyone who praises us, and claims to like us, for the human heart can be very wicked. We should always be vigilant and discerning of would-be supporters. Many have hidden agendas.

Father, thank you for today's revelation. Holy Spirit, always give me the ability to discern the intent of would-be friends or followers. Empower me to distinguish between truth and lies. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

April



01 April

The Kingdom Life is for the Believer

The Prayer of a Sufferer (Psalm 38)

I am bowed down, I am crushed; I mourn all day long. I am burning with fever and I am near to death. I am worn out and utterly crushed; my heart is troubled, and I groan with pain.

But I trust in you, O LORD; and you, O LORD my God, will answer me.

Do not abandon me, O LORD; do not stay away, my God! Help me now, O LORD my saviour!

(Psalm 38:6-8, 15 & 21-22 GNT)

King David often became depressed when he went through physical pain and difficult times. However, he verbalized himself to my Father in prayer and was always delivered from his anguish.

"The prayer of a good person as a powerful effect."

(James 5:16b GNT)

Father, thank you for your Word and all its promises.

Jesus and Nicodemus (John 3:1-21)

Jesus answered, "I am telling you the truth; no one can see the Kingdom of God without being born again (born from above)." Do not be surprised because I tell you that you must all be born again (born from above).

(John 3:3 & 7 GNT)

I have to be born again, in other words, I have to be convicted spiritually by the Holy Spirit to change. Unless I have this experience, I will continue to live a mundane, meaningless life. In my Father's Kingdom, however, I experience purpose and victory.

Father, I thank you for welcoming me in the Kingdom. Holy Spirit, keep on convicting me when I stray from the narrow way. Let your light shine on me and through me to all those still in darkness. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

02 April

Confess, Repent and be Liberated from Death

The Confession of a Sufferer (Psalm 39)

I said, "I will be careful what I do and I will not let my tongue make me sin; I will not say anything while evil people are near." What, then, can I hope for, LORD? I put my hope in you.

(Psalm 39:1 & 7 GNT)

Confessing my weaknesses and sins is the first step on the road to recovery. When I do this, my hope in my Father will increase and deliverance will follow. I will start to experience His Kingdom and the freedom and joy that go along with the Kingdom Life.

Jesus and Nicodemus (continued)

For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to be its judge, but to be its saviour.

(John 3:16-17 GNT)

Jesus did not come into this world to judge and condemn me but rather to convict, save and set me free. The Holy Spirit convicts me and does not condemn me when I do wrong. The Devil condemns me, but he is a liar. When I am convicted, I simply confess and repent. When this spiritual experience takes place, I am revived from spiritual death to eternal life. I am now a born-again Spirit-filled son of my Heavenly Father.

Jesus, thank you for liberating me.

Father, what an awesome message. Thank you for liberating me from religious slavery, sin and death. Thank you for life and it in abundance. Thank you for freedom from all bondages and life eternal. Thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, stay with me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

03 April

Choosing My Father's Will and Eternal Life to the Full

A Song of Praise (Psalm 40)

How I love to do your will, my God! I keep your teaching in my heart. Your love and loyalty will always keep me safe.

(Psalm 40:8 & 11b GNT)

Seeking and doing my Father's will is what I am here for. Although He has given me free will to do whatever I please, I should be mature enough to realise that being a believer entails obedience to seek and do His will. When I do His will with a happy attitude like King David then I experience abundant blessings and overflow.

He Who Comes from Heaven (John 3:31-36)

The one whom God has sent speaks God's words, because God gives him the fullness of his Spirit. The Father loves his Son and has put everything in his power. Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever disobeys the Son will not have life, but will remain under God's punishment.

(John 3:34-36 GNT)

In a way, all born-again believers are sent, and speak my Father's words, just like Jesus. I have the fullness of the Spirit. Everything is in my power and I have eternal life. I have been saved from the claws of sin and spiritual death. Punishment and disciplinary action is not for me, as I have been delivered from slavery and bondage to sin and spiritual death. I have received eternal life as a free gift.

Jesus, thank you.

Father, thank you for making your Word clear to me. Holy Spirit, continue to break open the Word so that I may fully grasp its contents and meaning. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

04 April

Praying and Worshipping in Spirit and in Truth

A Prayer in Sickness (Psalm 41)

Happy are those who are concerned for the poor; the LORD will help them when they are in trouble. The LORD will help them when they are sick and will restore them to health.

(Psalm 41:1 & 3 GNT)

Karma is a real and I will always reap exactly as I have sown. Sowing good seeds everywhere I go, will always deliver good rewards. Applying the golden rule in my life is the best thing I could ever do.

"Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." - The Golden Rule by Jesus of Nazareth.

Jesus and the Samaritan Woman (John 4:1-42)

But the time is coming and is already here, when by the power of God's Spirit, people will worship the Father as he really is, offering him the true worship that he wants. God is Spirit, and only by the power of his Spirit can people worship him as he really is.

(John 4:23-24 GNT)

In her dialogue with Jesus the Samaritan woman pointed out that the Jews worship God in Jerusalem and the Samaritans do worship Him on the mountain. Jesus made it clear to her that He can only be truly worshipped as He really is by the power of the Holy Spirit. This worshipping is not dependent on a specific time or place. My Father is omnipresent which means He is everywhere all of the time. He is within me and within every little creature that He created.

Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit help me to pray and worship in Spirit and in truth. Guide the meditation of my mind and the words of my mouth to be acceptable unto you. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

05 April

Seeking my Father's Perfect Will

A Prayer of Someone in Exile (Psalm 42)

As a deer longs for a stream of cool water, so I long for you, O God.

(Psalm 42:1 GNT)

My Father is like water to a thirsty soul. Are you thirsty or does the riches and material things of this world satisfy and quench your thirst? I have an inner longing for that special connection to my Higher Self, my Father within me. It became necessary for me to be stripped of my health as well as material and worldly riches in order to re-establish that special connection with Him. He is in control and everything in life happens for a reason and according to His perfect will.

Jesus and the Samaritan Woman (continued)

"My food," Jesus said to them (his disciples), "is to obey the will of the one who sent me and to finish the work he gave me to do. You have a saying, 'Four more months and then the harvest.' But I tell you, take a good look at the fields; the crops are now ripe and ready to be harvested!"

(John 4:34-35 GNT)

My sole purpose in life, the one thing that fuels me and gives me power to continue, is to seek my Father's perfect will and to obey it to the best of my ability until I blow out my last breath. Are you seeking His will today? It is never too late to start.

Jesus, thank you for today's revelation.

Father, thank you that your perfect will is being done day by day. Holy Spirit, help me to recognize it, to bring my own little will into line and to stay in line. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

06 April

Continuous Prayer and the Power of the Gospel

A Prayer for Protection (Psalm 44)

We will always praise you and give thanks to you for ever. We fall crushed to the ground; we lie defeated in the dust. Come to our aid! Because of your constant love, save us!

(Psalm 44:8 & 25-26 GNT)

Sometimes I only start praying when I lie defeated in the dust, when I have lost everything. In order to live a victorious life, I should continue praying in good times as in bad. If there is nothing to pray for, a prayer of thanksgiving and praise will do.

Father, thank you for an awesome, brand new day.

Jesus and the Samaritan Woman (continued)

The one who reaps the harvest is being paid and gathers the crops for eternal life; so another who sows and the one who reaps will be glad together. The saying is true, 'One sows, another reaps.' I have sent you to reap a harvest in a field where you did not work; others worked there, and you profit from their work."

(John 4:36-38 GNT)

As a follower of Christ, I have been commissioned to gather those who are ripe and ready to become little Christs. As a little Christ, my purpose is to seek my Father's perfect will in all circumstances. Gathering together those who are ripe and ready, is one of my primary objectives. Can this world benefit if I become a little Christ and seek my Father's perfect will? Should we not all try working together and make this world a better place?

Jesus, thank you for today's revelation.

Father, thank you for giving me the gospel and its power. Thank you for the benefit and blessing of being able to reap a crop without having had to sow a single seed. Thank you that your Kingdom is coming rapidly. Holy Spirit, remain with me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

07 April

Seeking Divine Will and Living Victoriously

God Is with Us (Psalm 46)

God is our shelter and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble. He stops wars all over the world; he breaks bows, destroys spears, and sets shields on fire. "Stop fighting," he says, "and know that I am God, supreme among the nations, supreme over the world."

The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

(Psalm 46:1 & 9-11 GNT)

"If God is for us, who can be against us?"

(Romans 8:31b GNT)

In the light of all of this, my troubles are insignificant. Wars and fighting will cease. The nations will bow down and be ruled by my Father the Supreme Ruler.

Father, thank you for this promise.

The Healing at the Pool (John 5:1-18)

In this passage Jesus miraculously heals a man who had been ill for thirty eight years. Jesus commanded healing into his life by instructing him to get up, pick up his mat and to walk. The man got well immediately and started following Jesus' instructions.

Afterwards, Jesus found him in the Temple and said, "Listen, you are well now; so stop sinning or something worse may happen to you."

(John 5:14 GNT)

When I do my Father's perfect will in total obedience, healing and deliverance will come. Backsliding and disobedience may have serious repercussions and possible relapses may result?

Jesus, thank you for a fresh revelation.

Father, what an honour to live my life according to your perfect will. Thank you for a victorious life. Holy Spirit, continue to reveal Divine Will to me and strengthen me to stay in line. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

08 April

My Father is in Full Control

The Supreme Ruler (Psalm 47)

God is King over all the world; praise him with songs! God sits on his sacred throne; he rules over the nations. The rulers of the nations assemble with the people of the God of Abraham. More powerful than all the armies is he; he rules supreme.

(Psalm 47:7-9 GNT)

I know that there is a Force or Higher Power that controls the universe. This same powerful life-giving Force sustains all mortal life on earth, as well as the functioning of the sun, the moon and the stars.

It is simply amazing how all things function together in perfect harmony like clockwork. My Father surely is in control and rules supreme. Praise Him, all of creation, he surely is an awesome Creator.

The Authority of the Son (John 5:19-29)

Whoever does not honour the Son, does not honour the Father who sent him.

(John 5:23b GNT)

My Father created everything perfectly and it could have remained that way if he had created robots instead of humans. The fact that he created me with free will contributed to the perversion and demise of the human race. In His wisdom, he devised the master plan of sending Jesus to earth to spark the reset.

Father, thank you. Jesus, thank you. Holy Spirit, thank you. I honour you.

Father, thank you for being the good Father that you are. Thank you for being in full control. Thank you for sending Jesus to spark the great reset from perverse religious beliefs and traditions. Holy Spirit, please continue to guide me and strengthen me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

09 April

Nothing Is Too Difficult for my Father - Miracles Require Impossibility

Zion, the City of God (Psalm 48)

People of God, walk round Zion and count the towers; take notice of the walls and examine the fortresses, so that you may tell the next generation: "This God is our God for ever and ever; he will lead us for all time to come."

(Psalm 48:12-14 GNT)

King David's men built David's City (previously known as Zion) on the hill of Zion after capturing it from the Jebusites. The Temple stood on this hill of Zion. The city of Zion was quite an impressive architectural achievement and was considered to be sacred. I know, however, that my Father does not dwell in man-made structures, but in the hearts of men themselves.

Jesus Feeds A Great Crowd (John 6:1-15)

Jesus looked around and saw that a large crowd was coming to him, so he asked Philip, "Where can we buy enough food to feed all these people?" "There is a boy here who has five loaves of barley bread, and two fish, but they will certainly not be enough for all these people." Jesus took the bread, gave thanks to God and distributed it to the people who were sitting there. He did the same with the fish, and they all had as much as they wanted.

(John 6:5, 9 & 11 GNT)

Jesus miraculously fed a crowd of about 5000 men with five loaves of bread, and two fish, when all had eaten, 12 baskets full of leftovers were gathered up. I should always use what is available to me and trust my Father to multiply it according to my needs. I just need to thank Him for what I have, exercise a little faith and watch His miraculous multiplication.

Father, thank you for miraculously multiplying the little I have in order to meet my needs. Increase my faith that I will use what I have available and not complain about not having enough. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

10 April

Physical Death and Spiritual Immortality

The Foolishness of Trusting in Riches (Psalm 49)

Anyone can see that even the wise die, as well as the foolish and stupid. They all leave their riches to their descendants. No one's greatness can save him from death; he will still die like the animals.

(Psalm 49:10 & 12 GNT)

I know that nothing, not even wisdom or riches can save me from physical death but I am not afraid of it, because spiritually, I have eternal life. Physical death is but a change in condition and the destiny of all physically manifested life. I know that life does not end at the grave.

"Where, Death is your victory?

Where, Death, is your power to hurt?"

(1 Corinthians 16:55 GNT)

Jesus the Bread of Life (John 6:25-59)

"I am the bread of life," Jesus told them. "Those who come to me will never be hungry; those who believe in me will never be thirsty. I am telling you the truth: he who believes has eternal life."

(John 6:35 & 47 GNT)

Jesus is the bread of life. He brought the revelation that life does not end with physical death but is eternal. O Death, where is your sting? Physical life starts with conception and ends at the grave. Spiritual life has no beginning and no end. I only incarnate into a physical body to experience a relatively short physical life.

Jesus, thank you for being my spiritual bread of life.

Father, thank you for the revelation of eternal life with you. Holy Spirit, remind me that I am immortal, experiencing life in a mortal body. Thank you for the joy of my physical life experiences. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

11 April

The Life-Giving Spirit of Truth

True Worship (Psalm 50)

"If I were hungry, I would not ask you for food, for the world and everything in it are mine. Do I eat the flesh of bulls or drink the blood of goats? Let the giving of thanks be your sacrifice to God, and give the Almighty all that you promised. Call to me when trouble comes; I will save you and you will praise me."
(Psalm 50:12-15 GNT)

My Father does not want or need my animal sacrifices. What He wants from me is thankfulness and obedience. He does not need me or anything from me. I need Him and I need to be thankful towards Him.

The Words of Eternal Life (John 6:60-71)

What gives life is God's Spirit; human power is of no use at all. The words I have spoken to you bring God's life-giving Spirit.
(John 6:63 GNT)

The Holy Spirit quickens those who are spiritually dead and brings them back to life. The words of Jesus activate my Father's life-giving Spirit in me when I start dying spiritually.

Jesus, thank you for your words of life.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit, which brings life to my spiritually dead body. Thank you for answering my prayers, when I call on you in times of trouble. Holy Spirit, remain with me and continue to strengthen me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

12 April

The Righteous Judge Looks at my Heart and Judges Accordingly

Prayer for Forgiveness (Psalm 51)

Be merciful to me, O God, because of your constant love. Because of your great mercy wipe away my sins! Sincerity and truth are what you require; fill my mind with your wisdom. Create a pure heart in me, O God, and put a new and loyal spirit in me.

(Psalm 51:1, 6 & 10 GNT)

King David prayed this prayer for forgiveness after the prophet Nathan had spoken to him about his adultery with Bathsheba. Any sin can be forgiven me if I approach my Father with a repentant heart. The key to forgiveness is to confess my sins to Him, stop doing them wilfully and to repent.

Jesus at the Festival of Shelters (John 7:10-24)

"Moses gave you the Law didn't he? But not one of you obeys the Law. Why are you trying to kill me? If a boy is circumcised on the Sabbath, so that Moses' Law is not broken, why are you angry with me because I made a man completely well on the Sabbath? Stop judging by external standards and judge by true standards."

(John 7:19, 23 & 24 GNT)

Lawbreakers judged Jesus for allegedly breaking the Law of Moses. Eventually they managed to convict and crucify him for his so-called sins. These people were judging by false external standards.

Father, thank you for your LOVE, grace and forgiveness. Holy Spirit, continue to convict me when I overstep the line. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

13 April

My Father Quenches My Thirst and Fights My Battles

The Prayer of Someone Betrayed by a Friend (Psalm 55)

If it were an enemy that mocked me, I could endure it; if it were an opponent boasting over me, I could hide myself from him.

But it is you, my companion, my colleague and close friend.

My former companion attacked his friends; he broke his promises.

His words were smoother than cream, but there was hatred in his heart; his words were as soothing as oil, but they cut like sharp swords.

Leave your troubles with the LORD, and he will defend you; he never lets honest people be defeated.

(Psalm 55:12-13 & 20-22 GNT)

I can take all troubles to my Father in prayer. If I am honest, He will never allow me to be defeated by troubles. He is righteous, fair and always good.

With Him on my side, who can be against me? (Refer to Romans 8:31)

Streams of Life-Giving Water (John 7:37-39)

"Whoever is thirsty should come to me, and whoever believes in me should drink. As the scripture says, 'streams of life giving water will pour out from his side.'" Jesus said this about the Spirit, which those who believed in him were going to receive.

(John 7:37b-39a GNT)

When Jesus was hanging on the cross and His side was pierced by the Roman officer, life-giving water poured from His side. When I was spiritually thirsty back in 2008 A.D., I approached Jesus who quenched my thirst forever. I received the Holy Spirit who quickened my spirit and revitalised me.

Father, thank you for hearing my prayers, and fighting my battles for me. Thank you for your life-giving Spirit that quenched my thirst and made me victorious. Holy Spirit, you are most welcome in my life. Please remain with me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

14 April

Believing in the Truth and Trusting the Unfailing Light of God

A Prayer of Trust in God (Psalm 56)

When I am afraid, O LORD Almighty, I put my trust in you. I trust in God and am not afraid; I praise him for what he has promised. What can a mere human being do to me?

(Psalm 56:3-4 GNT)

King David prayed this prayer after being captured by the Philistines. He really trusted my Father to the full, even to the extent of challenging and defeating the giant Goliath.

(Refer to 1 Samuel 17 for the complete story of David and Goliath)

I trust my Father to the full in all circumstances. He protects me, even if I go through the deepest darkness.

"Even if I go through the deepest darkness, I will not be afraid, LORD, for you are with me. Your shepherd's rod and staff protect me."

(Psalm 23:4 GNT)

Father, thank you for your powerful protection. I trust in your righteousness.

Jesus the Light of the World (John 8:12-20)

Jesus spoke to the Pharisees again. "I am the light of the world." He said.

"Whoever follows me will have the light of life and will never walk in darkness."

(John 8:12 GNT)

Jesus is the light. He brought enlightenment to me after being enslaved and in a state of self-condemnation through religious indoctrination. I received eternal life when the Holy Spirit came down on me. I have no more fear of the future, darkness and death.

Jesus, thank you for bringing me LOVE, light and truth.

Father, thank you for your perfect LOVE, unfailing light and truth. Holy Spirit, thank you for your eternal guidance and presence to protect and empower me to walk in victory. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

15 April

A Heavenly Father of Protection, Truth and Freedom

A Prayer for Safety (Psalm 59)

Save me from my enemies, my God; protect me from those who attack me! My enemies come back in the evening, snarling like dogs as they go about the city. But I will sing about your strength; every morning I will sing aloud of your constant love. You have been a refuge for me, a shelter in my time of trouble. (Psalm 59:1, 14 & 16 GNT)

King David prayed this prayer after King Saul sent men to his house in order to kill him. David was a great man of faith, always communicating with my Father in prayer.

The Truth Will Set you Free (John 8:31-47)

So Jesus said to those who believed in him, "If you obey my teaching, you are really my disciples; you will know the truth and the truth will set you free." (John 8:31-32 GNT)

Father, thank you for your perfect will. Holy Spirit, protect me and keep me from lies and religious enslavement. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

16 April

Spiritual Death Due to a Lack of Quiet Time

Longing for God (Psalm 63)

O God, you are my God, and I long for you. My whole being desires you; like a dry, worn-out, and waterless land, my soul is thirsty for you. I will give you thanks as long as I live; I will raise my hands to you in prayer. My soul will feast and be satisfied, and I will sing glad songs of praise to you.

(Psalm 63:1, 4 & 5 GNT)

There are times in my life when I feel as if my Father has deserted me. I long for his presence, peace and joy, but I do not experience it. This normally happens when I am too BUSY (Being Under Satan's Yoke) to spend proper quiet time with Him. Sometimes I need to go on a fast from those things that consume lots of my time and attention. Nowadays, social media, television, news and even music, distracts me from quality quiet time.

Jesus and Abraham (John 8:48-59)

"I am telling you the truth: whoever obeys my teaching will never die." They said to him (Jesus), "Now we are certain that you have a demon! Abraham died, and the prophets died, yet you say that whoever obeys your teaching will never die."

(John 8:51-52 GNT)

Jesus was misunderstood by the Jewish authorities and many others. He spoke about spiritual matters and spiritual death. They thought he was speaking about physical death. Many of them were already spiritually dead. Followers of Jesus will never experience death.

Jesus, thank you for this good news.

Father, thank you for today's special message on spiritual death. Holy Spirit, please continue to guide me and lead me away from those worldly things that keeps me BUSY and interferes with my quiet time. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

17 April

Awesome Father, Open the Eyes of My Mind

A Song of Praise and Thanksgiving (Psalm 66)

Praise our God, all nations; let your praise be heard. He has kept us alive and has not allowed us to fall. If I had ignored my sins, the LORD would not have listened to me. But God has indeed heard me; he has listened to my prayer. I praise God, because he did not reject my prayer or keep back his constant love from me.

(Psalm 66:8, 9 & 18-20 GNT)

Thinking about my Father's goodness, I always just want to thank Him and praise Him for all my blessings. My Father is absolutely awesome and worthy of all praise and thanksgiving.

Father, thank you for being who you are.

Jesus Heals a Man Born Blind (John 9:1-12)

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man who had been born blind. His disciples asked him, "Teacher, whose sin caused him to be born blind? Was it his own or his parents' sin?" Jesus answered, "His blindness has nothing to do with his sins or his parents' sins. He is blind, so that God's power might be seen at work in him."

(John 9:1-3 GNT)

Being disabled or sick does not necessarily mean that there are sins in my life. Sometimes my Father has other reasons. In this case, the reason was to demonstrate His power to heal and restore and to increase the faith of others. As a human, I am sometimes blind to His bigger picture.

Father, thank you for being the awesome Father that you are. Thank you for your constant love and protection. Thank you for your peace and joy that surpasses all understanding. Open the eyes of my mind that I might see and understand your perfect plan. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

18 April

Faith to Move Unjust Mountains

A Song of Thanksgiving (Psalm 67)

May the peoples praise you, O God; may all the peoples praise you! May the nations be glad and sing for joy, because you judge the peoples with justice and guide every nation on earth.

(Psalm 67:3-4 GNT)

Whether all people and nations believe in my Father or not is irrelevant, because He guides and rules every nation anyhow. Whether people believe it or not, makes no difference. I am governed by His Divine power as He resides within me. I was created in His image.

Father, thank you for perfect justice on earth and guidance of all the nations.

Jesus Heals a Man Born Blind (John 9:1-12)

"While I am in the world, I am the light for the world."

After he said this, Jesus spat on the ground and made some mud with the spittle, he rubbed the mud on the man's eyes and said, "Go and wash your face in the pool of Siloam." (This name means "Sent.") So the man went, washed his face, and came back seeing.

(John 9:5-7 GNT)

Jesus was the light that came to the world. Now, all his disciples are also the light for the world. Jesus prepared some mud with the spittle to psychologically increase the blind man's faith. His faith increased sufficiently so, that you also willingly obeyed the rest of Jesus' instructions to go and wash his face in the pool of Siloam. Because he really believed, he was healed. If I have enough faith to trust my Father completely, I will experience awesome miracles. Mountains in my way will become molehills.

Father, thank you for your perfect justice. May the unjust mountains in my way become molehills. Holy Spirit, continue to increase my faith to believe for the impossible. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

19 April

Divine Love Leads to Powerful and Miraculous Healing

A Cry for Help (Psalm 69)

Save me, O God! The water is up to my neck; I am sinking in deep mud, and there is no solid ground; I am out in deep water, and the waves are about to drown me. Don't let the flood come over me; don't let me drown in the depths or sink into the grave. Answer me, LORD, in the goodness of your constant love; in your great compassion turn to me! The LORD listens to those in need and does not forget his people in prison.

(Psalm 69:1, 2, 15, 16 & 33 GNT)

David often found himself in life threatening situations that caused him to cry out to my Father. Time and time again He came through for him and rescued him.

Father, thank you for always coming to my aid, just like you did for David.

The Pharisees Investigate the Healing (John 9:13-34)

A second time they called back the man who had been born blind and said to him, "Promise before God that you will tell the truth! We know that this man who cured you is a sinner." "I do not know if he is a sinner or not," the man replied. "One thing I do know: I was blind and now I see."

(John 9:24-25 GNT)

The Pharisees were totally baffled by the miracle of the return of the blind man's sight. How could a sinner like Jesus perform such a miracle? I should be very careful not to judge people by external standards. Never judge a book by its cover. I cannot tell what goes on inside someone's heart.

Father, thank you for the example of Jesus. Thank you for your Spirit. Thank you for Divine protection and guidance. Amen.

20 April

Humble Yourself Judgmental Pharisee

The Justice of God (Psalm 73)

God is indeed good to Israel, to those who have pure hearts. But I had nearly lost confidence; my faith was almost gone because I was jealous of the proud when I saw that things go well for the wicked. They do not suffer pain; they are strong and healthy. And so they wear pride like a necklace and violence like a robe; their hearts pour out evil, and their minds are busy with wicked schemes. You will put them in slippery places and make them fall to destruction! My mind and my body may grow weak, but God is my strength; he is all I ever need. As for me, how wonderful to be near God, to find protection with the Sovereign LORD and to proclaim all that he has done!

(Psalm 73:1-4, 6, 7, 18, 26 & 28 GNT)

My Heavenly Father is righteous, just and good. He is aware of everything and allows all things for a season. When the time is ripe, he intervenes as a righteous judge. As He is totally in control of all matters, I have nothing to fear or worry or complain about.

Father, thank you.

The Pharisees Investigate the Healing (continued)

The man whom Jesus had healed from his blindness, answered the Jewish authorities: "Unless this man came from God, he would not be able to do a thing." They answered, "You were born and brought up in sin - and you are trying to teach us?" And they expelled him from the synagogue.

(John 9:33 & 34 GNT)

The Pharisees had been so indoctrinated by religion, that they actually accused the man of being born and brought up in sin. Earlier on, Jesus made it clear that the man was not born blind because of his or his parents' sins, but that my Father's power might be seen at work in him.

Father, thank you for today's word. Holy Spirit, help me to be slow to jump to conclusions and judge others that I know nothing about. I repent today, for being very self-righteous and judgmental towards others. Thank you for convicting me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

21 April

I Cannot Hide a Single Thing from the Righteous Judge

God the Judge (Psalm 75)

"I have set a time for judgement," says God, "and I will judge with fairness. I tell the wicked not to be arrogant; I tell them to stop their boasting."

The LORD holds a cup in his hand, filled with the strong wine of his anger. He pours it out, and all the wicked drink it; they drink it down to the last drop. He will break the power of the wicked, but the power of the righteous will be increased.

(Psalm 75:2, 4, 5, 8 & 10 GNT)

Because my Father is a fair judge, he will break the power of the wicked and increase the power of the righteous. As an unrighteous person, I have to change my ways, follow the Spirit in obedience and become righteous. This is the minimum my Father expects of me.

Father, thank you for being a fair and righteous judge.

Spiritual Blindness (John 9:35-41)

Jesus said, "I came to this world to judge so that the blind should see and those who see should become blind."

(John 9:39 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, thank you for convicting me today of spiritual blindness and wickedness. Thank you for opening the eyes of my heart and returning my sight. Strengthen me and lead me on the straight and narrow. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

22 April

Jesus the Gate for the Sheep

God the Supreme Ruler (Psalm 82)

God presides in the heavenly council; in the assembly of the gods he gives his decision: "You must stop judging unjustly; you must no longer be partial to the wicked! Defend the rights of the poor and orphans; be fair to the needy and the helpless. Rescue them from the power of the wicked." "You are gods,' I said; 'all of you are children of the Most High.'"

(Psalm 82:1-4 & 6 GNT)

I am a spark of my Father. As an individual I am a god. I am a child of my Heavenly Father who is absolutely everywhere. If I look closely and carefully I see him in a little ant, in a blade of grass and even in godforsaken desolate deserts and on the surface of Mars. His LOVE created the entire universe and I do not hate or fear anything. Not even the ugliest or most vicious spider, serpent, shark, cockroach, poison ivy or tornado scares me. I LOVE all of creation and experience liberation and breakthrough. I see my Father in all of His creation. Nothing is bad or evil because my Father is good.

Jesus the Good Shepherd (John 10:7-21)

The Pharisees did not understand the parable of the shepherd.

So Jesus said again, "I am telling you the truth: I am the gate for the sheep."

(John 10:7 GNT)

Jesus, thank you for being my guide to salvation and eternal life with fullness.

Father, thank you for presiding in the heavenly council. Holy Spirit, guide me and help me to remain open-minded, conscious and woke*. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ of Nazareth, amen.

* "woke" is a newly created English word which means "non-judgemental".

23 April

My Father's Kindness and Honour

Longing for God's House (Psalm 84)

How I love your Temple, LORD Almighty!

The LORD is our protector and glorious king, blessing us with kindness and honour. He does not refuse any good thing to those who do what is right. LORD Almighty, how happy are those who trust in you!

(Psalm 84:1, 11 & 12 GNT)

I now know that my Father does not stay in man-made temples. The temple on Mount Zion, however, must have been a beautiful and incredible place of worship, the way all the psalm writers rave about it. My Heavenly Father is kind and he always protects me. He is glorious and all powerful and He honours every single one that He created. He will not refuse me any good thing if I am obedient.

Father, I trust you with my entire being.

Jesus the Good Shepherd (continued)

"I am the gate. Whoever comes in by me will be saved; they will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only in order to steal, kill and destroy. I have come in order that you might have life - life in all its fullness. I am the good shepherd who is willing to die for the sheep."

(John 10:9-11 GNT)

I have a good shepherd who has all my best interests at heart. He came to set me free and to assure me of eternal life in all its fullness.

Jesus, thank you for setting me free.

Father, thank you for your Spirit. Thank you for blessing me with kindness and honour. Thank you for meeting all my needs and giving me eternal life in all its fullness. Holy Spirit, stay with me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

24 April

Following the Good Shepherd in Total Obedience

A Prayer for Help (Psalm 86)

Listen to me, LORD, and answer me, for I am helpless and weak. You are mighty and do wonderful things; you alone are God. Teach me, LORD, what you want me to do, and I will obey you faithfully; teach me to serve you with complete devotion. I will praise you with all my heart, O LORD, my God; I will proclaim your greatness for ever. You, O LORD, are a merciful and loving God, always patient, always kind and faithful.

(Psalm 86:1, 10-12 & 15 GNT)

My Father is kind and when I obey him faithfully, he will be faithful to me. Father, show me your will so that I can obey it faithfully.

Jesus the Good Shepherd (continued)

"I am the good shepherd, who is willing to die for the sheep. The Father loves me because I am willing to give up my life, in order that I may receive it back again. No one takes my life away from me. I give it up of my own free will. I have the right to give it up, and I have the right to take it back. This is what my Father has commanded me to do."

(John 10:11, 17 & 18 GNT)

These words of Jesus caused a division among the people (see verses 19-21). Some said that he was demon possessed and mad whilst others said that if he was, he would not be able to talk the way he did and give sight to the blind. There is no place for sitting on the fence. I can either reject Jesus or accept him.

Jesus, I accept you and I honour you.

Father, thank you for your Spirit. Thank you for sending Jesus to set an example for me and to be my good shepherd. Use me, just like Jesus, to accomplish your perfect will and higher purposes. I am ready to do whatever you would like me to do, and to go wherever you send me, amen.

25 April

Listening Carefully and Obeying the Still Small Voice

A Hymn in Time of National Trouble (Psalm 89)

Your kingdom is founded on righteousness and justice; love and faithfulness are shown in all you do.

(Psalm 89:14 GNT)

When I live a just and righteous life and treat all people as equal, I will indeed experience my Father's Kingdom. He treats me with LOVE and faithfulness and welcomes me in His Kingdom.

Father, I honour you.

Jesus is Rejected (John 10:22-42)

"My sheep, listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never die. No one can snatch them away from me. The Father and I are one." Then the people again picked up stones to throw at him. They replied, "We do not want to stone you because of any good deeds, but because of your blasphemy! You are only a man but you are trying to make yourself God!" Jesus answered, "It is written in your own Law that God said, 'You are gods!' (See Psalm 82). We know that what the scripture says is true forever; and God called those people gods, the people to whom his message was given. As for me, the Father chose me and sent me into the world. How, then, can you say that I blaspheme because I said that I am the Son of God?"

(John 10:27, 28, 30, 31, 33-36 GNT)

Lord Jesus, I admire you for having taken on these religious folks, and going through with it all the way to the cross.

Heavenly Father, thank you for this brand new day. Thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, guide me step by step today. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

26 April

The Joy of My Father Is My Strength

Of God and Humanity (Psalm 90)

O LORD, you have always been our home. Before you created the hills or brought the world into being, you were eternally God and will be God forever. Fill us each morning with your constant love, so that we may sing and be glad all our life. LORD our God, may your blessings be with us. Give us success in all we do!

(Psalm 90:1, 2, 14 & 17 GNT)

My Father sustains me with his constant LOVE. He gives me joy in life and makes me successful in all I do. Without Him I would be totally lost and useless.

Father, thank you for equipping and empowering me to do all things.

Jesus Weeps (John 11:28-37)

Mary arrived where Jesus was, and as soon as she saw him, she fell at his feet. "Lord," she said, "if you had been here, my brother (Lazarus) would not have died!" Jesus saw her weeping and he saw how the people who were with her were weeping also; his heart was touched, and he was deeply moved.

Jesus wept. "See how much he loved him!" the people said.

(John 11:32-33, 35 & 36 GNT)

These events took place when Mary's brother Lazarus died. When I am sad, Jesus becomes deeply moved and his heart is touched. When I weep, he weeps with me.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit fill me with your power and LOVE and give me a sound mind to handle life with all its ups and downs. Thank you for always being with me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

27 April

The Lordship of Jesus

God Our Protector (Psalm 91)

God will put his angels in charge of you to protect you. Wherever you go, they will hold you up with their hands to keep you from hurting your feet on the stones. You will trample down lions and snakes, fierce lions and poisonous snakes. God says, "I will save those who love me and will protect those who acknowledge me as LORD."

(Psalm 91:11-14 GNT)

"For the scripture says, 'God will order his angels to take good care of you.' It also says, 'They will hold you up with their hands so that not even your feet will be hurt on the stones.'"

(Luke 4:10-11 GNT)

"Listen! I have given you authority, so that you can walk on snakes and scorpions and overcome all the power of the Enemy, and nothing will hurt you."

(Luke 10:19 GNT)

I LOVE and acknowledge my Father. I have Divine protection by His angels.

These angels protect me from all dangers and keep me safe.

Father, thank you for sending angels to protect me.

Lazarus is Brought to Life (John 11:38-44)

In this passage, Jesus prayed and thanked his Father that He always listens to him. Then he commanded Lazarus to come out of the tomb. He came out in his grave clothes after being dead for four days.

Jesus intercedes for me, and my Father always listens to him.

(John 11:41b GNT)

Jesus, thank you. Father, thank you.

I always take my requests to my Father in the name of Jesus. When Jesus becomes involved, great miracles happen. Demons flee at the mention of his name. Jesus is the most well-known historic figure of all time. He is so well known that the whole world started a new calendar in his memory. Both, the Old Testament and New Testament are about him. Jesus has Lordship over all.

Father, thank you for your angels that offer me Divine protection. Thank you for your Spirit that fills me and leads me. Use me and send me where you need me to be. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ of Nazareth, amen.

28 April

Dying to Self

God the Supreme King (Psalm 99)

O LORD, our God, you answered your people; you showed them that you are a God who forgives, even though you punished them for their sins. Praise the LORD our God, and worship at his sacred hill! The LORD our God is holy.

(Psalm 99:8-9 GNT)

My Father is holy and He does not tolerate deliberate sins. He is also a loving Father, however, and quick to forgive a repentant heart. Back in the day, when this psalm was written, the temple on the hill of Zion was considered sacred and this is where all believers worshipped together.

Father, thank you that my bedroom, my car, and my immediate surroundings are sacred because you are always with me and you are holy.

Some Greeks Seek Jesus (John 12:20-26)

Jesus said to them: "I am telling you the truth: a grain of wheat remains no more than a single grain unless it is dropped into the ground and dies. If it does die, then it produces many grains. Whoever wants to serve me must follow me so that my servant will be with me where I am. And my Father will honour anyone who serves me.

(John 12:24 & 26 GNT)

Like a grain of wheat, I have to die to self. In this way I will be fruitful and have life to the full and life eternal. In order to serve Jesus I have become selfless like him and I go where my Father sends me.

Father, thank you for today's revelation. Holy Spirit, strengthen me to be able to die completely and to resist materialistic worldly ambitions. Thank you for your perfect guidance. Stay with me and strengthen me throughout this day. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

29 April

Jesus The Light and The Way

A Hymn of Praise (Psalm 100)

The LORD is good; his love is eternal and his faithfulness lasts forever.

(Psalm 100:5 GNT)

My Father is a good Father who loves me eternally and unconditionally. Even though I might be unfaithful at times He always remains faithful because of his constant love.

Father, thank you for your constant LOVE and goodness.

Judgement by Jesus' Words (John 12:44-50)

Jesus said in a loud voice, "Whoever believes in me believes not only in me but also in him who sent me. I have come into the world as light so that everyone who believes in me should not remain in darkness. Those who reject me and do not accept my message have one who will judge them. This is true, because I have not spoken on my own authority, but the Father who sent me, has commanded me what I must say and speak."

(John 12:44-46, 48a & 49 GNT)

I believe in Jesus, therefore I also believe in my Father who sent Jesus to reveal His glory. He is the light to my path and exposes all darkness and obstacles in my way. As a Kingdom child, I cannot remain in darkness. Jesus has full authority to speak on behalf of my Father. He represents my Father to me. In the same way I also represent my Father to all those who are still in darkness.

Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, continue to guide me and fill me with your light. Light up my path and help me to help myself and others who are also struggling in darkness. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

30 April

Show Your Love by Washing Someone's Feet

The Love of God (Psalm 103)

Praise the LORD, my soul! All my being, praise his holy name! Praise the LORD, my soul, and do not forget how kind he is. He forgives all my sins and heals all my diseases.

(Psalm 103:1-3 GNT)

My Heavenly Father is a loving Father. He is my Father and he is kind and friendly. He is not unkind and angry. He is a good Father. When I am ill, I go to Him and He heals my dis-ease. He brings my body back into ease and harmony.

Father, thank you for healing my body and soul.

Jesus Washes His Disciples Feet (John 13:1-20)

... he rose from the table, took off his outer garment, and tied a towel round his waist. Then he poured some water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and dry them with the towel around his waist. "I, your Lord and Teacher, have just washed your feet. You then, should wash one another's feet. I am telling you the truth: slaves are never greater than their master, and messengers are never greater than the one who sent them. I am telling you the truth: whoever receives anyone I send receives me also; and whoever receives me receives him who sent me."

(John 13:4, 5, 14, 16 & 20 GNT)

Washing one another's feet is a sign of true Christ-like humility. Have you washed your spouse or your best friend's feet yet? Have you washed an enemy's feet? It is a good practice to show LOVE and make amends for emotional or physical abuse of the past.

Father, thank you for your unconditional and constant LOVE. Holy Spirit, thank you for convicting me today, to wash my spouse's feet again. Please restore her from emotional abuse and heal her from mental and physical, chronic dis-ease. Let the cancer disappear completely, never to return - restore her. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

(28 October 2021 A.D.)

May



01 May

Praise my Father - He is Full of Light, Great and Glorious

In Praise of the Creator (Psalm 104)

Praise the LORD, my soul! O LORD, my God, how great you are! You are clothed with majesty and glory; you cover yourself with light.

(Psalm 104:1 & 2a GNT)

My Father covers himself with light. There is no darkness in Him. He is good and only good, full stop. He is a glorious king, and he is my Father.

Father, thank you that you are only good and that your grace is unlimited and unending. Thank you for loving me constantly and without any conditions.

The New Commandment (John 13:31-35)

"And now I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. If you have love for one another, then everyone will know that you are my disciples."

(John 13:34-35 GNT)

There is only one thing that is important, and it covers everything else of importance. How can I go wrong if I love all others? Jesus also puts it another way with the well-known Golden Rule.

The Golden Rule: "Do for others what you want them to do for you."

(Matthew 7:12a GNT)

The *New Commandment* and the *Golden Rule* actually boil down to the same thing and it summarises the complete Law.

"This (The Golden Rule) is the meaning of the Law of Moses and of the teachings of the prophets."

(Matthew 7:12b GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for being the great Father that you are. Thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, help me to always live by *The New Commandment / Golden Rule*. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

02 May

I Am - I Am My Father's Son

God and His People (Psalm 105)

"Don't harm my chosen servants; do not touch my prophets."

(Psalm 105:15 GNT)

Like all the prophets of old, my Father protects me in order that I may lead his people and that his perfect will might come to fruition. If you are reading this, I am sure you also have a special calling on your life. Hold on to your vision, just like Joseph did, and trust your Higher Self to make it happen just as you have been shown. I am chosen, appointed and anointed. How about you?

(Please read Psalm 105 to get the full perspective of today's message)

Jesus the Way to the Father (John 14:1-14)

"Do not be worried and upset," Jesus told them. "Believe in God and believe also in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house and I am going to prepare a place for you. I would not tell you this if it were not so. And after I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to myself, so that you will be where I am.

(John 14:1-3 GNT)

Jesus points the way to my Father. I will serve my Father as long as I live, for this gives meaning to my life.

"As for my family and me, we will serve the LORD."

(Joshua 24:15b GNT)

Father, what an awesome Messiah, Master and Teacher you have sent to guide me on my path back to you. Blessed be your holy name. Holy Spirit, continue to fill me and guide me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

03 May

My Father's Goodness

The LORD's Goodness to His People (Psalm 106)

Praise the LORD, the God of Israel; praise him now and forever! Let everyone say, "Amen!" Praise the LORD!

(Psalm 106:48 GNT)

Amen, so be it! Praise my Father! Just like Psalm 105, Psalm 106 is a good summary of some of the historic things that my Father had done to his people and for his people of that time. It is definitely worth the read.

Father, thank you for giving me all the Jewish history within the Holy Bible.

Jesus the Way to the Father (continued)

I am telling you the truth: those who believe in me will do what I do - yes, they will do even greater things, because I am going to the Father. And I will do whatever you ask for in my name, so that the Father's glory will be shown through the Son. If you ask me for anything in my name, I will do it.

(John 14:12-14 GNT)

Lord Jesus, thank you for this awesome promise.

Father, thank you for all the promises in the Holy Bible. Holy Spirit, continue to fill me every moment of this new day so that I may experience your power, LOVE and victory. Help me to overcome all obstacles in my way. Help me to excel in whatever tasks are presented to me. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

04 May

My Father is On My Side

A Prayer for Help against Enemies (Psalm 108)

With God on our side, we will win; he will defeat our enemies.

(Psalm 108:13 GNT)

My Father is always on my side and therefore I will always be victorious over my enemies.

"If God is for us, who can be against us?"

(Romans 8:31b GNT)

The Promise of the Holy Spirit (John 14:15-31)

"If you love me, you will obey my commandments. I will ask the Father and he will give you another helper who will stay with you for ever. He is the Spirit who reveals the truth about God. The world cannot receive him because it cannot see him or know him. But you know him, because he remains with you and is in you.

(John 14:15-17 GNT)

Holy Spirit, thank you for remaining with me and in me.

Father, thank you for this brand new day. Thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, remind me, when trials come, that you are always with me and in me, to lead me. Continue to strengthen me throughout this day. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

05 May

The Oneness of Creation

The Complaint of Someone in Trouble (Psalm 109)

I will give loud thanks to the LORD; I will praise him in the assembly of the people, because he defends the poor and saves them from those who condemn them to death.

(Psalm 109:30-31 GNT)

In this psalm King David complains to my Father about his enemies and asks Him to punish them and their children. This Psalm is very laden with negative emotions, but ends up in a positive note after David had properly vented all his negative emotions. Sometimes it is good to vent a little and then to reset and start afresh. It is definitely worth the read.

Father, thank you that I can share with you my deepest pain and anger, as well as all my joys and hopes.

The Promise of the Holy Spirit (continued)

"When I go, you will not be left all alone; I will come back to you. When that day comes, you will know that I am in my Father, and that you are in me, just as I am in you."

(John 14:18 & 20 GNT)

Jesus is always with me in the shape of the Holy Spirit. I have the Holy Spirit within me and He leads me. I am one with my Father and all of creation. I am not independent like a little island, nor should I try to be.

Father, thank you that I can be one with you. Let your perfect will be done. Holy Spirit, thank you for your presence and perfect guidance when I am obedient. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

06 May

Divine Wisdom

In Praise of the LORD (Psalm 111)

The way to become wise is to honour the LORD (The most important part of wisdom is honouring the LORD); he gives sound judgement to all who obey his commands. He is to be praised for ever.

(Psalm 111:10 GNT)

Wise people will always honour my Father.

Father, I honour you.

The Promise of the Holy Spirit (continued)

The Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and make you remember all that I have told you. Peace is what I leave with you; it is my own peace that I give you. I do not give it as the world does. Do not be worried and upset; do not be afraid.

(John 14:26-27 GNT)

The Holy Spirit gives me peace in everything I do, because I know that He guides me to do my Father's will.

Father, thank you for your Spirit and all your promises and blessings. Holy Spirit, thank you for giving me a sound mind. Remain with me. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

07 May

Father, I LOVE You - You Make Me Happy and Complete

The Happiness of a Good Person (Psalm 112)

Praise the LORD! Happy is the person who honours the LORD, who takes pleasure in obeying his commands.

The good man's children will be powerful in the land; his descendants will be blessed. His family will be wealthy and rich, and he will be prosperous for ever. Light shines in the darkness for good people, for those who are merciful, kind, and just.

(Psalm 112:1-4 GNT)

Are you happy or are you sad? I am happy and full of joy. The joy of the LORD is my strength. I LOVE my Father, therefore I always strive to bless others.

"There is more happiness in giving than in receiving."

(Acts 20:35b GNT)

Jesus the Real Vine (John 15:1-17)

If you remain in me and my words remain in you, then you will ask for anything you wish, and you shall have it. My Father's glory is shown by you bearing much fruit; and in this way, you become my disciples.

(John 15:7-8 GNT)

Jesus, I choose to remain a branch in you. You are my life-giving vine.

Father, thank you for abundant life, full of good fruit, to share with all people. Please continue blessing me with your Spirit so that I can continue blessing others. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

08 May

Glory to My Father for His Constant Goodness

In Praise of the LORD's Goodness (Psalm 113)

The LORD rules over all nations; his glory is above the heavens.

(Psalm 113:4 GNT)

My Father is good and in full control. He has the whole world in His control, according to His perfect will. I may not think that He is in control, but he surely is fully in control of everything on earth and in the whole universe.

Father, thank you that your perfect will is being done all of the time. Help me to always recognise it.

Jesus the Real Vine (continued)

"My commandment is this: love one another, just as I love you."

(John 15:12 GNT)

Holy Spirit, inspire me and strengthen me to LOVE others and even those unlovable ones and enemies of mine.

Father, thank you that you are good all of the time. Thank you for your Spirit who empowers me to always do the right thing, no matter how I feel. Holy Spirit, continue to guide me and lead me today every step of the way. Help me not to stray from the straight and narrow way. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

09 May

Trusting My Father and Seeking His Perfect Will

The One True God (Psalm 115)

Trust in the LORD, all you that worship him. He helps you and protects you. The LORD is not praised by the dead, by any who go down to the land of silence (the world of the dead). But we, the living, will give thanks to him now and for ever. Praise the LORD!

(Psalm 115:11, 17 & 18 GNT)

I always put my trust in my Father and will continue to worship Him in good times, and in bad. He helps me and protects me and I will praise Him until I blow out my last breath. After that, I shall return to Him in the land of blissfulness and perfect peace.

The World's Hatred (John 15:18 - John 16:4a)

"If the world hates you, just remember that it has hated me first. If you belonged to the world, then the world would love you as its own. But I chose you from the world and you do not belong to it; that is why the world hates you. Remember what I told you: 'Slaves are not greater than their master.' If people persecuted me, they will persecute you too; if they obeyed my teaching, they will obey yours too. You will be expelled from the synagogues, and the time will come when anyone who kills you will think that by doing this he is serving God."

(John 15:18-20 & John 16:2 GNT)

Father, I trust you fully and I am committed to seek and do your perfect will on earth until I blow out my last breath and return to my heavenly home. In the meantime, anoint me daily by your Spirit. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

10 May

The Truth Revealed by the Holy Spirit

Someone Saved from Death Praises God (Psalm 116)

I love the LORD, because he hears me; he listens to my prayers. He listens to me every time I call to him. The danger of death was all around me; the horrors of the grave closed in on me; I was filled with fear and anxiety. Then I called to the LORD, "I beg you, LORD, save me!" How painful it is to the LORD when one of his people dies!

You have saved me from death.

(Psalm 116:1-4, 15 & 16b GNT)

Father, thank you for saving me from certain premature death when I was stabbed in the heart on 19 May 2004 A.D., and again on 04 January 2021 A.D., during my failed suicide attempt. Blessed be your holy name.

The Work of the Holy Spirit (John 16:4b-15)

They (the people of the world) are wrong about sin because they do not believe in me. When, however, the Spirit comes, who reveals the truth about God, he will lead you into all truth. He will not speak on his own authority, but he will speak of what he hears, and will tell you of things to come. He will give me glory, because he will take what I say and tell it to you.

(John 16:9 & 13-14 GNT)

Sin is only such in the eyes of the beholder. My Father's grace cleanses anyone who believes. The Jewish Law judges and condemns. There is no judgement or condemnation for those who believe.

Father, thank you for sending Jesus to save me from eternal death, brimstone and hellfire. Jesus, thank you for liberating me from self-condemnation, which was brought on by religious indoctrination through the Law of Moses. Holy Spirit, stay with me. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

11 May

The Faithfulness of God

In Praise of the LORD (Psalm 117)

Praise the LORD, all nations! Praise him all peoples! His love for us is strong and his faithfulness is eternal. Praise the LORD!

(Psalm 117:1-2 GNT)

Psalm 117 is the shortest Psalm, only two verses long. I will always praise my Father because of his faithfulness and unfailing LOVE.

Father, blessed be your holy name for you are truly great.

Sadness and Gladness (John 16:16-24)

When a woman is about to give birth, she is sad because her hour of suffering has come; but when the baby is born she forgets her suffering, because she is happy that a baby has been born into the world. That is how it is with you: now you are sad, but I will see you again, and your hearts will be filled with gladness, the kind of gladness that no one can take away from you. Until now you have not asked for anything in my name; ask and you will receive, so that your happiness may be complete.

(John 16:21-22 & 24 GNT)

A little difficulties and suffering always end with something good. My sadness is only temporary and before I realise it, it will be replaced by joy.

Father, may your perfect will be done and may all my suffering come to an abrupt end and be replaced with joy in abundance. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

12 May

Victorious Living

A Prayer of Thanks for Victory (Psalm 118)

The LORD is with me, I will not be afraid; what can anyone do to me? It is better to trust the LORD than to depend on human beings. Give thanks to the LORD, because he is good, and his love is eternal.

(Psalm 118:6, 8 & 29 GNT)

My Father helps me to be victorious in everything I do and I will fear nothing, because fear is the opposite of faith. What can any human do to me? With Him on my side I do not have to put my trust in human beings.

Father, thank you for your eternal LOVE and goodness.

Victory Over the World (John 16:25-33)

"The world will make you suffer. But be brave! I have defeated the world!"

(John 16:33b GNT)

"Unfaithful people! Don't you know that to be the world's friend means to be God's enemy? People who want to be the world's friends make themselves God's enemies."

(James 4:4 GNT)

This material world is no friend of mine. My Father is my best friend and with him in me I have complete victory over the material world.

Jesus, thank you for showing me how and helping me to overcome the temptations of this world.

Father, thank you for your Spirit. Thank you for being my Father and my friend and helping me to be victorious over the desires and temptations of the material world. Holy Spirit, continue to strengthen me to live victoriously. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

13 May

The Oneness of Creation

The Law of the LORD (Psalm 119)

A Prayer for Understanding (Psalm 119:33-40)

Keep me obedient to your commandments, because in them I find happiness.

Give me the desire to obey your laws rather than to get rich.

(Psalm 119:35-36 GNT)

Psalm 119 is the longest psalm and makes good reading. The Jewish Law is no law to me for I enjoy obeying it. I will not compromise in order to get rich.

Father, thank you for writing your laws on my heart.

Jesus Prays for His Disciples (John 17:1-26)

"I pray that they may all be one. Father! May they be in us, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they be one, so that the world will believe that you sent me. I gave them the same glory you gave me, so that they may be one, just as you and I are one. I in them and you in me, so that they may be completely one, in order that the world may know that you sent me and that you love them as you love me.

(John 17:21-23 GNT)

In his prayer, Jesus places a lot of emphasis on oneness. I am an earthling and one with the earth and everything on it, quite a revelation and something to keep in mind when tempted to judge others!

Holy Spirit, thank you for revealing to me that I am essentially one with all of creation.

Father, thank you for an awesome day. Thank you for your Spirit who reveals all truth to me. Holy Spirit, continue to guide me on my way throughout this day.

In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

14 May

The Law & The Way and The Truth

Trusting the Law of the LORD (Psalm 119:41-48)

I find pleasure in obeying your commands, because I love them.

(Psalm 119:47 GNT)

Confidence in the Law of the LORD (Psalm 119:49-56)

When I see the wicked breaking your law, I am filled with anger. I find my happiness in obeying your commands.

(Psalm 119:53 & 56 GNT)

It seems like the Psalmist truly loved my Father and His commands. Are you there yet? Do you enjoy always doing the right thing?

Jesus Is Brought before Pilot (John 18:28-38a)

"I was born and came into the world for this one purpose, to speak about the truth. Whoever belongs to the truth listens to me."

(John 18:37b GNT)

Jesus is the way and the truth. He is the King of my Father's Kingdom. He is my King and my Lord. He brought truth and it set me free. As a follower of Jesus, I am totally free because He has made me free. I am a Kingdom child and have been set free from bondages. I am no longer a slave to the Law and sin. I am an enlightened being with Jesus as my Lord.

Jesus, thank you for liberating me with your words of truth.

Father, thank you for writing your Law on my heart. Thank you for the truth that has made me free. Thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, stay with me and lead me on my way. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

15 May

Gladly Seeking My Father's Will

The Value of the Law of the LORD (Psalm 119:65-72)

The proud have told lies about me, but with all my heart I obey your instructions. They have no understanding, but I find pleasure in your law.

(Psalm 119:69-70 GNT)

Just like the Psalmist, I too find great pleasure in doing my Father's will and His law is valuable to me.

Father, no matter rumours and lies about me, I will continue to be obedient to you.

Jesus is Crucified (John 19:16b-27)

There they crucified him; and they also crucified two other men, one on each side, with Jesus between them. Jesus saw his mother and the disciple he loved standing there; so he said to his mother, "he is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "she is your mother." From that time the disciple took her to live in his home.

(John 19:18 & 26-27 GNT)

Jesus was crucified in Golgotha which means "Place of the Skull", with two criminals being crucified with him. Jesus gave his responsibilities towards his mother to John (the disciple he loved) and John took her in to live with him. Jesus' best friend looked after his mother from that time onward.

Father, thank you for this new day. Thank you for not judging and condemning me the way people do. Thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, continue to strengthen and guide me in all truth. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

16 May

The Word and the Spirit Light My Path

Light from the Law of the LORD (Psalm 119:105-112)

Your word is a lamp to guide me and a light for my path.

(Psalm 119:105 GNT)

The Bible serves to give me direction when I cannot see clearly. When I read the Word, the Holy Spirit makes it alive and it gives me light on what I should do next. Since I started studying my Father's Word back in 2008 A.D., his Spirit has given me many an insight and revelation about life.

Holy Spirit, thank you for your light and perfect guidance.

The Death of Jesus (John 19:28-30)

Jesus drank the wine and said, "It is finished!" Then he bowed his head and died.

(John 19:30 GNT)

The Burial of Jesus (John 19:38-42)

In this passage all the details of Jesus' burial are described in detail. Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus took His body and placed it in a new tomb where no one had been buried before. Both of these men were followers of Jesus.

Father, thank you for your amazing LOVE and grace. Thank you for your Word and Spirit that light my path. Holy Spirit, remain with me through every moment of this day. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

17 May

The Holy Spirit Empowers Me

Safety in the Law of the LORD (Psalm 119:113-120)

Go away from me, you sinful people. I will obey the commands of my God.

(Psalm 119:115 GNT)

The wrong friends can make me into a compromiser and it is best to avoid their company. The Psalmist makes it clear in this passage that he does not wish to mix with such people. If your friends are dragging you down, it is probably time to move on and make new friends who are like-minded.

Father, help me to choose my friends wisely.

Jesus Appears to His Disciples (John 20:19-23)

Then Jesus came and stood among them. "Peace be with you," he said. Then he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive people's sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

(John 20:19b & 22-23 GNT)

Jesus gave the Holy Spirit to his disciples. In the same way, when I started my journey with the Lord, I also received the Holy Spirit. Just like Jesus, I have authority to forgive people's sins and to heal them.

Jesus, thank you for giving me authority.

Father, what an honour to serve you and to continue the work of Jesus. Holy Spirit, thank you for empowering me for the task at hand. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

18 May

Love and Light

Desire to Obey the Law of the LORD (Psalm 119:129-136)

Your teachings are wonderful; I obey them with all my heart. The explanation of your teachings gives light and brings wisdom to the ignorant.

Bless me with your presence and teach me your laws.

(Psalm 119:129-130 & 135 GNT)

Father, thank you for your laws and commands. I realise that you have given them to protect me and that they are for my own good.

Jesus and Thomas (John 20:24-29)

"Stop your doubting and believe!"

(John 20:27b GNT)

When Jesus first appeared to the disciples, Thomas was not with them and he doubted that it really happened. When Jesus appeared again a week later, he urged Thomas to believe.

The Purpose of This Book (John 20:30-31)

These miracles have been written in order that you may believe (continue to believe) that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through your faith in him you may have life.

(John 20:31 GNT)

Jesus, thank you for bringing LOVE, light and wisdom.

Father, thank you for sending Jesus to save me from religious fear mongering and ignorance by bringing LOVE, light and wisdom. Thank you for writing your law on my heart. What an awesome Father you are! Holy Spirit, please continue to enlighten me every moment of this day. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

19 May

Spiritually Leading and Caring for Young Believers

A Plea for Help (Psalm 119:153-160)

Look at my suffering, and save me, because I have not neglected your law. The heart of your law is truth and all your righteous judgements are eternal.

(Psalm 119:153 & 160 GNT)

The Psalmist is really placing a lot of emphasis on his obedience to the Law. He tries to convince my Father to show him favour. It is obvious that he was caught up in the Jewish religion and the doctrine of good works to earn favour. Father, thank you for setting me free from religion and the doctrine of good works to earn a place in "heaven" and stay out of "hell". Jesus, thank you for bringing LOVE, light and liberation from religiosity.

Jesus and Peter (John 21:15-19)

In this passage Jesus asked Peter three times whether he loved Him and three times he affirmed his love for Jesus. All three times after hearing Peter's affirmation of his love, Jesus instructed him to look after his lambs and his sheep.

"Take care of my lambs." (John 21:15c GNT)

"Take care of my sheep." (John 21:16c & 17c GNT)

Jesus wants his followers and leaders, like Peter (the rock), to look after new followers and to turn them into leaders to take over the batten when we are no longer around. The fact that Jesus asked Peter three times whether he loved him, demonstrates the importance of this message. If I really love Jesus, I will be a leader to his lambs and sheep alike.

Jesus I really love you and I will lead your flock.

Father, thank you for today's message. Holy Spirit, equip and empower me for the task at hand. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

20 May

Be Still and Trust My Father

A Prayer of Humble Trust (Psalm 131)

LORD, I have given up my pride and turned away from my arrogance. I am not concerned with great matters or with subjects too difficult for me. Instead, I am content and at peace. As a child lies quietly in its mother's arms, so my heart is quiet within me.

(Psalm 131:1-2 GNT)

In this prayer, David confesses that he had been very arrogant in the past. He undertakes to be humble and at peace, going forward.

Father, help me, by your Spirit to become still within and to turn away from arrogance. Help me to become totally at ease like a child in its mothers arms.

The Acts of the Apostles (Introduction)

The Acts of the Apostles is a continuation of the Gospel according to Luke.

Jesus Is Taken up to Heaven (Acts 1: 6-11)

"When the Holy Spirit comes upon you, you will be filled with power, and you will be witnesses for me in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

(Acts 1:8 GNT)

The Holy Spirit fills me with power and enables me to gladly proclaim the Gospel of Christ which liberates humanity from religion. Pure Christianity is not a religion but a way of life.

Father, thank you for today's word and revelation. Holy Spirit, continue to lead me according to Divine Will. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

21 May

Replacing Evil Thoughts with Good Thoughts

God's Complete Knowledge and Care (Psalm 139)

Examine me, O God, and know my mind; test me, and discover my thoughts. Find out if there is any evil in me and guide me in the everlasting way.

(Psalm 139:23-24 GNT)

My Father knows my thoughts before I even have them. He is all knowing and I cannot hide anything from Him. When I think bad thoughts of anger or revenge, He knows it. The challenge is to discard any bad thoughts and to replace them with loving ones. Doing this has made a profound difference in my life and I overflow with joy no matter the circumstances.

Jesus Is Taken up to Heaven (Acts 1: 6-11)

He was taken up to heaven as they watched him, and a cloud hid him from their site. They still had their eyes fixed on the sky as he went away, when two men dressed in white suddenly stood beside them and said, "Galileans, why are you standing there looking up at the sky? This Jesus who was taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way that you saw him go to heaven."

(Acts 1:9b-11 GNT)

The two men in white told the apostles that they would see Jesus return the same way in which he left. I think it would be safe to assume that they were speaking the truth and that the apostles did see him returning in this way. Jesus himself also said that he would return before all the people of that generation had all passed on (refer to Luke 21:32).

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Word. Holy Spirit, thank you for helping me to interpret the Word correctly. Strengthen and guide me throughout this day. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

22 May

The Holy Spirit Enables Believers to Speak in Strange Tongues

A Prayer for Help (Psalm 142)

LORD, I cry to you for help; you, LORD, are my protector; you are all I want in this life.

(Psalm 142:5 GNT)

When King David was hiding in the cave, from King Saul and his army, he cried out to my Heavenly Father like a child crying out to his daddy to protect him. There is no one that brings more comfort when I am anxious and fearful than my Heavenly Father.

Father, thank you for saving me on two occasions from fear, anxiety and imminent death.

The Coming of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:1-13)

When the day of Pentecost came, all the believers were gathered together in one place. Suddenly there was a noise from the sky which sounded like a strong wind blowing, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then they saw what looked like tongues of fire which spread out and touched each person there. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to talk in other languages, as the Spirit enabled them to speak. When they heard this noise, a large crowd gathered. They were all excited, because each one of them heard the believers speaking in his or her own language. In amazement and wonder they exclaimed, "These people who are talking like this are Galileans! How is it, then, that all of us hear them speaking in our own native languages?" Amazed and confused, they kept asking each other, "What does this mean?" But others made fun of the believers, saying, "These people are drunk!"

(Acts 2:1-4, 6-8 & 12-13 GNT)

Holy Spirit, thank you for filling me and enabling me to speak in different tongues and languages.

Father, thank you for your Spirit who enables me to speak in strange tongues. Holy Spirit, please keep on filling me with LOVE and empowering me to overcome fear and anxiety when my thoughts start racing. Bring stillness, calm and peace of mind. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

23 May

The Holy Spirit Empowers Me

In Praise of God the Almighty (Psalm 147)

His pleasure is not in strong horses, nor his delight in brave soldiers; but he takes pleasure in those who honour him, in those who trust in his constant love. (Psalm 147:10-11 GNT)

My Father takes pleasure in me because I honour him and trust in his constant and unconditional LOVE!

Father, thank you. I love you!

Peter's Message (Acts 2:14-42)

Then Peter stood up with the other eleven apostles and in a loud voice began to speak to the crowd: These people are not drunk, as you suppose; it is only nine o'clock in the morning. Instead, this is what the prophet Joel spoke about: "This is what I will do in the last days, God says: I will pour out my Spirit on everyone. Your sons and daughters will proclaim my message; your young men will see visions, and your old men will have dreams. Yes, even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will proclaim my message. I will perform miracles in the sky above and wonders on the earth below."

(Acts 2:14a & 15-19a GNT)

When the Holy Spirit comes down on me and I start speaking in strange tongues, the people around me may get the idea that I have lost my mind or am drunk. Worldly people do not understand the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Holy Spirit, fill me to overflow.

Father, I honour you. Thank you for your constant LOVE and for your Spirit.

Holy Spirit, keep on equipping and empowering me. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

24 May

The Wisdom of the Spirit

The Book of Proverbs

Wisdom Calls (Proverbs 1:20-33)

Inexperienced people die because they reject wisdom. Stupid people are destroyed by their own lack of concern.

(Proverbs 1:32 GNT)

Father, thank you for all my life experiences. Increase my wisdom so that I can live long and share it with the younger generations.

Peter's Message (continued)

Peter said to them, "Each one of you must turn away from your sins and be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ, so that your sins will be forgiven; and you will receive God's gift, the Holy Spirit."

(Acts 2:38 GNT)

Shortly after I became born-again (born from above), I received the Holy Spirit. Some time later I was baptised and not too long after that I also started speaking in tongues. Note that I received the Holy Spirit quite some time before I eventually started speaking in tongues. Speaking in tongues is just a confirmation of the Spirit and not necessarily a requirement.

Holy Spirit, please remain with me and keep on strengthening and comforting me.

Father, what an awesome feeling to truly experience your Spirit. Holy Spirit, thank you for your power and confidence to take on any challenge. Fill and strengthen me afresh for this new day. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

25 May

Healing the Sick with Christ's Authority

The Rewards of Wisdom (Proverbs 2)

Righteous people - people of integrity - will live in this land of ours. But God will snatch the wicked from the land and pull sinners out of it like plants from the ground.

(Proverbs 2:21-22 GNT)

My Father is righteous and fair and he treats me according to my level of integrity. With Him on my side I will overcome every obstacle in my way.

A Lame Man Is Healed (Acts 3:1-10)

But Peter said to him (the lame begger), "I have no money at all, but I give you what I have: in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth I order you to get up and walk!" Then he took him by his right hand and helped him up. At once the man's feet and ankles became strong; he jumped up, stood on his feet, and started walking around.

(Acts 3:6-8a GNT)

I seldom give money to beggars, but sometimes a kind word in LOVE is worth more than money. In John 14:12 Jesus commanded his disciples to go out and do what he had done. Speaking life and health over someone often results in divine healing. Peter knew this and he took a step of faith and spoke healing with authority. As a follower of Christ I have a mandate to heal the sick.

Father, thank you for your perfect LOVE. Thank you for showing favour to the righteous. Holy Spirit, empower me to heal the sick. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

26 May

Trusting My Father for Supernatural Healing

Advice to Young People (Proverbs 3)

Never let go of loyalty and faithfulness. Tie them around your neck; write them on your heart. Trust in the LORD with all your heart. Never rely on what you think you know. Remember the LORD in everything you do, and he will show you the right way. Never let yourself think that you are wiser than you are; simply obey the LORD and refuse to do wrong. If you do, it will be like good medicine, healing your wounds and easing your pains.

(Proverbs 3:3 & 5-8 GNT)

Father, thank you for this Word. Help me to take it to heart and to be obedient.

Peter's Message in the Temple (Acts 3:11-26)

It was the power of his (Jesus') name that gave strength to this lame man. What you see and know was done by faith in his name; it was faith in Jesus that has made him well, as you can all see.

(Acts 3:16 GNT)

There is power in the name of Jesus. Merely the mention of his name can make demons flee and illness and dis-ease disappear.

Jesus, thank you for giving me the authority to use your name to reach out to the sick and to heal them.

Father, thank you for enabling me to do what Jesus had done, and even greater things (John 14:12). I speak health over me and my loved ones. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ of Nazareth, amen.

27 May

Doing Good Whilst Remaining Humble

Advice to Young People (continued)

Whenever you possibly can, do good to those who need it. Never tell your neighbours to wait until tomorrow if you can help them now. The LORD puts a curse on the homes of the wicked, but blesses the homes of the righteous. He has no use for conceited people, but shows favour to those who are humble.

(Proverbs 3:27-28 & 33-34 GNT)

Father, thank you for today's word from the Word. Help me to continue sowing good seeds. I know that I will reap good rewards.

Peter and John before the Council (Acts 4:1-22)

Peter, full of the Holy Spirit, answered them (the members of the council), "Leaders of the people and elders: if we are being questioned today about the good deed done to the lame man and how he was healed, then you should all know, and all the people of Israel should know, that this man stands here before you completely well through the power of the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth - whom you crucified and whom God raised from death."

(Acts 4:8-10 GNT)

There is great power at the mention of Jesus' name.

Father, thank you for a brand-new day. Thank you for empowering me to heal the sick with the power in the name of Jesus. Holy Spirit, thank you for your perfect guidance. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

28 May

Divine Wisdom and Boldness

The Benefits of Wisdom (Proverbs 4)

Getting wisdom is the most important thing you can do. Whatever else you get, get insight. Be careful how you think; your life is shaped by your thoughts. Never say anything that isn't true. Have nothing to do with lies and misleading words. Look straight ahead with honest confidence; don't hang your head in shame. Plan carefully what you do, and whatever you do will turn out right. (Proverbs 4:7 & 23-26 GNT)

These words are indeed words of great wisdom that I should take heart of. Holy Spirit, help me to shape my life according to these words of wisdom.

The Believers Pray for Boldness (Acts 4:23-31)

"LORD, take notice of the threats they have made, and allow us, your servants, to speak your message with all boldness." When they finished praying, the place where they were meeting was shaken. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to proclaim God's message with boldness.

(Acts 4:29 & 31 GNT)

The Holy Spirit is powerful and can do supernatural miracles.

Holy Spirit, fill me afresh today and enable me to do the "impossible", in the name of Jesus.

Father, thank you for your Spirit. Endow me according to my needs and the task at hand. Let your perfect will be done. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

29 May

My Father Knows Everything and Cannot Be Deceived

Warning against Adultery (Proverbs 5)

The LORD sees everything you do. Wherever you go, he is watching. The sins of the wicked are a trap. They get caught in the net of their own sin. They die because they have no self-control. Their utter stupidity will send them to their graves.

(Proverbs 5:21-23 GNT)

My Heavenly Father always knows where I am, what I am thinking about and where I am going. I cannot hide anything from Him. If I commit adultery I could possibly hide it from my spouse thinking that I might get away with it. The Righteous Judge, however, sees everything and He judges fairly.

Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5:1-11)

Peter said to him, "Ananias, why did you let Satan take control of you and make you lie to the Holy Spirit by keeping part of the money you received for the property? You have not lied to human beings - you have lied to God!" As soon as Ananias heard this, he fell down dead; and all who heard about it were terrified.

(Acts 5:3 & 4b-5 GNT)

Both Ananias and his wife Sapphira fell down dead after trying to deceive my Father. He knows everything and cannot be deceived.

Father, thank you for the lesson of Ananias and Sapphira. Thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, guide me on the straight and narrow way. Lead me every step of the way until I reach perfection. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

30 May

Obedience and Holy Spirit Power

More Warnings (Proverbs 6)

How long is the lazy man going to lie in bed? When is he ever going to get up? "I will just take a short nap," he says; "I'll fold my hands and rest a while." But while he sleeps, poverty will attack him like an armed robber.

(Proverbs 6:9-11 GNT)

Laziness could and in most cases does result in poverty.

Father, help me not to become lazy, but to always remain diligent.

The Apostles Are Persecuted (Acts 5:17-42)

Peter and the other apostles replied, "We must obey God, not men. We are witnesses to these things - we and the Holy Spirit, who is God's gift to those who obey him."

(Acts 5:29 & 32 GNT)

Holy Spirit, thank you for your presence and power in my life. Keep on leading me in obedience and equipping me with LOVE, power and soundness of mind. I LOVE you.

Father, thank you for unconditional LOVE, grace and favour. Thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, continue to lead me according to Divine will. Reveal to me every moment of this day how I should react and conduct myself with authority. Strengthen me so that I will not give in to the influences of this world and become a people pleaser. My aim is to please you firstly. Please remain with me. In the name of Jesus the Christ of Nazareth, amen.

31 May

Divine Wisdom and Victory

In Praise of Wisdom (Proverbs 8)

I am Wisdom, and I have insight; I have knowledge and sound judgement. Now, young people, listen to me. Do as I say, and you will be happy. Listen to what you are taught. Be wise; do not neglect it.

(Proverbs 8:12 & 32-33 GNT)

With wisdom on my side, I have everything I need. Wisdom guides me and makes me victorious in everything.

Father, thank you for giving me wisdom. Please keep on endowing me with more wisdom.

The Conversion of Saul (Acts 9:1-19a)

The Lord said to him (Ananias), "Go, because I have chosen him (Saul) to serve me, to make my name known to Gentiles and kings and to the people of Israel. And I myself will show him all that he must suffer for my sake."

So Ananias went, entered the house where Saul was and placed his hands on him. "Brother Saul," he said, "the Lord has sent me - Jesus himself, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here. He sent me so that you might see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit." At once something like fish scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he was able to see again. He stood up and was baptised.

(Acts 9:15-18 GNT)

Before Saul's conversion to Paul (a follower of Christ), he persecuted the early Christians.

Father, thank you for Paul (Saul) and the early Christians who fought hard, proclaiming the Gospel. Holy Spirit, guide me with wisdom to continue spreading the good news of Christ, amen.

June



01 June

Power in Prayer and the Name of Jesus

Wisdom and Stupidity (Proverbs 9)

To be wise you must first have reverence for the LORD. If you know the Holy One, you have understanding. Wisdom will add years to your life. You are the one who will profit if you have wisdom, and if you reject it, you are the one who will suffer.

(Proverbs 9:10-12 GNT)

I have reverence for my Heavenly Father who knew me before I was born. He knitted me together in my mother's womb. He has my whole life planned out and he knows when I am going to breathe my last breath.

Father, I honour you.

Peter in Lydda and Joppa (Acts 9:32-43)

Aeneas was paralysed and had not been able to get out of bed for eight years. "Aeneas," Peter said to him, "Jesus Christ makes you well. Get up and make your bed." At once Aeneas got up.

In Joppa there was a woman named Tabitha, who was a believer. At that time she became ill and died. Her body was washed and laid in a room upstairs. Peter put them all out of the room, and knelt down and prayed; then he turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up!" She opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter, she sat up.

(Acts 9:33b, 34, 36a, 37 & 40 GNT)

As a believer and follower of Christ, I have the authority to heal the sick and to raise the dead.

Father, thank you for giving me the same authority as Jesus to do miracles, signs and wonders. Holy Spirit, continue to empower me with this authority. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

02 June

Obedience to do Good in All Circumstances

Solomon's Proverbs (Proverbs 10)

The reward for doing good is life, but sin leads only to more sin.

Obey the LORD, and you will live longer.

The wicked die before their time.

(Proverbs 10:16 & 27 GNT)

Holy Spirit, guide me and lead me to do only good and to steer away from sin.

Strengthen me to be obedient at all times and convict me when I deviate from the narrow path into disobedience.

Peter's Speech (Acts 10:34-43)

Peter began to speak: "I now realise that it is true that God treats everyone on the same basis. Those who worship him and do what is right are acceptable to him, no matter what race they belong to. You know about Jesus of Nazareth and how God poured out on him the Holy Spirit and power. He went everywhere, doing good and healing all who were under the power of the Devil, for God was with him.

(Acts 10:34-35 & 38 GNT)

My Father always protects me, because I always strive to do his will and what is right. I know that his Spirit is with me and empowers me to heal those who are oppressed by the Devil.

Father, thank you for your Spirit who continuously empowers me. Let your perfect will be done. Thank you that your perfect will is always being done.

Holy Spirit, continue to empower me. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

03 June

The Holy Spirit Is Available to All

(Proverbs 11)

The LORD hates people who use dishonest scales. He is happy with honest weights.

Be generous, and you will be prosperous. Help others and you will be helped.

(Proverbs 11:1 & 25 GNT)

As I sow, I shall also reap. If I am dishonest and cheat others, something similar will inevitably happen to me. If I am generous to others, I can expect prosperity in the shape of the universe being generous to me. Similarly, if I help others, I can expect the favour to return to me. My Father is awesome. Father, thank you for being the awesome Father that you are.

Peter's Report to the Church at Jerusalem (Acts 11:1-18)

"When I began to speak, the Holy Spirit came down on them (the Gentile family) just as on us at the beginning. Then I remembered what the Lord had said: 'John baptised with water, but you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.' It is clear that God gave those Gentiles the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ; who was I, then, to try to stop God!"

(Acts 11:15-17 GNT)

My Father treats everyone equally, whether Jew or Gentile, man or a woman, black or white. It makes no difference. The Holy Spirit is available for everyone.

Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, fill me afresh today. Lead me and guide me and strengthen me to conduct myself according to Divine will. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

04 June

The Joy of the Spirit

(Proverbs 12)

Nothing bad happens to righteous people, but the wicked have nothing but trouble.

Worry can rob you of happiness, but kind words will cheer you up.

Righteousness is the road to life; wickedness is the road to death.

(Proverbs 12:21, 25 & 28 GNT)

My Heavenly Father protects me. He has made me righteous through Jesus the Messiah. I am only human and sometimes I slip and treat someone poorly. He is quick to forgive however, when I confess and repent.

Worrying about the future steals my joy but a kind word always cheers me up. I try to be kind to all people and animals alike. As I sow, I shall also reap.

Holy Spirit, help me not to judge others and especially those whom I do not know. Help me to always be kind.

In Antioch and Pisidia (Acts 13:13-52)

"For this is the commandment that the Lord has given us: 'I have made you a light for the Gentiles, so that all the world may be saved.'" When the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and praised the Lord's message; and those who had been chosen for eternal life became believers. The believers in Antioch were full of joy and the Holy Spirit.

(Acts 13:47-48 & 52 GNT)

Joy and the Holy Spirit go hand in hand and is a by-product for all who believe.

Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, thank you for filling my heart with pure joy. Lead me and guide me throughout this day according to your perfect way. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

05 June

Increasing Wisdom and Boldness to Speak Healing

(Proverbs 13)

Keep company with the wise and you will become wise. If you make friends with stupid people, you will be ruined. The righteous have enough to eat, but the wicked are always hungry.

(Proverbs 13:20 & 25 GNT)

Holy Spirit, help me to avoid spending unnecessary time with stupid people.

Lead me away from wicked and stupid people, unless you want to use me to bring light in their lives. Lead me to the wise so that their wisdom will rub off on me.

In Lystra and Derby (Acts 14:8-20)

In Lystra there was a man who had been lame from birth and had never been able to walk. He sat there and listened to Paul's words. Paul saw that he believed and could be healed, so he looked straight at him and said in a loud voice, "Stand up straight on your feet!" The man jumped up and started walking around.

(Acts 14:8-10 GNT)

It is amazing what a few words, spoken with authority, can do to someone who believes. Paul gave the lame believer a command to stand up straight and immediately his feet, ankles and legs were strengthened and he jumped up. Faith is a very powerful attribute that can heal any chronic condition or dis-ease.

Father, thank you for increasing my wisdom and enabling me to speak healing into the lives of those who believe. Holy Spirit, keep on increasing my confidence and boldness. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

06 June

Agreement with the Holy Spirit

(Proverbs 14)

Stay away from foolish people, they have nothing to teach you. Foolish people don't care if they sin, but good people want to be forgiven. Bad people will get what they deserve. Good people will be rewarded for their deeds. Wise people are careful to stay out of trouble, but stupid people are careless and act too quickly. People with a hot temper do foolish things; wiser people remain calm. If you want to be happy, be kind to the poor; it is a sin to despise anyone.

(Proverbs 14:7, 9, 14, 16-17 & 21 GNT)

Holy Spirit, inspire me to be kind to all people and especially to the poor. Lead me and guide me to conduct myself according to my Father's perfect will.

The Letter to the Gentile Believers (Acts 15:22-35)

The Holy Spirit and we have agreed not to put any other burden on you besides these necessary rules: eat no food that has been offered to idols...; and keep yourself from sexual immorality.

(Acts 15:28 & 29a GNT)

Holy Spirit, help me to always hear your voice clearly and to be in agreement with you.

Father, let your perfect will be done. Thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, speak clearly and help me to come into agreement with you and to comply, even though I may not initially agree with you. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

07 June

Patient Obedience to the Holy Spirit

(Proverbs 14)

Work and you will earn a living; if you sit around talking, you will be poor. Wise people are rewarded with wealth, but fools are known by their foolishness. Reverence for the LORD gives confidence and security to a man and his family. Peace of mind makes the body healthy, but jealousy is like a cancer.

(Proverbs 14:23-24, 26 & 30 GNT)

Father, thank you for giving me inner peace and a healthy body. Thank you, Holy Spirit, for quieting my busy mind.

In Troas: Paul's Vision (Acts 16:6-10)

When they reached the border of Mysia, they tried to go into the province of Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them. That night Paul had a vision in which he saw a Macedonian standing and begging him, "Come over to Macedonia and help us!"

(Acts 16:7 & 9 GNT)

When the Holy Spirit prevents me from doing something, He normally opens another door to channel me in another direction. The key is patience and obedience to his leading.

Father, thank you for your Spirit who always leads me in a perfect way. May your perfect will come to fruition in your perfect timing. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

08 June

Nothing Else But the Whole Truth Will Do

(Proverbs 15)

When good people pray, the LORD listens, but he ignores those who are evil.

(Proverbs 15:29 GNT)

My Father always listens to my prayers and He always answers them if they are according to His good and perfect will. If I have any self-centred hidden agendas, He will not answer my prayers. He knows everything and cannot be manipulated or fooled by twisting His arm or lying to Him. He doesn't tolerate half-truths and white lies and He ignores the prayers of liars, con-artists and evil people. He is good, all the time.

In Prison at Philippi (Acts 16:16-40)

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God. Suddenly there was a violent earthquake. At once all the doors were opened, and the chains fell off the prisoners. The jailer called for a light, rushed in, and fell trembling at the feet of Paul and Silas. Then he led them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved? They answered, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved - you and your family."

Acts 16:25a, 26a, 26c & 29-31 GNT)

Father, thank you for listening to me when I approach you in Spirit and in truth. Holy Spirit, continue to lead me in the whole truth. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

09 June

Divine Direction

(Proverbs 16)

You may think everything you do is right, but the LORD judges your motives. Ask the LORD to bless your plans, and you will be successful in carrying them out. You may make your plans, but God directs your actions.

(Proverbs 16:2, 3 & 9 GNT)

Father, please consider my motives and bless my plans. Give me favour and success in the planned Free Plant Protein Project (FPPP)*. Direct my actions according to your perfect will and timing.

In Athens (Acts 17:16-34)

God is actually not far from any one of us; as someone has said, 'In him we live and move and exist.' It is as some of your poets have said, 'We too are his children.' Since we are God's children, we should not suppose that his nature is anything like an image of gold or silver or stone, shaped by human art and skill.

(Acts 17:27b-29 GNT)

My Father is in me and I am in Him. We are one and we are inseparable. With Him on my side, I can move mountains.

Heavenly Father, direct my moves every step of the way according to your perfect will. Holy Spirit, you are most welcome in my life. I look forward to a bright future with you by my side permanently. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

*God gave me a vision in 2021 to start a project of planting fruit and nut trees across SA, all along the tarred roads.

10 June

Holy Spirit Patience and Power

(Proverbs 16 - continued)

Gossip is spread by wicked people; they stir up trouble and break up friendships. Watch out for people who grin and wink at you; they have thought of something evil.

It is better to be patient than powerful. It is better to win control over yourself than over whole cities.

(Proverbs 16:28, 30 & 32 GNT)

I have to be careful with whom I hang around. Some people enjoy spreading rumours and creating disharmony. It is best that I avoid them lest I become like them.

Paul in Ephesus (Acts 19:1-10)

There he found some disciples and asked them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" "We have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit," they answered. Paul said, "The baptism of John was for those who turned from their sins; and he told the people of Israel to believe in the one who was coming after him - that is, in Jesus."

When they heard this, they were baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Paul placed his hands on them, and the Holy Spirit came upon them; they spoke in strange tongues and also proclaimed God's message.

(Acts 19:1b, 2 & 4-6 GNT)

The Holy Spirit is a free gift for those who believe in Jesus.

Father, thank you for pouring out your Spirit on me to lead me on your perfect path. Holy Spirit, you are most welcome in my life. Please remain with me. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

11 June

Spirit-Empowered Miracles

(Proverbs 17)

Better to eat a dry crust of bread with peace of mind than to have a banquet in a house full of trouble.

Evil people listen to evil ideas, and liars listen to lies.

To like sin is to like making trouble. If you brag all the time (make a show of your wealth), you are asking for trouble.

Anyone who thinks and speaks evil can expect to find nothing good - only disaster.

Being cheerful keeps you healthy. It is slow death to be gloomy all the time.

Those who are sure of themselves do not talk all the time. People who stay calm have real insight. After all, even a fool may be thought wise and intelligent if he stays quiet and keeps his mouth shut.

(Proverbs 17:1, 4, 19, 20, 22 & 27-28 GNT)

Father, let these proverbs sink in and greatly enhance my wisdom.

Paul in Ephesus / The Sons of Sceva (Acts 19:1-20)

God was performing unusual miracles through Paul. Even handkerchiefs and aprons he had used were taken to those who were ill, and their diseases were driven away, and the evil spirits would go out of them. Some Jews who travelled round and drove out evil spirits also tried to use the name of the Lord Jesus to do this. They said to the evil spirits, "I command you in the name of Jesus, whom Paul preaches." Seven brothers, who were the sons of a Jewish High Priest named Sceva, were doing this.

But the evil spirit said to them, "I know Jesus, and I know about Paul; but you - who are you?"

The man who had the evil spirit in him attacked them with such violence that he overpowered them all. They ran away from his house, wounded and with their clothes torn off.

(Acts 19:11-12 GNT)

I should only attempt something like this if the Spirit tells me to. In my own power I will fail miserably, just like the sons of Sceva.

Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, thank you for increasing my wisdom day by day. Stay with me and continue to empower me for my Father's purposes. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

12 June

The Righteous Are Wealthy and Escape Premature Death

(Proverbs 18)

The LORD is like a strong tower, where the righteous can go and be safe. Rich people, however, imagine that their wealth protects them like high, strong walls round a city.

(Proverbs 18:10-11 GNT)

If I had to choose between righteousness and wealth, I would most certainly choose righteousness. Wealth cannot protect me, but my Father protects the righteous. He blesses the righteous with wealth.

Paul's Last Visit to Troas (Acts 20:7-12)

A young man named Eutychus was sitting in the window, and as Paul kept on talking, Eutychus got sleepier and sleepier, until he finally went sound asleep and fell from the third storey to the ground. When they picked him up, he was dead. But Paul went down and threw himself on him and hugged him. "Don't worry," he said, "he is still alive!" They took the young man home alive and were greatly comforted.

(Acts 20:9-10 & 12 GNT)

I will not die before my allotted time on earth is up. Sometimes it requires signs and wonders to save a life. My Father's ways are higher than mine.

Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, thank you for Divine protection and guidance. Increase my wisdom and keep on leading me to be righteous in word and deed. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

13 June

Transforming from Materialist towards Spiritualist™

(Proverbs 19)

Enthusiasm without knowledge is not good; impatience will get you into trouble. When you give to the poor, it is like lending to the LORD, and the LORD will pay you back. People may plan all kinds of things, but the LORD's will is going to be done. Obey the LORD and you will live a long life, content and safe from harm. (Proverbs 19:2, 17, 21 & 23 GNT)

Father, thank you for revealing truth and imparting wisdom through the proverbs. Holy Spirit, strengthen me to wait patiently while gaining more knowledge, wisdom and insight.

Paul's Farewell Speech to the Elders of Ephesus (Acts 20:17-38)

"I have shown you in all things that by working hard in this way we must help the weak, remembering the words that the Lord Jesus himself said, 'There is more happiness in giving than in receiving.'"

(Acts 20:35 GNT)

When I help someone in need, it gives me great joy. The joy I receive through giving to the needy totally outweighs the time and resources I spend.

It is worth every second and every penny.

To help the weak and needy and make them smile, is good medicine for a weary soul.

Father, thank you for the gift of life. Holy Spirit, thank you for helping me daily to transform from materialist to spiritualist™. Continue to fill me and guide me to live my life according to Divine will. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

14 June

Stepping Out in Faith and Trusting God

(Proverbs 20)

Don't take it on yourself to repay a wrong. Trust the LORD and he will make it right. The LORD hates people who use dishonest scales and weights. A king will remain in power as long as his rule is honest, just, and fair.

(Proverbs 20:22-23 & 28 GNT)

My Father is righteous and he will see to it that justice is done. He is totally in control of every situation, both good and bad. Sometimes I wonder why corrupt governments are in power. If they are really corrupt, their rule will be short lived. I do not have to worry about these things. My Father will take care of it. Father, thank you for making everything right.

In Malta (Acts 28:1-10)

Publius' Father was in bed, sick with fever and dysentery. Paul went into his room, prayed, placed his hands on him, and healed him. When this happened, all the other sick people on the island came and were healed.

(Acts 28:8-9 GNT)

My Father can, and does use believers like you and me, people of faith, to heal the sick.

"They will place their hands on sick people, who will get well."

(Mark 16:18b GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for giving me the power to heal the sick. Holy Spirit, lead me and guide me and give me boldness to step out in faith and heal the sick. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

15 June

My Father's Unconditional LOVE and Grace - The Gospel

(Proverbs 21)

You may think that everything you do is right, but remember that the LORD judges your motives. Plan carefully and you will have plenty; if you act too quickly, you will never have enough.

(Proverbs 21:2 & 5 GNT)

My Heavenly Father knows everything and having hidden agendas will not receive His blessing. It is best to consult with Him and involve Him in all my plans.

Impulsive decision making is not of Him and can have disastrous effects.

Holy Spirit, lead me and guide me to make good decisions. Purify my heart and my motives.

The Power of the Gospel (Romans 1:16-17)

I have complete confidence in the gospel; it is God's power to save all who believe. For the gospel reveals how God puts people right with himself: it is through faith from beginning to end. As the Scripture says, "the person who is put right with God through faith shall live."

(Romans 1:16a & 17 GNT)

The key to being saved is to stop condemning myself and to believe in my Father's LOVE and saving grace. Self-condemnation is a terrible evil, but salvation is a free gift.

Father, thank you for your constant and unconditional LOVE and grace. Holy Spirit, thank you for convicting me and guiding me in all truth. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

16 June

Following the Light and Thinking before Speaking

(Proverbs 21)

Better to live on the roof than share the house with a nagging wife. Better to live out in the desert than with a nagging, complaining wife.

If you want to stay out of trouble, be careful what you say.

(Proverbs 21:9, 19 & 23 GNT)

The proverbs writer uses the example of a nagging wife to make a certain point. In another proverb he also uses the analogy of a dripping tap. The point that he is trying to bring across, is that I should separate myself from constant sources of irritation. Social media bombardment is a good modern day example of such a source of irritation.

Holy Spirit, lead me and guide me to make time for quiet time and focusing, away from all sources of irritation and distractions. Guide my thoughts and words that they may be acceptable to you and uplifting to my hearers.

The Guilt of the Human Race (Romans 1:18-32)

The women pervert the natural use of their sex by unnatural acts. In the same way men give up natural sexual relations with women and burn with passion for each other. They are filled with all kinds of wickedness, evil, greed and vice; they are full of jealousy, murder, fighting, deceit, and malice. They gossip and speak evil of one another; they are hateful to God, insolent, proud, and boastful; they think of more ways to do evil.

(Romans 1: 26b, 27a, 29 & 30a GNT)

In this letter to the Romans, Paul paints a really dark picture of the human species.

Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, lead me and guide me to steer clear of my dark side and to always follow the light. Thank you for being my guiding light. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

17 June

Teaching my Father's Children

(Proverbs 22)

Teach children how they should live, and they will remember it all their lives.

(Proverbs 22:6 GNT)

"Love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. Never forget these commands that I am giving you today. Teach them to your children."

(Deuteronomy 6:5-6 & 7a GNT)

Father, thank you for entrusting me with the precious gift of children. Please continue to bless them now that they are adults.

How We Are Put Right with God (Romans 3:21-31)

Everyone has sinned and is far away from God's saving presence. But by the free gift of God's grace all are put right with him through Christ Jesus, who sets them free.

(Romans 3:23-24 GNT)

Jesus came to free me from guilt and self-condemnation as a result of sins from my "past" life. I have closed the chapter of my "past" life when I became born-again on July 19, 2008 A.D. I am liberated from sin and death. I have received eternal life.

Jesus, I thank you.

Father, thank you for a brand new day. Thank you for abundant life. Thank you for the Kingdom life into all eternity. Bless my children and all children. Holy Spirit, guide me and lead me today. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

18 June

A Prayer for Increased Wisdom and Increased Faith

(Proverbs 26)

A fool doing some stupid thing a second time is like a dog going back to its vomit.

(Proverbs 26:11 GNT)

My Heavenly Father created me in his image. When I make mistakes, I learn from them. I grow in wisdom through all my life experiences. Sometimes I am naïve and I foolishly repeat the same mistake twice by getting caught by scamsters.

Father, make me vigilant to deceivers, scamsters and con-artists. Increase my wisdom.

God's Promise Is Received through Faith (Romans 4:13-25)

He (Abraham) was then almost 100 years old; but his faith did not weaken when he thought of his body, which was already practically dead, or of the fact that Sarah could not have children. His faith did not leave him, and he did not doubt God's promise; his faith filled him with power, and he gave praise to God. He was absolutely sure that God would be able to do what he had promised. That is why Abraham through faith, "was accepted as righteous by God."

(Romans 4:19-22 GNT)

To believe a promise of a child with a ninety year old wife when you are ninety nine years old, requires a huge amount of faith.

Father, thank you for all your promises. Thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, increase my wisdom and faith to believe all the promises in the Word. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

19 June

Holy Spirit Guidance and Strength

(Proverbs 26)

Without wood, the fire goes out; without gossip, quarrelling stops. Charcoal keeps the embers glowing, wood keeps the fire burning, and troublemakers keep arguments alive. Gossip is so tasty! How we love to swallow it!

(Proverbs 26:20-22 GNT)

Holy Spirit, lead me away from listening to, or partaking in gossip. Teach me to keep quiet if I have nothing good to say about someone else.

Right with God (Romans 5:1-11)

We know that trouble produces endurance, endurance brings God's approval, and his approval creates hope. This hope does not disappoint us for God has poured out his love into our hearts by means of the Holy Spirit, who is God's gift to us.

(Romans 5:3b-5 GNT)

My Heavenly Father gives me the strength to persevere in times of trials, tribulation and trouble. I have a confident hope that he will bring me through all my troubles safely because he loves me and his Spirit resides within me.

Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, you are my helper, my comforter and my strength. Keep on filling me to overflow and flow through me to all others around me who are in desperate need of you. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

20 June

Holy Spirit LOVE and Light

(Proverbs 28)

You will never succeed in life if you try to hide your sins. Confess them and give them up; then God will show mercy to you.

Always obey the LORD and you will be happy. If you are stubborn, you will be ruined.

(Proverbs 28:13-14 GNT)

My Father knows everything and I know that I cannot hide anything from Him. As soon as the Holy Spirit convicts me of something I did that's not right, I immediately repent and make a mental note to stop such behaviour.

Note: The Holy Spirit convicts but the Devil condemns.

Slaves of Righteousness (Romans 6:15-23)

You were set free from sin and became the slaves of righteousness. For sin pays its wage - death; but God's free gift is eternal life in union with Christ Jesus our Lord.

(Romans 6:18 & 23 GNT)

Jesus has set me free from the Law and sin. He has liberated me from self-condemnation, religious good works and spiritual death. I have accepted God's free gift of eternal life and I am now a slave to righteousness.

Jesus, thank you for bringing LOVE and light.

Father, you are awesome. Thank you for your unconditional LOVE. Thank you for eternal life to the full. Thank you for wisdom and light. Thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, remain with me throughout this new day. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

21 June

Selfless Like The Master

(Proverbs 28 - continued)

Selfishness only causes trouble. You are much better off to trust the LORD.

Give to the poor and you will never be in need.

(Proverbs 28:25 & 27 GNT)

As a follower of Jesus, I have crucified my old selfish self and am now becoming more and more selfless like him. Jesus surely is the best example of someone who lived a life of total selflessness. Sharing and giving material possessions to the poor is an act of worship to my Father.

Father, I know I will never experience any lack because you are my provider.

The Conflict within Us (Romans 7:14-25)

I don't do the good I want to; instead, I do the evil that I do not want to do.

What an unhappy man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is taking me to death? Thanks be to God, who does this through our Lord Jesus Christ!

This, then, is my condition: on my own I can serve God's law only with my mind, while my human nature serves the law of sin.

(Romans 7:19 & 24-25 GNT)

On my own, I cannot overcome sin, but with the Holy Spirit it is easy.

Holy Spirit, remain with me.

Father, thank you for constant and unconditional LOVE and grace. Thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, thank you for filling me with LOVE, power, self-control and a sound mind. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

22 June

Submitting to the Holy Spirit

(Proverbs 29)

Evil people are trapped by their own sins, while honest people are happy and free.

(Proverbs 29:6 GNT)

Evil people will never be happy and free because they have an internal battle in their minds. Even evil people have a conscience and a guilty conscience has a way to steal your joy. When I treat others the way I would like to be treated, I experience inner peace and joy. Being evil and dishonest is definitely not an option.

Life in the Spirit (Romans 8:1-17)

To be controlled by human nature results in death; to be controlled by the Spirit results in life and peace. Those who obey their human nature cannot please God.

(Romans 8:6 & 8 GNT)

To be obedient to the Spirit can be quite tricky. Once you make a decision to submit to the leading of the Spirit, however, it becomes easy. It boils down to making a choice. The law of the Spirit has set me free from the law of sin and death.

"For the law of the Spirit, which brings us life in union with Christ Jesus, has set me free from the law of sin and death."

(Romans 8:2 GNT)

Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, thank you for perfect guidance. Continue to lead me and guide me every moment of this new day. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

23 June

Holy Spirit-Filled Sons and Daughters

(Proverbs 29 - continued)

People with quick tempers cause a lot of quarrelling and trouble. Arrogance will bring your downfall, but if you are humble, you will be respected.

(Proverbs 29:22-23 GNT)

The Holy Spirit is gentle and calm and he helps me to keep my temper under control. Sometimes the ego actually still manages to stick out its ugly head, but the Spirit quickly convicts me and the situation is brought under control.

Holy Spirit, thank you for your perfect guidance at all times.

The Future Glory (Romans 8:18-30)

We know that in all things God works for good with those who love him, those whom he has called according to his purpose. Those whom God has already chosen he also set apart to become like his Son, so that the Son would be the eldest brother in a large family.

(Romans 8:28-29 GNT)

My Father works everything out for good in all situations, good and bad.

Father, thank you for welcoming me in your family of holy sons and daughters. Thank you for welcoming me in the Kingdom of sons and daughters. Holy Spirit, continue to lead me on the narrow way. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

24 June

My Father is On My Side

The Capable Wife (Proverbs 31:10-31)

She is strong and respected and not afraid of the future. She speaks with a gentle wisdom. She is always busy and looks after her family's needs. Her children show their appreciation, and her husband praises her. He says, "Many women are good wives, but you are the best of them all." Charm is deceptive and beauty disappears, but a woman who honours the LORD should be praised. Give her credit for all she does. She deserves the respect of everyone.

(Proverbs 31:25-31 GNT)

Thank you, Father, for giving me a capable wife. Bless her with good health, joy and peace of mind.

God's Love in Christ Jesus (Romans 8:31-39)

In view of all this, what can we say? If God is for us, who can be against us? I am certain that nothing can separate us from his love - there is nothing in all creation that will ever be able to separate us from the love of God which is ours through Christ Jesus our Lord.

(Romans 8:31, 38a & 39b GNT)

My Father is omnipresent and nothing can separate me from my His LOVE.

"... God is love." (1 John 4: 8b GNT)

Father, thank you for being in full control. Thank you that your perfect will is being done. Thank you for amazing and unconditional LOVE. Thank you for an amazing wife. Holy Spirit, remain with me throughout this day. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

25 June

A Time for Salvation

A Time for Everything (Ecclesiastes 3:1-15)

Everything that happens in this world happens at the time God chooses.

Whatever happens or can happen has already happened before. God makes the same thing happen again and again.

(Ecclesiastes 3:1 & 15 GNT)

My Father is a miracle worker and he makes the impossible to happen in his perfect time. In 1969 A.D. the first man walked on the moon in 2029 A.D. (60 years later) the first human might walk on Mars. Nothing is impossible to my Father and everything happens when it should. I don't know whether there has been space travel before. There may well have been.

Salvation Is for All (Romans 10:5-21)

If you confess that Jesus is Lord and believe that God raised him from death, you will be saved.

(Romans 10:9 GNT)

Being redeemed and saved from brimstone and hellfire is a choice. Whatever I believe will become my reality. There is absolutely no reason to live in fear and to expect the worst. My Father is not a tyrant and he wants me to be saved from self-condemnation and hell on earth. He is LOVE and He sent Jesus for the human dilemma of self-condemnation and fear of the future.

Father, thank you for sending Jesus to save the lost and confused. Thank you for the great awakening. Holy Spirit, continue to fill me and inspire me moment by moment throughout this day. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

26 June

Praise and Obedience to the Higher Self

The Summing Up (Ecclesiastes 12:9-14)

My son, there is something else to watch out for. There is no end to the writing of books, and too much study will wear you out. After all this, there is only one thing to say: have reverence for God, and obey his commands, because this is all that human beings were created for. God is going to judge everything we do, whether good or bad, even things done in secret.

(Ecclesiastes 12:12-14 GNT)

The book of Ecclesiastes is considered very pessimistic and negative by some, but it paints a true picture of how some people experience this life. Having reverence for my Father and being obedient to His commands is for my own well-being and definitely the way to go.

Praise to God (Romans 11:33-36)

As the Scripture says, "Who knows the mind of the LORD? Who is able to give him advice? Who has ever given him anything, so that he had to pay it back?" For all things were created by him, and all things exist through him and for him. To God be the glory for ever! Amen.

(Romans 11:34-36 GNT)

My Father's Spirit is the Divine Higher Self within me. I cannot give him advice, but he guides me and gives me advice. It makes perfect sense to listen to His voice and to be obedient in all circumstances.

Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit thank you for perfect guidance and advice. Thank you for subtle hints and little miracles, showing your LOVE, presence and power day by day. Please remain with me. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

27 June

The Perfect Holy Trinity

Arrogance Will Be Destroyed (Isaiah 2:6-22)

He (God) will level the high mountains and hills, every high tower and the walls of every fortress. He will sink even the largest and most beautiful ships. Human pride will be ended, and human arrogance will be destroyed.

(Isaiah 2:14-17 GNT)

We have already seen this happening in our recent history. The twin towers in New York City had been completely levelled to the ground. The most beautiful Titanic luxury liner sank on its maiden voyage. My Father is true to His word and will continue to destroy human pride and arrogance.

Life in God's Service (Romans 12)

Do not conform yourself to the standards of this world, but let God transform you inwardly by a complete change of your mind. Then you will be able to know the will of God - what is good and pleasing to him and is perfect. Do everything possible on your part to live in peace with everybody. Do not let evil defeat you; instead, conquer evil with good.

(Romans 12:2, 18 & 21 GNT)

I am a mere mortal and know nothing about most subjects. I do know, however, that the Holy Spirit is with me and enables me to know and do all things destined for me.

Father, thank you for your perfect will. Holy Spirit, thank you for your perfect guidance. Jesus, thank you for your perfect example, amen.

28 June

My Father's Prophecies, Promises and Guidelines

The Sign of Immanuel (Isaiah 7:10-25)

"Well then, the LORD himself will give you a sign: a young woman who is pregnant will have a son and will name him 'Immanuel.'"

(Isaiah 7:14 GNT)

The original Hebrew translation of young women in this scripture is not the specific term for a "virgin", but refers to any young woman of marriageable age. The use of "virgin" in Matthew 1:23 reflect a Greek translation of the Old Testament, made some 500 years after Isaiah. This passage is quoted in Matthew 1:23 as the prophecy of the birth of Jesus to the Virgin Mary. The name "Emmanuel" means "God is with us." This prophecy about Jesus is but one of many in the Old Testament.

Duties towards the State Authorities (Romans 13:1-7)

Everyone must obey the state authorities, because no authority exists without God's permission, and the existing authorities have been put there by God. For this reason you must obey the authorities - not just because of God's punishment, but also as a matter of conscience.

(Romans 13:1 & 5 GNT)

I may not like the government and I may not have voted for them, but my Father expects me to honour them, because He has given them permission to rule.

Father, thank you for your Word with all its prophecies, promises and guidelines. Thank you for your Spirit that makes the Word come to life. Holy Spirit, remain with me. In the Mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

29 June

The Truth of the Commandments

Warnings against Consulting the Dead (Isaiah 8:16-20)

Here I am with the children the LORD has given me. The LORD Almighty has sent us as living messages to the people of Israel. But people will tell you to ask for messages from fortune-tellers and mediums, who chirp and mutter. You are to answer them, "Listen to what the LORD is teaching you! Don't listen to mediums - what they tell you cannot keep trouble away."

(Isaiah 8:18, 19a & 20 GNT)

My Father's prophecies, promises and guidelines are sufficient for me. I do not need to consult mediums. The Holy Spirit shows me and teaches me everything I need to know and his guidance is perfect.

Duties towards One Another (Romans 13:8-14)

The commandments, "Do not commit adultery; do not commit murder; do not steal; do not desire what belongs to someone else" - all these, and any others besides, are summed up in the one command, "Love your neighbour as you love yourself." If you love someone, you will never do them wrong; to love, then, is to obey the whole Law.

(Romans 13:9-10 GNT)

To obey my Father's commands is simple: LOVE your neighbour as yourself. Being obedient is not rocket science. I have to LOVE all people, including my enemies. They were also created by Him.

Father, thank you for your Word and all of its truth and regulations. Thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, strengthen me to LOVE my enemies. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

30 June

Jesus My Solid Cornerstone

A Cornerstone for Zion (Isaiah 28:14-22)

This, now, is what the Sovereign LORD says: "I am placing in Zion a foundation that is firm and strong. In it I am putting a solid cornerstone on which are written the words, 'Faith that is firm is also patient.' Justice will be the measuring-line for the foundation, and honesty will be its plumb-line."

(Isaiah 28:16-17a GNT)

My foundation is firm and strong with Jesus being my solid cornerstone. My faith is firm and patient. My conduct will determine the size of my foundation. My honesty will determine the integrity and durability of my foundation. If all these attributes are perfect, then my house will be perfect and one hundred percent safe in any storm.

Father, let it be according to your perfect will.

Do Not Judge One Another (Romans 14:1-12)

Those who will eat anything are not to despise those who don't; while those who eat only vegetables are not to pass judgement on those who will eat anything; for God has accepted them. Who are you to judge someone else's servants?

(Romans 14:3-4a GNT)

I am not in a position to judge anyone. What people do is between them and my Father. I am not supposed to judge others.

"Do not judge others, and God will not judge you; do not condemn others, and God will not condemn you; forgive others, and God will forgive you."

(Luke 6:37 GNT)

Father, thank you for today's word from the Word. Please bless all the readers. Thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, continue to bless and strengthen me with fresh revelations. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

July



01 July

Divine Wisdom

God's Wisdom (Isaiah 28:23-29)

The plans God make are wise, and they always succeed!

(Isaiah 28:29b GNT)

My Father is wise and cannot make mistakes. His plans always work out. When the world was in a state of terrible decay, he sent Jesus to literally shed his light to save humanity from moral perversity and religious deception albeit through a new religion.

Do Not Make One Another Fall (Romans 14:13-23)

So then, let us stop judging one another. Instead you should decide never to do anything that would make another stumble or fall into sin.

If you hurt your brother or sister because of something you eat, then you are no longer acting from love. Do not let what you regard as good get a bad name. For God's Kingdom is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of the righteousness, peace and joy which the Holy Spirit gives.

Happy are those who do not feel guilty when they do something they judge is right! But if they have doubts about what they eat, God condemns them when they eat it, because their action is not based on faith. And anything that is not based on faith is sin.

(Romans 14:13, 15a, 16-17 & 22b-23 GNT)

The Bible is written in such a way that it accommodates all people in all stages of evolution. My Father sure is wise.

Father, thank you for the Holy Bible, which gives me light and direction when I need it. Holy Spirit, thank you for breaking open the Word to help me see the light. Thank you for opening my spiritual eyes and ears. Please remain with me and continue to inspire me every moment of this day. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

02 July

My Father is Awesome

Words of Hope (Isaiah 40)

"Yes, grass withers and flowers fade, but the word of our God endures for ever."

But those who trust in the LORD for help will find their strength renewed. They will rise on wings like eagles; they will run and not get weary; they will walk and not grow weak.

(Isaiah 40:8 & 31 GNT)

The Bible is a source of hope that never disappoints. It has increased my faith and trust in my Father. His Spirit renews my strength day by day. He is good and never changes. His LOVE is constant and unconditional.

Please Others, Not Yourselfes (Romans 15:1-6)

We should not please ourselves. Instead we should all please our brothers and sisters for their own good, in order to build them up in the faith.

(Romans 15:1b-2 GNT)

The wellbeing of my loved ones and my neighbours is my priority, even if it means enduring some discomfort. If I reach out to them, their faith is built up, and my Father is glorified.

Father, thank you for your Word and your Spirit. It is an honour to serve you. Holy Spirit, keep on filling me and inspiring me. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ of Nazareth, amen.

03 July

I Am My Heavenly Father's Child

God's Assurance to Israel (Isaiah 41:1-20)

Do not be afraid - I am with you! I am your God - let nothing terrify you! I will make you strong and help you; I will protect you and save you.

(Isaiah 41:10 GNT)

I have no reason to fear the present, because my Father is with me. Neither have I any reason to fear the future, because of the lessons of the past. He has always been there for me and He will always be with me. We are inseparable and therefore I have nothing to fear.

"In view of all this, what can we say? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

(Romans 8:31 GNT)

Good News for the Gentiles (Romans 15:7-13)

May God, the source of hope, fill you with all joy and peace by means of your faith in him, so that your hope will continue to grow by the power of the Holy Spirit.

(Romans 15:13 GNT)

My Father is available to all people, be it Jew or Gentile, Afrikaner or Zulu, Arab or Eskimo. We all belong to Him. He is my hope and joy, and in Him I find peace. He is not distant - He lives within me. My hope is ever increasing by the power of his Spirit.

Thank you, Father, for this awesome revelation. Thank you that your perfect will is being done. Thank you that your Kingdom is upon me and within me. Holy Spirit, remain with me and continue to guide me and strengthen me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

04 July

Satan Is a Defeated Enemy

Escape from Babylon (Isaiah 43:14-28)

But the LORD says, "Do not cling to events of the past or dwell on what happened long ago. Watch for the new thing I am going to do. It is happening already - you can see it now! I will make a road through the wilderness and give you streams of water there.

(Isaiah 43:18-19 GNT)

My Father is capable of all things. If it is a path through the wilderness that I need, he will give it to me. If it is streams of freshwater that I need, He will give it. If it is an outcome from a difficult situation that I need, he will give it. I just have to be bold and ask Him in faith.

"For all those who ask will receive."

(Luke 11:10a GNT)

Final Instructions (Romans 16:17-24)

And God, our source of peace, will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

(Romans 16:20a & 24 GNT)

To those who believe, there is no such thing as the power of the Evil One. He has been defeated at Calvary.

Father, thank you for crushing the serpent under my feet. I shall tread on deadly snakes and no harm will come upon me. Holy Spirit, continue to fill me and lead me throughout this day. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

05 July

My Omniscient Creator

The Future Jerusalem (Isaiah 54:11-17)

"I create the blacksmith, who builds a fire and forges weapons. I also create the soldier, who uses the weapons to kill. But no weapon will be able to hurt you; you will have an answer for all who accuse you. I will defend my servants and give them victory." The LORD has spoken.

(Isaiah 54:16-17 GNT)

No weapons formed against me shall prosper. The full armour of my Father protects me against any onslaught of my enemy. My enemy is cunning and powerful, but with the Holy Spirit on my side, he is pretty much useless.

So stand ready, with truth as a belt tight round your waist, with righteousness as your breastplate, and as your shoes the readiness to announce the Good News of peace. At all times carry faith as a shield; for with it you will be able to put out all the burning arrows shot by the Evil One. And accept salvation as a helmet, and the word of God as the sword which the Spirit gives you.

(Ephesians 6:14-17 GNT)

Christ the Power and the Wisdom of God (1 Corinthians 1:18-31)

God has shown that this world's wisdom is foolishness! For what seems to be God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and what seems to be God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

(1 Corinthians 1:20b & 25 GNT)

My Father is omniscient. This means that He knows everything about everything and everyone - He is all-wise. He is omnipotent, which means that He is all-powerful or Almighty. Last, but not least, He is also omnipresent, which means that He is everywhere at all times. What an awesome Father I have, and if you are reading this, so do you.

Father, thank you for who you are and that I can rely fully on your faithfulness and trust you one hundred percent. What more can a person ask for? Holy Spirit remain with me and guide me throughout this day. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

06 July

My Power in the Holy Spirit

A Call to Repentance (Jeremiah 4:1-4)

The LORD says, "People of Israel, if you want to turn, then turn back to me. If you are faithful to me and remove the idols I hate, it will be right for you to swear by my name and if you swear by my name and are truthful, just, and righteous, then all the nations will ask me to bless them, and they will praise me."

(Jeremiah 4:1-2 GNT)

In this passage, my Father spoke through the prophet Jeremiah, urging the people of Israel to turn back to Him. In the same way He is still urging all people today, who have strayed from the narrow way.

In my life I answered this call on July 19, 2008 A.D. Two of my personal idols at that time were materialism and pornography. I am pleased to say that these idols are firmly buried in my past. Praise my Heavenly Father, all people with breath in their lungs.

The Message about the Crucified Christ (1 Corinthians 2:1-5)

My teaching and message were not delivered with skilful words of human wisdom, but with convincing proof of the power of God's Spirit. Your faith, then, does not rest on human wisdom but on God's power.

(1 Corinthians 2:4-5 GNT)

The power of the Holy Spirit raised the crucified Christ from the grave. When I died to sin, I was raised from spiritual death into eternal life, just like Christ physically died and was raised to life.

Father, thank you for resurrecting me from spiritual death into eternal life with you. Holy Spirit, thank you for leading and empowering me to live in victory. Stay with me. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

07 July

I Am the Holy Spirit's Temple - He Resides within Me

The People of Jerusalem Cry Out for Help (Jeremiah 9:17-26)

The LORD says, "The wise should not boast of their wisdom, nor the strong of their strength, nor the rich of their wealth. If anyone wants to boast, he should boast that he knows and understands me, because my love is constant and I do what is just and right. These are the things that please me. I, the LORD, have spoken."

(Jeremiah 9:23-24 GNT)

My Father spoke this message, through the prophet Jeremiah, to the people of Jerusalem, when they cried out for help. His LOVE is constant and He is just and fair. To know this is to know and understand Him, and this is enough for me. Father, thank you for your unfailing LOVE and perfect righteousness.

Servants of God (1 Corinthians 3)

Each one must be careful how he builds. For God has already placed Jesus Christ as the one and only foundation, and no other foundation can be laid. If what was built on the foundation survives the fire, the builder will receive a reward.

Surely you know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you! So if anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and you yourselves are his temple.

(1 Corinthians 3:10c, 11, 14 & 16-17 GNT)

Father, thank you for sending Jesus as my solid rock foundation to build on. Holy Spirit, lead me and guide me to build my life to the same quality and standard as my foundation. With your help, I will take care of your temple. Remain with me. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

08 July

Submitting Fully to My Father

Jeremiah Warns against Pride (Jeremiah 13:15-27)

People of Israel, the LORD has spoken! Be humble and listen to him. Honour the LORD, your God, before he brings darkness and you stumble on the mountains; before he turns into deep darkness the light you hoped for.

(Jeremiah 13:15-16 GNT)

Father, I honour you. Fill me with your Spirit and show me how to conduct myself. Instruct me where I should go and what you want me to do.

Use Your Bodies for God's Glory (1 Corinthians 6:12-20)

Don't you know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and who was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourselves but to God; he bought you for a price. So use your bodies for God's glory.

(1 Corinthians 6:19-20 GNT)

If I am wise, I will continue to use my body for my Father's purposes. He has certain plans and goals for me. In order to achieve this, I need to sacrifice the use of my body to Him and submit myself completely. In this way He will be glorified and I will be victorious and full of joy.

Father, thank you for today's revelation. Please accept me as a living sacrifice and have your way with me. Holy Spirit, stay with me. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

09 July

The Sun Will Shine Again

Jeremiah Complains to the LORD (Jeremiah 15:10-21)

What an unhappy man I am! Why did my mother bring me into the world? I have to quarrel and argue with everyone in the land. I have not lent any money or borrowed any; yet everyone curses me.

You spoke to me, and I listened to every word. I belong to you, LORD God Almighty, and so your words filled my heart with joy and happiness.

(Jeremiah 15:10 & 16 GNT)

At times I become disheartened and pessimistic, just like Jeremiah. My Father always comes through for me though and He restores my joy and peace. The lower the low, the higher the high. The key is to remain content and focused when going through the valleys. The sun will always shine again.

Questions about Marriage (1 Corinthians 7:1-16)

For married people I have a command which is not my own but the LORD's: a wife must not leave her husband; but if she does, she must remain single or else be reconciled to her husband; and a husband must not divorce his wife.

(1 Corinthians 7:10-11 GNT)

For those who are divorced, it is never too late to reconcile. My Father hates divorce - reconciliation is his will.

Father I honour you. Holy Spirit, help me to overcome temptations and to stay on the narrow way. Help me to return quickly if I should deviate. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

10 July

Abide In Me

Various Sayings (Jeremiah 17:5-13)

The LORD says, "I will condemn those who turn away from me and put their trust in human beings, in the strength of mortals."

"But I will bless the person who puts his trust in me. He is like a tree growing near a stream and sending out roots to the water. It is not afraid when hot weather comes, because its leaves stay green; it has no worries when there is no rain; it keeps on bearing fruit."

"I treat each one according to the way he lives, according to what he does."

(Jeremiah 17:5, 7-8 & 10b GNT)

The LORD says, "Abide in me." If I abide in my Father, He will abide in me. Just like a tree standing by the waterside, I shall not be moved.

Father, thank you for today's reassurance.

Warnings against Idols (1 Corinthians 10)

Every test that you have experienced is the kind that normally comes to people. But God keeps his promise, and he will not allow you to be tested beyond your power to remain firm; at the time you are put to the test, he will give you strength to endure it, and so provide you with a way out.

(1 Corinthians 10:13 GNT)

Father, thank you for abiding in me as I abide in you. Thank you for always providing a way out. Holy Spirit, remain with me and strengthen and comfort me. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

11 July

I Have an Awesome Father

Jeremiah at the Potter's House (Jeremiah 18:1-12)

"Haven't I the right to do with you people of Israel what the potter did with the clay? You are in my hands just like clay in the potter's hands. If at any time I say that I am going to uproot, breakdown, or destroy any nation or kingdom, but then that nation turns from its evil, I will not do what I said I would. On the other hand, if I say that I am going to plant or hold up any nation or kingdom, but then that nation disobeys me and does evil, I will not do what I said I would. Tell them (the people of Israel) to stop living sinful lives - to change their ways and the things they are doing."

(Jeremiah 18:6-10 & 11b GNT)

If I obey my good and righteous Father, he will bless me. He effectively makes me the master of my own destiny. As I sow, I shall also reap. What an awesome Father I have!

Warning against Idols (continued)

None of you should be looking to your own interests, but to the interests of others.

(1 Corinthians 10:24 GNT)

A master is named so because of his mastery over his own selfish interests and desires. A true master has become totally selfless just like Jesus the Christ. My Father recognises and rewards true masters with much favour.

Father, I love you! Thank you for free will and the right to be the captain of my own ship and the master of my own destiny. Holy Spirit, remain with me as I sail my ship across unknown waters. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

12 July

Jesus is Lord

Jerusalem's Defeat Is Predicted (Jeremiah 21:1-10)

Then the LORD told me to say to the people, "Listen! I, the LORD am giving you a choice between the way that leads to life and the way that leads to death."

(Jeremiah 21:8 GNT)

My Father has given me free will to do as I please. The Holy Spirit guides me and leads me, however, to do what is best for all involved. Whether I listen and follow his promptings and leading is entirely up to me. I am personally responsible for all the choices I make in life. I prefer to always follow his promptings and leading. I have learnt not to make big decisions impulsively anymore. I take time to pray about it. Should or shouldn't I vaccinate against COVID-19? Only time will tell.

Gifts from the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:1-11)

I want you to know that no one who is led by God's Spirit can say, "A curse on Jesus!" and no one can confess "Jesus is Lord," without being guided by the Holy Spirit.

(1 Corinthians 12:3 GNT)

Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, thank you for perfect guidance and direction at all times. Remain with me and continue to guide me in all my decisions. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

13 July

Christ the Everlasting King of the Nations

Hope for the Future (Jeremiah 23:1-8)

The LORD says, "The time is coming when I will choose as king a righteous descendent of David. That King will rule wisely and do what is right and just throughout the land. When he is king, the people of Judah will be safe, and the people of Israel will live in peace. He will be called 'The Lord our salvation.'" (Jeremiah 23:5-6 GNT)

In this passage Jeremiah prophesied the coming of Jesus. This prophecy came to pass almost 2000 years ago. Jesus still rules today and his Kingdom has spread all over the earth.

Love (1 Corinthians 13)

Love is patient and kind; it is not jealous or conceited or proud; love is not ill-mannered or selfish or irritable; love does not keep a record of wrongs; love is not happy with evil, but is happy with the truth. Love never gives up; and its faith, hope, and patience never fail. Love is eternal.

(1 Corinthians 13:4-8a GNT)

Jesus met all the attributes of LOVE and because of this his rule is for ever.

Father, thank you that your Kingdom has come and is steadily spreading all across the earth. Holy Spirit, let all people discover the Kingdom within themselves, with Jesus on the throne of their hearts, amen.

14 July

"My Yoke is Soft and My Load is Light" - Jesus

Jeremiah Wears an Ox Yoke (Jeremiah 27)

Soon after Josiah's son Zedekiah became king of Judah, the LORD told me to make myself a yoke out of leather strips and wooden crossbars and to put it on my neck.

(Jeremiah 27:1-2 GNT)

Jeremiah and the Prophet Hananiah (Jeremiah 28)

Then Hananiah took the yoke off my neck, broke it in pieces, and said in the presence of all the people: "The LORD has said that this is how he will break the yoke that King Nebuchadnezzar has put on the neck of all the nations; and he will do this within two years." Then I left.

(Jeremiah 28:10-11 GNT)

Come to Me and Rest (Matthew 11:25-30)

"Come to me, all of you who are tired from carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke and put it on you, and learn from me, because I am gentle and humble in spirit; and you will find rest. For the yoke I will give you is easy, and the load I will put on you is light."

(Matthew 11:28-30 GNT)

When oxen were used for ploughing, wooden yokes were placed on their shoulders, with leather straps round their necks. This was used to control them and make them pull the plough together, straight-ahead and in the same direction. Unlike worldly kings and religious rulers, the yoke that Jesus offers me is easy and light. It is an honour to pull together on the same yoke as him and is no burden at all.

Father, thank you for sending Jesus to liberate me from the bondage of religious enslavement, self-condemnation, anxiety and fear of the future and death. Holy Spirit, guide me to continue proclaiming this Gospel message with vigour and boldness. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

15 July

Proclaiming My Father's Message

Jeremiah's letter to the Jews in Babylonia (Jeremiah 29:1-23)

"The LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says: 'Build houses and settle down. Plant gardens and eat what you grow in them. Marry and have children. Then let your children get married, so that they also may have children. You must increase in numbers and not decrease.'"

"The LORD says, 'I alone know the plans I have for you, plans to bring you prosperity and not disaster, plans to bring about the future you hope for (a future full of hope).'"

(Jeremiah 29:4a, 5-6, 10a & 11 GNT)

These words of Jeremiah were given to him about 2600 years ago, regarding the Jews who had been taken into exile by King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylonia. I have made these words my own, as my Father never changes and these words will remain applicable for generations to come.

More about Gifts from the Spirit (1 Corinthians 14:1-25)

It is love, then, that you should strive for. Set your hearts on spiritual gifts, especially the gift of proclaiming God's message. Those who speak in strange tongues do not speak to others but to God, because no one understands them. They are speaking secret truths by the power of the Spirit. But those who proclaim God's message speak to people and give them help, encouragement, and comfort.

(1 Corinthians 14:1-3 GNT)

The Gifts from the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:1-11)

The Spirit gives one person a message full of wisdom, while to another person the same Spirit gives a message full of knowledge. One and the same Spirit gives faith to one person, while to another person he gives the power to heal. The Spirit gives one person the power to work miracles; to another, the gift of speaking God's message; and to yet another, the ability to tell the difference between gifts that come from the Spirit and those that do not. To one person he gives the ability to speak in strange tongues, and to another he gives the ability to explain what is said.

(1 Corinthians 12:8-10 GNT)

Father, thank you for your Spirit and all the related gifts. Holy Spirit, continue to equip me with the right gift at the right time. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

16 July

New Covenant Law versus Jewish Law

The Future Prosperity of God's People (Jeremiah 31:23-40)

"The new covenant that I will make with the people of Israel will be this: I will put my law within them and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. None of them will have to teach his fellow citizen to know the LORD, because all will know me, from the least to the greatest. I will forgive their sins and I will no longer remember their wrongs. I, the LORD, have spoken."

(Jeremiah 31:33-34 GNT)

When my Father spoke these words 2600 years ago, the people of Israel were a few compared to today. I am an offspring of the old Israelites anyhow, and therefore His Law is written on my heart by default. I am one hundred percent sure that all of you who got this far in this book have the New Covenant Law written on your heart, whether or not your ancestors were Israelites.

Order in the Church (1 Corinthians 14:26-40)

As in all the churches of God's people, the women should keep quiet in the meetings. They are not allowed to speak; as the Jewish Law says, they must not be in charge. If they want to find out about something, they should ask their husbands at home. It is a disgraceful thing for a woman to speak in church. Everything must be done in a proper and orderly way.

(1 Corinthians 14:33b-35 GNT)

This passage, at first glance, appears to be a little male chauvinistically inclined, but when I read it again in context, and with the background of the old Jewish Law of that time, it is actually not this way at all. In the old Jewish tradition the husband was the head of the home. Times are changing and today the roles are sometimes reversed, with the wives being the breadwinners and the husbands running the household, not even to mention homosexual marriages.

Father, I know that I am in no position to judge either the old Jewish Law or the apostle Paul. I am not allowed to judge, full-stop. Holy Spirit, thank you for giving me light on this subject. Continue to lead me and guide me. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

17 July

The Transition Called Death

Jeremiah's Prayer (Jeremiah 32:16-35)

"Sovereign LORD, you made the earth and the sky by your great power and might; nothing is too difficult for you. You make wise plans and do mighty things; you see everything that people do, and you reward them according to their actions." Then the LORD said to me, "I am the LORD, the God of the whole human race. Nothing is too difficult for me."

(Jeremiah 32:17, 19 & 26-27 GNT)

My Father is omnipotent. This means that he is potent over all things or Almighty. For this reason nothing is too difficult for Him. He can do, and he does, things that are humanly impossible. He is supernatural.

The Resurrection Body (1 Corinthians 15:35-58)

"Death is destroyed; victory is complete!"

"Where, Death, is your victory?"

"Where, Death, is your power to hurt?"

Death gets its power to hurt from sin, and sin gets its power from the Law. But thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!

(1 Corinthians 15:54b & 55-57 GNT)

My physical body is mortal and will die. My spiritual body is immortal and will rise again as my resurrection body. O death, where is your sting? Jesus' new covenant has saved me from the Jewish Law, sin and death.

Father, what an honour to know you. Jesus, thank you for showing me our Father's heart. Holy Spirit, stay with me and lead me in all truth, amen.

18 July

New Covenant Truth

A Promise of Hope (Jeremiah 32:36-44)

"I am going to gather the people from all the countries where I have scattered them in my anger and fury, and I am going to bring them back to this place and let them live here in safety. I will give them a single purpose in life: to honour me for all time, for their own good and the good of their descendants. I will make an eternal covenant with them. I will never stop doing good things for them, and I will make them fear me with all their heart, so that they will never turn away from me. I will take pleasure in doing good things for them, and I will establish them permanently in this land."

(Jeremiah 32:37 & 39-41 GNT)

This prophecy has already come to pass at large. Israel is a blessed nation and has a reverential fear for my Father. The enemies surrounding them are much less prosperous.

Servants of the New Covenant (2 Corinthians 3)

You yourselves are the letter we have, written on our hearts for everyone to know and read. It is clear that Christ himself wrote this letter and sent it by us. It is written, not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, and not on stone tablets but on human hearts.

(2 Corinthians 3:2-3 GNT)

The church members in Corinth were metaphorical letters, written by the Holy Spirit, on the apostles' hearts. I, too, am a living letter of Christ to all I meet. How about you? Does your lifestyle represent the Christ life to those you come into contact with?

Father, thank you for using me as a living letter of Christ. I honour you for choosing me as one of many all over the earth. Holy Spirit, continue to strengthen me and using me as a letter of truth. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ of Nazareth, amen.

19 July

No More Face Nappies

Another Promise of Hope (Jeremiah 33)

"Call to me, and I will answer you; I will tell you wonderful and marvellous things that you know nothing about. Jerusalem will be a source of joy, honour, and pride to me; and every nation in the world will fear and tremble when they hear about the good things that I do for the people of Jerusalem and about the prosperity that I bring to the city."

(Jeremiah 33:3 & 9 GNT)

There is no time like the present. The present moment is my present. With my Father, being the good Father that He is, the future is also my present. With time being continuous, so-called future is the present. Fear of the future is senseless as is fear of the present. Yesterday is gone for ever, never to return. Only love, hope and faith remains. My physical experience is short lived. A hundred years fly by in the wink of an eye. Jesus was here, just the other day and two thousand years have flown by.

"Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, but today is a gift. That is why it is called the present." - Author unknown.

Servants of the New Covenant (continued)

Where the Spirit of the Lord is present, there is freedom. All of us, then, reflect the glory of the Lord with uncovered faces; and that same glory, coming from the Lord, who is the Spirit, transforms us into his likeness in an ever greater degree of glory.

(2 Corinthians 3:17b-18 GNT)

I reflect the freedom and glory of Jesus with an uncovered face. How about you? I also declined the offer of preventative medication. How about you?

Father, how awesome is today's word from the Word? Thank you for your Word. Holy Spirit, remain with me. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

20 July

Life after Death

Lamentations: Introduction

The book of Lamentations is a collection of five poems lamenting the destruction of Jerusalem in 586 B.C., and its aftermath of ruin and exile. In spite of the mournful nature of most of the book, there is also the note of trust in God and hope for the future. These poems are used by the Jews in worship on the annual days of fasting and mourning which commemorate the national disaster of 586 B.C.

Living by Faith (2 Corinthians 4:16-18)

For this reason we never become discouraged. Even though our physical being is gradually decaying, yet our spiritual being is renewed day after day. And this small and temporary trouble we suffer will bring us a tremendous and eternal glory, much greater than the trouble. For we fix our attention, not on things that are seen, but on things that are unseen. What can be seen lasts only for a time, but what cannot be seen lasts for ever.

(2 Corinthians 4:16-18 GNT)

"Coffin dust is the fate for every one" - Sixto Rodriguez. My body started ageing since my birth and every new day brings me one day closer to death. My spirit body however, cannot die. I look forward to dying, but before I leave this physical realm, I would still like doing a few more things. The time of physical death is the time of promotion.

Father, thank you for the reassurance of life after death. Thank you for the opportunity to experience life on earth. Holy Spirit, continue to lead me and renew me throughout this brand-new day. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

Rich Folks Hoax Lyric Video by Sixto Rodrigues: <https://youtu.be/rnYsayCzJ2c>

21 July

Inner Renewal and Friendship with My Father

The Book of Ezekiel: Introduction

Ezekiel was a man of deep faith and great imagination. Many of his insights came in the form of visions, and many of these messages were expressed in vivid symbolic actions. Ezekiel emphasised the need for inner renewal of heart and spirit, and the responsibility of each individual for his own sins. He also proclaimed his hope for the renewal of the life of the nation. As a priest, as well as prophet, he had special interest in the Temple and in the need for holiness.

Individual Responsibility (Ezekiel 18)

"I do not want anyone to die," says the Sovereign LORD. "Turn away from your sins and live."

(Ezekiel 18:32 GNT)

Live fast and die young or live responsibly and age well and healthy. Use your free will wisely.

Friendship with God through Christ (2 Corinthians 5:11-21)

No longer, then, do we judge anyone by human standards. Even if at one time we judged Christ according to human standards, we no longer do so. Anyone who is joined to Christ is a new being; the old is gone, the new has come. All this is done by God, who through Christ changed us from enemies into his friends and gave us the task of making others his friends also.

(2 Corinthians 5:16-18 GNT)

I was innerly renewed on July 19, 2008 A.D., when I became born-again. The old is gone, the new has come.

Father, thank you for that special day back in 2008 A.D. Holy Spirit, you are most welcome in my life. Continue to lead me every moment of this brand new day. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

22 July

Keeping the Ego under Control

Nebuchadnezzar Praises God (Daniel 4:34-37)

"And now, I Nebuchadnezzar, praise, honour, and glorify the king of heaven. Everything he does is right and just, and he can humble anyone who acts proudly."

(Daniel 4:37 GNT)

The pagan king Nebuchadnezzar of Babylonia was brought back down to earth and became totally insane for seven years, eating grass like an ox and sleeping in the open. After his sanity returned, he was given back his honour, majesty and glory of his kingdom.

Help for Fellow-Christians (2 Corinthians 9)

... give because you want to, not because you have to. You should each give, then, as you have decided, not with regret or out of a sense of duty; for God loves the one who gives gladly.

(2 Corinthians 9:5b & 7 GNT)

When tithes and offerings become a sense of duty, something is drastically wrong. My Father's favour cannot be earned in this way. The pastor or preacher that loves to preach on the topic of giving, is the enemy in disguise. "... the love of money is a source of all kinds of evil."

(1 Timothy 6:10a GNT)

Father, thank you for blessing and enabling me to share with the less fortunate. Holy Spirit, guard my ego so that I will never become proud of my so-called humility. Help me to be a good listener and not to always try and sell myself and my stories. Help me to stay focused. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

23 July

Taking Every Thought Captive

Daniel in the Pit of Lions (Daniel 6)

"I command that throughout my empire everyone should fear and respect Daniels God. He is a living God, and he will rule for ever. His kingdom will never be destroyed, and his power will never come to an end. He saves and rescues; he performs wonders and miracles in heaven and on earth. He saved Daniel from being killed by the lions."

(Daniel 6:26-27 GNT)

After King Darius had Daniel thrown into the pit of lions and he miraculously survived the ordeal without a scratch, he wrote the letter above to all nations, races and languages on earth.

Paul Defends His Ministry (2 Corinthians 10)

It is true that we live in this world, but we do not fight from worldly motives. The weapons we use in our fight are not the world's weapons but God's powerful weapons, which we use to destroy strongholds. We destroy falls arguments; we pull down every proud obstacle that is raised against the knowledge of God; we take every thought captive and make it obey Christ. And after you have proved your complete loyalty, we will be ready to punish any act of disloyalty.

(2 Corinthians 10:3-6 GNT)

Father, thank you for your continued provision of all my needs. Holy Spirit, continue to lead me to make every thought obedient to Christ before saying a word. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

24 July

Stop! Focus! Regroup!

The LORD Accuses the Priests (Hosea 4:4-10)

My people are doomed because they do not acknowledge me. You priests have refused to acknowledge me and have rejected my teaching, and so I reject you and will not acknowledge your sons as my priests.

(Hosea 4:6 GNT)

I have to be careful of the ego. I have to be still and acknowledge my Father in everything.

Holy Spirit, thank you.

Paul and the False Apostles (2 Corinthians 11:1-15)

Those men are not true apostles - they are false apostles, who lie about their work and disguise themselves to look like real apostles of Christ.

Well, no wonder! Even Satan can disguise himself to look like an angel of light!

So it is no great thing if his servants disguise themselves to look like servants of righteousness. In the end they will get exactly what their actions deserve.

(2 Corinthians 11:13-15 GNT)

As soon as I start worrying about money and the future, I have to stop, focus and regroup. Both of today's scriptures have deeply convicted me, almost to the point of self-condemnation. Working for my Father is a huge responsibility and not at all about money.

The Holy Spirit convicted me this morning (Saturday, 13 November 2021 A.D.) to publish "From Creation to Revelation" as a free book. The Lord has spoken, and I have to do as he instructs, or he will find someone else to do his work.

Nobody is irreplaceable!

Father, thank you for giving me another chance. Holy Spirit, stay with me. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

25 July

The Holy Spirit is Upon Me

The Book of Joel

Joel describes a terrible invasion of locusts and a devastating drought in Palestine. The LORD will punish those who oppose his righteous will.

Noteworthy is the promise that God will send his Spirit upon all people, men and women, young and old alike.

A Call to Repentance (Joel 2:12-27)

I will give you back what you lost in the years when swarms of locusts ate your crops. It was I who sent this army against you. Now you will have plenty to eat, and be satisfied. You will praise the LORD your God, who has done wonderful things for you. My people will never be despised again.

(Joel 2:25-26 GNT)

Final Warnings and Greetings (2 Corinthians 13)

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

(2 Corinthians 13:13 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for abundance and overflow. Thank you for complete restoration. Thank you that your perfect will is being done. Thank you for amazing and unconditional LOVE and grace. Thank you for pouring out your Spirit onto all of creation. Holy Spirit, stay with me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

26 July

Today Is the Day to Die

The Book of Amos

Amos was the first prophet in the Bible whose message was recorded at length. He saw that prosperity was limited to the wealthy and that it fed on injustice and on oppression of the poor. Religious observance was insincere, and security more apparent than real. With passion and courage he preached that God would punish the nation. He called for justice to "flow like a stream," and said, "Perhaps the LORD will be merciful to the people of this nation who are still left alive."

A Call to Repentance (Amos 5)

Hate what is evil, love what is right, and see that justice prevails in the courts. Perhaps the LORD will be merciful to the people of this nation who are still left alive.

(Amos 5:15 GNT)

Jews and Gentiles Are Saved by Faith (Galatians 2:15-21)

I have been put to death with Christ on his cross, so that it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me.

(Galatians 2:19b-20a)

On July 19, 2008 A.D., I died to self. André died. How about you? Have you died yet? Maybe today is the day.

Father, thank you for this new beginning. A new day has dawned. Holy Spirit, remain with me. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

27 July

Take a Break - Life is Short

The Book of Obadiah

God Will Judge the Nations (Obadiah:15-21)

The day is near when I, the LORD, will judge all nations. You will get back what you have given. My people have drunk a bitter cup of punishment on my sacred hill (Mount Zion). But all the surrounding nations will drink a still more bitter cup of punishment; they will drink it all and vanish away.
(Obadiah:15a-16 GNT)

Preserve Your Freedom (Galatians 5:1-15)

For the whole law is summed up in one commandment: "Love your neighbour as you love yourself."

(Galatians 5:14 GNT)

I LOVE my neighbours next door. I LOVE my neighbours in Southern Africa. I even LOVE my neighbours right below me. You may wonder; who are they? Well, let me put it this way.

Question: What is brown, eats rocks and lives underground? Well, what do you think?

Answer: Brown rock eaters of course, what else could it be?

Question: If you drill a hole from Southern Africa right through the globe and you drop a rock in it, how far will it fall? What do you think? To the middle perhaps, or straight through?

Answer: Well, if the brown rock eaters do not grab the rock and eat it, and it doesn't burn up completely or stop in the centre of the earth, it would probably end up at my neighbours directly below me.

Question: Are you still wondering to whom I am referring? Well?

Okay, one more clue.

The shortest possible way I can reach them, is to take a plane or a rocket and fly it horizontally in any direction for $\pm 12\,425$ miles. I should take care, however, not to crash into any high mountains like the Himalayas or sky scrapers like Burj Khalifa, not to mention the $\pm 3\,000$ man-made satellites in low earth orbit. I should also take care of planning my landing well, because the island has 1 137 named volcanic mountains.

After having flown halfway around the globe, I'll be there.

Question: Well, do you now know who these neighbours are?

Answer: Of course, that's right, you've got it. They are the "dangerous and savage" island inhabitants of Honolulu Hawaii.

Just kidding, they are neither dangerous nor savage, but they are directly below me, my friendly neighbours of Honolulu Hawaii.

Earth is definitely flat and most people are Flat Earthers with both feet firmly grounded on this beautiful Earth Plain.

Take a break, life is short.

Father, thank you for a wonderful new day. Thank you that we can have a little laughter and a little humour from time to time. Holy Spirit, please remain with me and guide me throughout this day. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

28 July

Selfless Submission to my Father

The Book of Jonah

This book is unlike other prophetic books of the Bible in that it is a narrative, describing the adventures of a prophet who tried to disobey God's command. God told him to go to Israel's deadly enemy, Nineve, but he did not want to obey and ended up sulking when his prophecy of doom did not materialise. The book portrays God's absolute sovereignty, but above all it portrays God as LOVE and grace, a God that would rather forgive than condemn.

Jonah's Anger and God's Mercy (Jonah 4)

...the LORD God made a plant grow up over Jonah to give him some shade, so that he would be more comfortable. Jonah was extremely pleased with the plant, but at dawn the next day at God's command, a worm attacked the plant and it died.

After the sun had risen, God sent a hot east wind, and Jonah was about to faint from the heat of the sun beating down on his head. So he wished he were dead (prayed that he would die). "I am better off dead than alive," he said.

But God said to him, "What right have you to be angry about the plant?"

Jonah replied, "I have every right to be angry - angry enough to die!"

The LORD said to him, "This plant grew up in one night and disappeared the next; you didn't do anything for it, and you didn't make it grow - yet you feel sorry for it!

(Jonah 4:6-10 GNT)

My Father is sovereign. Who am I, a mere mortal to advise Him what to do? Have you ever told Him what to do?

The Spirit and Human Nature (Galatians 5:16-26)

But the Spirit produces love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, humility and self-control.

(Galatians 5:22-23 GNT)

These nine fruit of the Holy Spirit was demonstrated by my Selfless Master.

Father, thank you for your goodness and grace. Have your sovereign way with me and let your perfect plan come to fruition within your perfect timeframe. Holy Spirit, lead me and guide me to remain submissive until I blow out my last breath. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

29 July

"Bayete Inkosi" - Greeting the Lord - (Zulu)

God Promises a Ruler from Bethlehem (Micah 5:2-5a)

The LORD says, "Bethlehem Ephrata, you are one of the smallest towns in Judah, but out of you I will bring a ruler for Israel, whose family line goes back to ancient times." When he comes he will rule his people with the strength that comes from the LORD and with the majesty of the LORD God himself. His people will live in safety because people all over the earth will acknowledge his greatness; and he will bring peace.

(Micah 5:2, 4 & 5a GNT)

Bear One Another's Burdens (Galatians 6:1-10)

Those who are being taught the Christian message should share all the good things they have with their teachers.

Do not deceive yourselves; no one makes a fool of God. People will reap exactly what they sow. If they sow in the field of their natural desire, from it they will gather the harvest of death; if they sow in the field of the Spirit, from the Spirit they will gather the harvest of eternal life.

So let us not become tired of doing good; for if we do not give up, the time will come when we will reap the harvest. So then, as often as we have the chance, we should do good to everyone, and especially those who belong to our family in the faith.

(Galatians 6:6-10 GNT)

Jesus, thank you for leading the way.

He's a man of wisdom now, a man of LOVE, a man of light. "Bayete Inkosi."

Father, thank you for sending Jesus, the man of LOVE and light. Holy Spirit, continue to light my way and lead me throughout this brand new day. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

30 July

A Puppet for my Father

What the LORD requires (Micah 6:6-16)

No, the LORD has told us what is good. What he requires of us is this: to do what is just, to show constant love, and to live in humble fellowship with our God.

(Micah 6:8 GNT)

Father, I love you with my entire heart. I am dedicated to do whatever you need me to, and to go wherever you send me. Have your way with me. I am the puppet and you are my string master.

Spiritual Blessings in Christ (Ephesians 1:3-14)

This plan which God will complete when the time is right, is to bring all creation together, everything in heaven and on earth, with Christ as head.

(Ephesians 1:10 GNT)

My Father has a plan and everything pans out exactly according to his perfect plan. He is totally in control of the play out of events, just as He has always been in full control. Nothing is a surprise to Him. He is the Puppet Master, whether I believe it or not. He is totally in control and sovereign.

Father, I am honoured to be used by you in whichever way you deem necessary. Holy Spirit, strengthen me to accept my fate and be joyful amidst ups and downs. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

31 July

The Self-Righteous Me - Hope for an Arrogant Person

The book of Nahum: Introduction

The book of Nahum is a poem celebrating the fall of Nineveh, the capital city of Israel's ancient and oppressive enemy, the Assyrians - the fall of Nineveh near the seventh century BC is seen as the judgement of God on a cruel and arrogant nation.

The LORD's Anger against Nineveh (Nahum 1:2-15)

The LORD is good; he protects his people in times of trouble; he takes care of those who turn to him.

(Nahum 1:7 GNT)

Question: how do I turn to God?

Answer: I turn inward and become still.

My Father has always been good to me, even though he disciplines me when I step out of line. Being arrogant and hard-headed, I have been disciplined severely and many times. Obedience is definitely a better alternative to constant disciplining. I tend to be a typical Pharisee like Saul of Tarsus before his conversion to Paul the Apostle. Jesus came to save people like me, who always meddle and try to tell everybody else what to do. Jesus came for the sick and oppressed and not for those who are already on the right track.

Holy Spirit, thank you for convicting me once again and helping me to grow and become more sanctified on my life journey, one day at a time until I pass.

Please help and guide me and my off-spring to be set free from the curse of Phariseeism (A combination of Spiritualism and Christian Science).

I am an ordinary person and should never ever look down on others, based on race, creed or moral difference.

Paul's prayer (Ephesians 1:15-23)

I ask that your minds may be opened to see his light, so that you will know what is the hope to which he (Jesus) has called you, how rich are the wonderful blessings he promises his people.

(Ephesians 1:18 GNT)

Lord, continue to open my mind and help me to put my money where my mouth is. Help me to focus and stay on the right track and start representing you properly by first going within.

Heavenly Father, thank you for overflowing hope. Holy Spirit, stay with me and continue to guide me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

August

Women's Month



01 August

Everybody Who Follows Jesus Is Free

The Lord's Answer to Habakkuk (Habakkuk 2:1-4)

The LORD gave me this answer: "Write down clearly on clay tablets what I reveal to you, so that it can be read at a glance. Put it in writing, because it is not yet time for it to come true. But the time is coming quickly, and what I show you will come true. It may seem slow in coming, but wait for it; it will certainly take place, and it will not be delayed. And this is the message: 'those who are evil will not survive, but those who are righteous will live because they are faithful to God.'"

(Habakkuk 2:2-4 GNT)

From Death to Life (Ephesians 2:1-10)

In the past you were spiritually dead because of your disobedience and sins. ... it is by God's grace that you have been saved through faith. It is not the result of your own efforts, but God's gift, so that no one can boast about it. God has made us what we are, and in our union with Christ Jesus he has created us for a life of good deeds, which he has already prepared for us to do.

(Ephesians 2:1 & 8-10 GNT)

I am free. I have been set free. I am alive. I have been resurrected and I now have eternal life. How about you?

Father, thank you for making me free through the finished work of Jesus. Holy Spirit, guide me to remain free. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

02 August

Christ Consciousness - The Full Stature

A Prayer of Habakkuk (Habakkuk 3)

Even though the fig-trees have no fruit and no grapes grow on the vines, even though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no corn, even though the sheep all die and the cattle stalls are empty, I will still be joyful and glad, because the LORD God is my saviour.

The sovereign LORD gives me strength. He makes me surefooted as a deer, and keeps me safe on the mountains.

(Habakkuk 3:17-19 GNT)

Father, thank you for having literally kept me safe on the mountains during my failed suicide attempt in January 2021 A.D.

The Unity of the Body (Ephesians 4:1-16)

Live a life that measures up to the standard God set when he called you. Be always humble, gentle, and patient. Show your love by being tolerant with one another. Do your best to preserve the unity which the Spirit gives by means of the peace that binds you together. There is one God and Father of all, who is LORD of all, works through all, and is in all.

It was he (Christ) who "gave gifts"; he appointed some to be apostles, others to be prophets, others to be evangelists, others to be pastors and teachers. We shall become mature people, reaching to the very height of Christ's full stature. (Ephesians 4: 1b, 2-3, 6, 11 & 13b GNT)

Father, thank you for giving me a firm foothold. Holy Spirit, continue to strengthen me. Lead me moment by moment throughout this day. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

03 August

The Kindness of My Father

The Song of Joy (Zephaniah 3:14-20)

The LORD your God is with you; his power gives you victory. The LORD will take delight in you, and in his love be silent (he will give you new life). He will sing and be joyful over you.

(Zephaniah 3:17 GNT)

Yes Father. Thank you.

The New Life in Christ (Ephesians 4:17-32 GNT)

No more lying, then! Each of you must tell the truth to one another, because we are all members together in the body of Christ. If you become angry, do not let your anger lead you into sin and do not stay angry all day. Don't give the devil a chance. Those who used to rob must stop robbing and start working, in order to earn an honest living for themselves and to be able to help the poor. Do not use harmful words, but only helpful words, the kind that build up and provide what is needed, so that what you say will do good to those who hear you. And do not make God's Holy Spirit sad; for the Spirit is God's mark of ownership on you, a guarantee that the day will come when God will set you free. Get rid of all bitterness, passion, and anger. No more shouting or insults, no more hateful feelings of any sort. Instead, be kind and tender hearted to one another, and forgive one another, as God has forgiven you through Christ.

(Ephesians 4:25-32 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for today's very special word. Holy Spirit, stay with me and help me to be obedient. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

04 August

Controlling the Ego Whilst Keeping a Good Attitude

The Splendour of the New Temple (Haggai 2:1-9)

When you came out of Egypt, I promised that I would always be with you. I am (my Spirit is) still with you, so do not be afraid.

(Haggai 2:5 GNT)

Father, thank you for reassuring me so that I will not look back again, after having left behind the proverbial meat pots of Egypt in 2008 A.D.

Living In the Light (Ephesians 5:1-20)

Nor is it fitting for you to use language which is obscene, profane, or vulgar. Rather you should give thanks to God.

Do not get drunk with wine, which will only ruin you; instead, be filled with the Spirit. In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, always give thanks for everything to God the Father.

(Ephesians 5:4, 18 & 20 GNT)

The Spirit and Human Nature (Galatians 5:16-26)

What I say is this: let the Spirit direct your lives, and you will not satisfy the desires of human nature. For what our human nature wants is opposed to what the Spirit wants, and what the Spirit wants is opposed to what our human nature wants. These two are enemies and this means that you cannot do what you want to do. If the Spirit leads you, then you are not subject to the law.

(Galatians 5:16-18 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for touching my heart with this very personal message. Holy Spirit, continue to guide me and strengthen me to keep a continuous check on my ego. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

05 August

Give and Take - Love Love Love

The Future King (Zachariah 9:9-17)

Rejoice, rejoice people of Zion! Shout for joy, you people of Jerusalem! Look, your king is coming to you! He comes triumphant and victorious but humble and riding on a donkey - on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

(Zachariah 9:9)

Father, thank you for this prophesy and making it come to pass.

Wives and Husbands (Ephesians 5:21-33)

Submit yourselves to one another because of your reverence for Christ.

Wives submit to your husband as to the Lord. For a husband has authority over his wife just as Christ has authority over the church; and Christ is himself the saviour of the church, his body. And so wives must submit completely to their husbands just as the church submits itself to Christ.

Husbands love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave his life for it. He did this to dedicate the church to God by his word, after making it clean by washing it in water, in order to present the church to himself in all its beauty - pure and faultless, without spot or wrinkle or any other imperfection. Men ought to love their wives just as they love their own bodies. A man who loves his wife loves himself. For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and unite with his wife, and the two will become one. There is a deep secret truth revealed in this scripture which I understand as applying to Christ and the church. But it also applies to you; every husband must love his wife as himself, and every wife must respect her husband.

(Ephesians 5:21-33 GNT)

Father, thank you for today's word from the Word. Holy Spirit remain with me and help me to treat her (Erika) like a lady. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

06 August

Acknowledging my Father's Sovereignty and Righteousness

The LORD's Love for Israel (Malachi 1:1-5)

The LORD says to his people, "I have always loved you." But they reply, how have you shown your love for us?"

The LORD answers, "Esau and Jacob were brothers, but I have loved Jacob and his descendants, and have hated Esau and his descendants. I have devastated Esau's hill country and abandoned the land to jackals."

If Esau's descendants, the Edomites, say, "Our towns have been destroyed, but we will rebuild them," then the LORD will reply, "let them re-build - I will tear them down again. People will call them 'the evil country' and 'the nation with whom the LORD is angry for ever.'"

The people of Israel are going to see this with their own eyes, and they will say, "The LORD is mighty, even outside the land of Israel!"

(Malachi 1:2-5 GNT)

My Father hates arrogance and self-righteousness and will continue to humble the proud until they die to self and totally humble themselves and acknowledge Him as LORD and King.

Children and Parents (Ephesians 6:1-4)

Children, it is your Christian duty to obey your parents for this is the right thing to do. "Respect your father and mother" is the first commandment that has a promise added: "so that all may go well with you, and you may live a long time in the land." Parents, do not treat your children in such a way to make them angry. Instead bring them up with Christian discipline and instruction.

(Ephesians 6:1-4 GNT)

The key is mutual LOVE and respect.

Father, thank you for being who you are. I confess that I have been very proud, arrogant and self-righteous. Holy Spirit, please remain with me and continue to convict me if I stray from the narrow way. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

07 August

Doing All Things As Unto My Father

The LORD Reprimands the Priests (Malachi 1:6-2:9)

The LORD Almighty says to the priests, "a son honours his father, and a servant honours his master. I am your Father - why don't you honour me? I am your master - why don't you respect me? You despise me, and yet you ask, 'how have we despised you?' This is how - by offering worthless food on my altar. Then you ask, 'how have we failed to respect you?' I will tell you - by showing contempt for my altar. When you bring a blind or sick or lame animal to sacrifice to me, do you think there's nothing wrong with that? Try giving an animal like that to the governor! Would he be pleased with you or grant you any favours?'

(Malachi 1:6-8 GNT)

My Father requires my best. He does not want my leftovers and my second best. It boils down to all or nothing. He has absolutely no time for fence sitters. If I am not one hundred percent committed, then I am essentially against him. **The following scripture comes to mind: "but because you are lukewarm, neither hot nor cold, I am going to spit you out of my mouth!"**

(Revelation 3:16 GNT)

Slaves and Masters (Ephesians 6:5-9)

Slaves, obey your human masters with fear and trembling; and do it with a sincere heart, as though you were serving Christ. Do this not only when they are watching you because you want to gain their approval; but with all your heart do what God wants, as slaves of Christ.

Masters, behave in the same way towards your slaves and stop using threats. Remember that you and your slaves belong to the same Master in heaven, who judges everyone by the same standard.

(Ephesians 6:5-6 & 9 GNT)

My Father requires of me to treat all people equally and not to judge by status or appearance at first glance.

Father, thank you for today's revelation. Holy Spirit, continue to convict me of my perversities and poor behaviour. Stay with me and continue to guide me on the straight and narrow way. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

08 August

My Father's Armour

The LORD Reprimands the Priests (Malachi 1:6-2:9)

"People from one end of the world to the other honour me. Everywhere they burn incense to me and offer acceptable sacrifices. All of them honour me! But you dishonour me when you say that my altar is worthless and when you offer on it food that you despise, you say, 'how tired we are of all this! And you turn up your nose at me. As your offering to me you bring a stolen animal or one that is lame or sick. Do you think I will accept that from you? A curse on the cheat who sacrifices a worthless animal to me, when he has in his flock a good animal that he promised to give me! I am a great king and people of all nations fear me."

(Malachi 1:11-14 GNT)

The Whole Armour of God (Ephesians 6:10-20)

Finally, build up your strength in union with the Lord and by means of his mighty power. Put on all the armour that God gives you, so that you will be able to stand up against the devil's evil tricks* in this day and age. For we are not fighting against human beings, but against the wicked spiritual forces* in the heavenly world, the rulers, authorities, and cosmic powers of this dark age.*

(Ephesians 6:10-12 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for today's special lesson. Holy Spirit, remain with me so that I will remain focused, until I have overcome all the hurdles of this material world. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

*Special emphasis added

09 August ([Women's day special](#))

Part 1 - For the Man: (07h00) - How Dare I As Priest?

The LORD Reprimands the Priests (Malachi 2:1-9)

The LORD almighty says to the priests, "this command is for you: you must honour me by what you do. If you will not listen to what I say, then I will bring a curse on you. I will put a curse on the things you receive for your support. In fact, I have already put a curse on them, because you do not take my command seriously. I will punish your children and rub your faces in the dung of the animals you sacrifice - and you will be taken out to the dunghill. Then you will know that I have given you this command, so that my covenant with the priests, the descendants of Levi, will not be broken."

"In my covenant I promised them life and well-being, and this is what I gave them, so that they might respect and fear me. In those days they did respect and fear me. They taught what was right, not what was wrong. They lived in harmony with me; they not only did what was right themselves but they also helped many others to stop doing evil. It is the duty of priests to teach the true knowledge of God. People should go to them to learn my will, because they are the messengers of the LORD almighty.

But now you priests have turned away from the right path. Your teaching has led many to do wrong. You have broken the covenant I made with you. So I, in turn, will make the people of Israel despise you because you do not obey my will, and when you teach my people, you do not treat everyone alike."

(Malachi 2:1-9 GNT)

The Whole Armour of God (continued)

So put on God's armour now! Then when the evil day comes, you will be able to resist the enemy's attacks; and after fighting to the end, you will still hold your ground. So stand ready with truth as a belt tight round your waist, with righteousness as your breast plate, and as your shoes the readiness to announce the Good News of peace. At all times carry faith as a shield, for with it you will be able to put out all the burning arrows shot by the evil one. And accept salvation as a helmet, and the word of God as the sword which the Spirit gives you. Do all this in prayer, asking for God's help. Pray on every occasion, as the Spirit leads. For this reason keep alert and never give up, pray always for all God's people.

(Ephesians 6:13-18 GNT)

Father, thank you for today's special revelation. Holy Spirit, continue to guide me and give me boldness to speak. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

(If you're serious about your lady, your next session is at 09h00)

09 August

Part 2 - For the Man: (09h00) - How Dare I As Priest?

The People's Unfaithfulness to God (Malachi 2:10-16)

Don't we have the same Father? Didn't the same God create us all? Then why do we break our promises to one another, and why do we despise the covenant that God made with our ancestors? The people of Judah have broken their promise to God and done a horrible thing in Jerusalem and all over the country. They have defiled the temple which the LORD loves. Men have married women who worship foreign gods. May the LORD remove from the community of Israel those who did this, and never again let them participate in the offerings our nation brings to the LORD Almighty. This is another thing you do. You drown the LORD's altar with tears, weeping and wailing because he no longer accepts the offerings you bring him. You ask why he no longer accepts them. It is because he knows you have broken your promise to the wife you married when you were young. She was your partner, and you have broken your promise to her, although you promised before God that you would be faithful to her. Didn't God make you one body and spirit with her? What was his purpose in this? It was that you should have children who are truly God's people. So make sure that none of you breaks his promise to his wife. "I hate divorce," says the LORD God of Israel. "I hate it when one of you does such a cruel thing to his wife. Make sure that you do not break your promise to be faithful to your wife."

(Malachi 2:10-16 GNT)

Final Greetings (Ephesians 6:21-24)

Tychicus, our dear brother and faithful servant in the Lord's work, will give you all the news about me, so that you may know how I am getting on. That is why I am sending him to you - to tell you how all of us are getting on, and to encourage you. May God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give to all Christian brothers and sisters peace and love with faith. May God's grace be with all those who love our Lord Jesus Christ with undying love.

(Ephesians 6:21-24 GNT)

Father, thank you for teaching me new things every day. Holy Spirit, continue to lead the way. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

(If you're serious about your lady, your next session is at 11h00)

09 August

Part 3 - For the Man: (11h00) - How Dare I As Priest?

The Day of Judgement Is Near (Malachi 2:17-3:5)

You have tired the LORD out with your talk. But you ask, "how have we tired him?" By saying, "the LORD Almighty thinks all evil doers are good; in fact he likes them." Or by asking, "where is the God who is supposed to be just?"

The LORD Almighty answers, "I will send my messenger to prepare the way for me. Then the LORD you are looking for will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger you long to see will come and proclaim my covenant."

But who will be able to endure the day when he comes? Who will be able to survive when he appears? He will be like strong soap, like a fire that refines metal. He will come to judge like one who refines and purifies silver. As a metal worker refines silver and gold, so the LORD's messenger will purify the priests, so that they will bring to the LORD the right kind of offerings. Then the offerings which the people of Judah and Jerusalem bring the LORD will be pleasing to him, as they used to be in the past.

The LORD almighty says, "I will appear among you to judge, and I will testify at once against those who practice magic, against adulterers, against those who give false testimony, those who cheat employees out of their wages, and those who take advantage of widows, orphans, and foreigners - against all who do not respect me.

(Malachi 2:17-3:5 GNT)

Paul's Prayer for His Readers (Philippians 1:3-11 GNT)

I thank my God for you every time I think of you; and every time I pray for you, I pray with joy because of the way in which you have helped me in the work of the gospel from the very first day until now. And so I am sure that God, who began this good work in you, will carry it on until it is finished on the day of Christ Jesus. You are always in my heart! And so it is only right for me to feel as I do about you. For you have all shared with me in this privilege that God has given me, both now that I am in prison and also while I was free to defend the gospel and establish it firmly. God is my witness that I am telling the truth when I say that my deep feelings for you all comes from the heart of Christ Jesus himself.

I pray that your love will keep on growing more and more, together with true knowledge and perfect judgement, so that you will be able to choose what is best. Then you will be free from all impurities and blame on the day of Christ. Your lives will be filled with the truly good qualities which only Jesus Christ can produce, for the glory and praise of God.

To Live is Christ (Philippians 1:12-30 GNT)

I want you to know, my brothers and sisters, that the things that have happened to me have really helped the progress of the gospel. As a result the whole palace guard and all the others here know that I am in prison because I am a servant of Christ. And my being in prison has given most of the brothers and sisters more confidence in the Lord, so that they grow bolder all the time to preach the message fearlessly.

Of course some of them preach Christ because they are jealous and quite quarrelsome, but others from genuine goodwill. These do so from love, because they know that God has given me the work of defending the gospel. The others do not proclaim Christ sincerely, but from a spirit of selfish ambition; they think that they will make more trouble for me while I am in prison.

It does not matter! I am happy about it - so long as Christ is preached in every way possible, whether from wrong or right motives. And I will continue to be happy, because I know that by means of your prayers and the help which comes from the Spirit of Jesus Christ I shall be set free. My deep desire and hope is that I shall never fail in my duty, but that at all times, and especially just now, I shall be full of courage, so that with my whole being I shall bring honour to Christ, whether I live or die. For what is life? To me, it is Christ. Death, then, will bring more. But if by continuing to live I can do more worthwhile work, then I am not sure which I should choose. I am pulled in two directions. I want very much to leave this life and be with Christ, which is a far better thing; but for your sake it is much more important that I remain alive. I am sure of this, and so I know that I will stay. I will stay on with you all, to add to your progress and joy in the faith, so that when I am with you again, you will have even more reason to be proud of me in your life in union with Christ Jesus.

Now, the important thing is that your way of life should be as the gospel of Christ requires, so that, whether or not I am able to go and see you, I will hear that you are standing firm with one common purpose and that with only one desire you are fighting together for the faith of the gospel. Don't be afraid of your enemies; always be courageous, and this will prove to them that they will lose and that you will win, because it is God who gives you the victory. For you have been given the privilege of serving Christ, not only by believing in him, but also by suffering for him. Now you can take part with me in the battle. It is the same battle you saw me fighting in the past, and as you hear, the one I am fighting still.

Father, thank you once again for convicting me today of my selfish ambition to rule the world. All the glory belongs to you and I am only a conduit that brings the message. Holy Spirit, remain with me. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen. *(If you're serious about your lady, your next session is at 13h00)*

09 August

Part 4 - For the Man: (13h00) - How Dare I As Priest?

The Payment of Tithes (Malachi 3:6-12 GNT)

"I am the LORD, and I do not change. And so you, the descendants of Jacob, are not yet completely lost. You, like your ancestors before you have turned away from my laws and have not kept them. Turn back to me, and I will turn to you. But you ask, 'what must we do to turn back to you?' I ask you, is it right for a person to cheat God? Of course not, yet you are cheating me. 'How?' You ask. In the matter of tithes and offerings. A curse is on all of you because the whole nation is cheating me. Bring the full amount of your tithes to the temple, so that there will be plenty of food there. Put me to the test and you will see that I will open the windows of heaven and pour out on you in abundance all kinds of good things. I will not let insects destroy your crops, and your grapevines will be loaded with grapes. Then the people of all nations will call you happy, because your land will be a good place to live in.

Christ's Humility and Greatness (Philippians 2:1-11 GNT)

Your life in Christ makes you strong, and his love comforts you. You have fellowship with the Spirit, and you have kindness and compassion for one another. I urge you, then, to make me completely happy by having the same thoughts, sharing the same love, and being one in soul and mind. Don't do anything from selfish ambition or from a cheap desire to boast, but be humble towards one another, always considering others better than yourselves. And look out for one another's interests, not just for your own. The attitude you should have is the one that Christ Jesus had: he always had the nature of God, but he did not think that by force he should try to remain equal with God. Instead of this, of his own free will he gave up all he had, and took the nature of a servant. He became like a human being and appeared in human likeness. He was humble and walked the path of obedience all the way to death - his death on the cross. For this reason God raised him to the highest place above and gave him the name that is greater than any other name. And so, in honour of the name of Jesus all beings in heaven, on earth, and in the world below will fall on their knees, and all will openly proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Father, thank you for teaching me true humility. Holy Spirit, remain with me. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

(If you're serious about your lady, your next session is at 15h00)

09 August

Part 5 - For the Man: (15h00) - How Dare I As Priest?

God's Promise of Mercy (Malachi 3:13-18 GNT)

"You have said terrible things about me," says the LORD. "But you ask, 'what have we said about you?' You have said, 'it's useless to serve God. What's the use of doing what he says or of trying to show the LORD Almighty that we are sorry for what we have done? As we see it, proud people are the ones who are happy. Evil people not only prosper but they test God's patience with their evil deeds and get away with it.'"

Then the people who feared the LORD spoke to one another, and the LORD listened and heard what they said. In his presence, there was written down in a book a record of those who fear the LORD and respected him. "They will be my people," says the LORD Almighty. "On the day when I act, they will be my very own. I will be merciful to them, as a father is merciful to the son who serves him. Once again my people will see the difference between what happens to the righteous and to the wicked, to the person who serves me and the one who does not."

Shining As Lights in the World (Philippians 2:12-18 GNT)

So then, dear friends, as you always obeyed me when I was with you, it is even more important that you obey me now while I am away from you. Keep on working with fear and trembling to complete your salvation, because God is always at work in you to make you willing and able to obey his own purpose. Do everything without complaining or arguing, so that you may be innocent and pure as God's perfect children, who live in a world of corrupt and sinful people. You must shine among them like stars lighting up the sky, as you offer them the message of life. If you do so, I shall have reason to be proud of you on the day of Christ, because it will show that all my effort and work have not been wasted. Perhaps my life's blood is to be poured out like an offering on the sacrifice that your faith offers to God. If that is so, I am glad and share my joy with you all. In the same way, you too must be glad and share your joy with me.

Father help me to LOVE and respect my spouse. Holy Spirit, please guide me to do this even though I sometimes do not want to. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

(If you're serious about your lady, your next session is at 17h00)

9 August

Part 6 - For the Man: (17h00) - How Dare I As Priest?

The Day of the LORD is coming (Malachi 4 GNT)

The LORD Almighty says, "the day is coming when all proud and evil people will burn like straw. On that day they will burn up, and there will be nothing left of them. But for you who obey me, my saving power will rise on you like the sun and bring healing like the sun's rays. You will be as free and happy as calves let out of a stall. On the day when I act, you will overcome the wicked, and they will be like dust under your feet. "Remember the teachings of my servant Moses, the Law and commands which I gave him at the Mount Sinai for all the people of Israel to obey. "But before the great and terrible day of the LORD comes, I will send you the prophet Elijah. He will bring fathers and children together again; otherwise I would have to come and destroy your country."

Advice to a king (Proverbs 31:1-9 GNT)

These are the solemn words which King Lemuel's mother said to him: "You are my own dear son, the answer to my prayers. What shall I tell you? Don't spend all your energy on sex and all your money on women; they have destroyed kings. Listen Lemuel, kings should not drink wine or have a craving for alcohol. When they drink, they forget the laws and ignore the rights of people in need. Alcohol is for people who are dying, for those who are in misery. Let them drink and forget their poverty and unhappiness. "Speak up for people who cannot speak for themselves. Protect the rights of all who are helpless. Speak for them and be a righteous judge. Protect the rights of the poor and needy."

The Capable Wife (Proverbs 31:10-31 GNT)

How hard is it to find a capable wife! She is worth far more than jewels! Her husband puts his confidence in her, and he will never be poor. As long as she lives, she does him good and never harm. She keeps herself busy making wool and linen cloth. She brings home food from out-of-the-way places, as merchant ships do. She gets up before daylight to prepare food for her family and to tell her servant women what to do. She looks at land and buys it, and with money she has earned she plants a vineyard. She is a hard worker, strong and industrious she knows the value of everything she makes, and works late into the night. She spins her own thread and weaves her own clothes. She is generous to the poor and needy. She doesn't worry when it snows, because her family has warm clothing. She makes bedspreads and wears clothes of fine purple linen. Her husband is well known, one of the leading citizens.

(Continues overleaf)

The Capable Wife (continued)

She makes clothes and belts, and sells them to merchants. She is strong and respected and not afraid of the future. She speaks with a gentle wisdom. She is always busy and looks after her family's needs. Her children show their appreciation, and her husband praises her. He says, "many women are good wives, but you are the best of them all." Charm is deceptive and beauty disappears, but a woman who honours the LORD should be praised. Give her credit for all she does. She deserves the respect of everyone.

The True Righteousness (Philippians 3:1-11)

I no longer have a righteousness of my own, the kind that is gained by obeying the law. I now have the righteousness that is given through faith in Christ, the righteousness that comes from God and is based on faith.

(Philippians 3:9 GNT)

Running Towards the Goal (Philippians 3:12-21)

I do not claim that I have already succeeded or have already become perfect. I keep striving to win the prize for which Christ Jesus has already won me to himself. Of course, my brothers and sisters, I really do not think that I have already won it; the one thing I do, however, is to forget what is behind me and do my best to reach what is ahead. So I run straight towards the goal in order to win the prize, which is God's call through Christ Jesus to the life above.

All of us who are spiritually mature should have this same attitude. But if some of you have a different attitude, God will make this clear to you. However that may be, let us go forward according to the same rules we have followed until now.

(Philippians 3:12-16 GNT)

(Philippians 4)

May you always be joyful in your union with the Lord. I say it again: rejoice! In conclusion, my brothers and sisters, fill your minds with those things that are good and that deserve praise: things that are true, noble, right, pure, lovely, and honourable.

I know what it is to be in need and what it is to have more than enough. I have learnt this secret, so that anywhere, at any time, I am content, whether I am full or hungry, whether I have too much or too little. I have the strength to face all conditions by the power that Christ gives me.

(Philippians 4:4, 8 & 12-13 GNT)

(Continues overleaf)

Prayer of Thanksgiving (Colossians 1:3-14)

For this reason we have always prayed for you, ever since we heard about you. We ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will, with all the wisdom and understanding that his Spirit gives. Then you will be able to live as the Lord wants and will always do what pleases him. Your lives will produce all kinds of good deeds, and you will grow in your knowledge of God.

May you be made strong with all the strength which comes from his glorious power, so that you may be able to endure everything with patience. And with joy give thanks to the Father, who has made you fit to have your share of what God has reserved for his people in the kingdom of light.

(Colossians 1:9-12 GNT)

The Person and Work of Christ (Colossians 1:15-29)

Christ is the visible likeness of the invisible God. He is the first-born Son, superior to all created things. He is the first-born Son, who was raised from death, in order that he alone might have the first place in all things. Through the Son, then, God decided to bring the whole universe back to himself. God made peace through his Son's blood (sacrificial death) on the cross and so brought back to himself all things, both on earth and in heaven.

God's plan is to make known his secret to his people, this rich and glorious secret which he has for all peoples. And the secret is that Christ is in you, which means that you will share in the glory of God.

(Colossians 1:15, 18b, 20 & 27 GNT)

Fullness of life in Christ Jesus (Colossians 2:6-20)

See to it, then, that no one enslaves you by means of the worthless deceit of human wisdom, which comes from the teachings handed down by human beings and from the ruling spirits of the universe, and not from Christ. For the full content of divine nature lives in Christ, in his humanity, and you have been given full life in union with him. He is supreme over every spiritual ruler and authority. So let no one make rules about what you eat or drink or about holy days or the New Moon Festival or the Sabbath.

You have died with Christ and are set free from the ruling spirits of the universe.

(Colossians 2:8-10, 16 & 20a GNT)

Father, thank you for giving me a capable wife and pillar of strength to lean on. Holy Spirit guide me to treat her with the utmost LOVE and respect and to accept that she is always right. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

(If you're serious about your lady, your next session is at 19h00)

09 August

Part 7 - For the Man and His Lady: (19h00)

The Song of Songs (The Song of Solomon - Original Hebrew)

Song of Solomon 1

The most beautiful of songs, by Solomon (of Solomon or dedicated to Solomon)

The First Song

The Woman

Your lips cover me with kisses;
your love is better than wine.
There is a fragrance about you;
the sound of your name recalls it.
No woman could keep from loving you.

Take me with you, and we'll run away;
be my king and take me to your room.
We will be happy together, drink deep,
and lose ourselves in love.
No wonder all women love you!

Women of Jerusalem, I am dark and beautiful,
dark as the desert tents of Kedar,
but beautiful as the curtains in Solomon's palace.

Don't look down on me because of my colour,
because the sun has tanned me.
My brothers were angry with me
and made me work in the vineyard.
I had no time to care for myself.

Tell me, my love,
Where will you lead your flock to graze?
Where will they rest from the noonday sun?
Why should I need to look for you
among the flocks of the other shepherds?

The Man

Don't you know the place,
loveliest of women?
Go and follow the flock;
find pasture for your goats near the tents of the shepherds.

You, my love, excite men
as a mare excites the stallions of Pharaoh's chariots.
Your hair is beautiful upon your cheeks
and falls along your neck like jewels.
But we will make for you a chain of gold
with ornaments of silver.

The Woman

My king was lying on his couch,
and my perfume filled the air with fragrance.
My lover has the scent of myrrh
as he lies upon my breasts.
My lover is like the wild flowers
that bloom in the vineyards at Engedi.

The Man

How beautiful you are, my love;
how your eyes shine with love!

The Woman

How handsome you are, my dearest;
how you delight me!
The green grass will be our bed;
the cedars will be the beams of our house,
and the cypress trees the ceiling.
I am only a wild flower in Sharon,
a lily in a mountain valley.

Song of Solomon 2

The Man

Like a lily among thorns
is my darling among women.

The Woman

Like an apple tree among the trees of the forest,
so is my dearest compared with other men.

I love to sit in its shadow,
and its fruit is sweet to my taste.
He brought me to his banqueting hall
and raised the banner of love over me.
Restore my strength with raisins
and refresh me with apples!
I am weak from passion.

His left hand is under my head,
and his right hand caresses me.
Promise me, women of Jerusalem;
swear by the swift deer and the gazelles
that you will not interrupt our love.

The Second Song

The Woman

I hear my lover's voice.
He comes running over the mountains,
racing across the hills to me.
My lover is like a gazelle, like a young stag.
There he stands beside the wall.
He looks in through the window
and glances through the lattice.
My lover speaks to me.

The Man

Come then, my love;
my darling, come with me.
The winter is over;
the rains have stopped;
in the countryside the flowers are in bloom.

This is the time for singing;
the song of doves is heard in the fields.
Figs are beginning to ripen;
the air is fragrant with blossoming vines.

Come then, my love;
my darling, come with me.

You are like a dove that hides in the crevice of a rock.
Let me see your lovely face
and hear your enchanting voice.
Catch the foxes, the little foxes,
before they ruin our vineyard in bloom.

The Woman

My lover is mine, and I am his.
He feeds his flock among the lilies
until the morning breezes blow
and the darkness disappears.
Return, my darling, like a gazelle,
like a stag on the mountains of Bether (rugged mountains).

Song of Solomon 3

Asleep on my bed,
night after night I dreamed of the one I love;
I was looking for him, but couldn't find him.
I went wandering through the city,
through its streets and alleys.
I looked for the one I love.
I looked, but couldn't find him.
The sentries patrolling the city saw me.
I asked them, "Have you found my lover?"
As soon as I left them, I found him.

I held him and wouldn't let him go
until I took him to my mother's house,
to the room where I was born.
Promise me, women of Jerusalem;
swear by the swift deer and the gazelles
that you will not interrupt our love.

The Third Song

The Woman

What is this coming from the desert
like a column of smoke,
fragrant with incense and myrrh,
the incense sold by the traders?

Solomon is coming, carried on his throne;
sixty soldiers form the bodyguard,
the finest soldiers in Israel.

All of them are skilful with the sword;
they are battle-hardened veterans.

Each of them is armed with a sword,
on guard against a night attack.

King Solomon is carried on a throne
made of the finest wood.

Its posts are covered with silver;
over it is cloth embroidered with gold.

Its cushions are covered with purple cloth,
lovingly woven by the women of Jerusalem.

Women of Zion, come and see King Solomon.

He is wearing the crown

that his mother placed on his head on his wedding day,
on the day of his gladness and joy.

Song of Solomon 4

The Man

How beautiful you are, my love!

How your eyes shine with love behind your veil.

Your hair dances like a flock of goats
bounding down the hills of Gilead.

Your teeth are as white as sheep
that have just been shorn and washed.

Not one of them is missing;
they are all perfectly matched.

Your lips are like a scarlet ribbon;
how lovely they are when you speak.

Your cheeks glow behind your veil.

Your neck is like the tower of David,
round and smooth, with a necklace
like a thousand shields hung around it.
Your breasts are like gazelles,
twin deer feeding among lilies.
I will stay on the hill of myrrh,
the hill of incense,
until the morning breezes blow
and the darkness disappears.
How beautiful you are, my love;
how perfect you are!
Come with me from the Lebanon Mountains,
my bride; come with me from Lebanon.
Come down from the top of Mount Amana,
from Mount Senir and Mount Hermon,
where the lions and leopards live.
The look in your eyes,
my sweetheart and bride,
and the necklace you are wearing
have stolen my heart.

Your love delights me,
my sweetheart and bride.
Your love is better than wine;
your perfume more fragrant than any spice.
The taste of honey is on your lips, my darling;
your tongue is milk and honey for me.
Your clothing has all the fragrance of Lebanon.

My sweetheart, my bride,
is a secret garden, a walled garden,
a private spring; there the plants flourish.
They grow like an orchard of pomegranate trees
and bear the finest fruits.
There is no lack of henna and nard, of saffron,
calamus, and cinnamon, or incense of every kind.
Myrrh and aloes grow there
with all the most fragrant perfumes.
Fountains water the garden,
streams of flowing water,
brooks gushing down from the Lebanon Mountains.

The Woman

Wake up, North Wind.
South Wind, blow on my garden;
fill the air with fragrance.
Let my lover come to his garden
and eat the best of its fruits.

Song of Solomon 5

The Man

I have entered my garden,
my sweetheart, my bride.
I am gathering my spices and myrrh;
I am eating my honey and honeycomb;
I am drinking my wine and milk.

The Women

Eat, lovers, and drink
until you are drunk with love!

The Fourth Song

The Woman

While I slept, my heart was awake.
I dreamed my lover knocked at the door.

The Man

Let me come in, my darling,
my sweetheart, my dove.
My head is wet with dew,
and my hair is damp from the mist.

The Woman

I have already undressed;
why should I get dressed again?
I have washed my feet;
why should I get them dirty again?
My lover put his hand to the door,
and I was thrilled that he was near.
I was ready to let him come in.

My hands were covered with myrrh,
my fingers with liquid myrrh,
as I grasped the handle of the door.
I opened the door for my lover,
but he had already gone.
How I wanted to hear his voice!
I looked for him, but couldn't find him;
I called to him, but heard no answer.
The sentries patrolling the city found me;
they struck me and bruised me;
the guards at the city wall tore off my cape.
Promise me, women of Jerusalem,
that if you find my lover,
you will tell him I am weak from passion.

The Women

Most beautiful of women,
is your lover different from everyone else?
What is there so wonderful about him
that we should give you our promise?

The Woman

My lover is handsome and strong;
he is one in ten thousand.
His face is bronzed and smooth;
his hair is wavy, black as a raven.
His eyes are as beautiful as doves by a flowing brook,
doves washed in milk and standing by the stream.
His cheeks are as lovely as a garden
that is full of herbs and spices.
His lips are like lilies,
wet with liquid myrrh.
His hands are well-formed,
and he wears rings set with gems.
His body is like smooth ivory,
with sapphires set in it.
His thighs are columns of alabaster
set in sockets of gold.
He is majestic, like the Lebanon Mountains
with their towering cedars.

His mouth is sweet to kiss;
everything about him enchants me.
This is what my lover is like,
women of Jerusalem.

Song of Solomon 6

The Women

Most beautiful of women,
where has your lover gone?
Tell us which way your lover went,
so that we can help you find him.

The Woman

My lover has gone to his garden,
where the balsam trees grow.
He is feeding his flock in the garden
and gathering lilies.
My lover is mine, and I am his;
he feeds his flock among the lilies.

The Fifth Song

The Man

My love, you are as beautiful as Jerusalem,
as lovely as the city of Tirzah,
as breathtaking as these great cities.
Turn your eyes away from me;
they are holding me captive.
Your hair dances,
like a flock of goats bounding down the hills of Gilead.
Your teeth are as white as a flock of sheep
that have just been washed.
Not one of them is missing;
they are all perfectly matched.
Your cheeks glow behind your veil.
Let the king have sixty queens, eighty concubines,
young women without number!
But I love only one,
and she is as lovely as a dove.

She is her mother's only daughter,
her mother's favourite child.
All women look at her and praise her;
queens and concubines sing her praises.
Who is this whose glance is like the dawn?
She is beautiful and bright,
as dazzling as the sun or the moon.

I have come down among the almond trees
to see the young plants in the valley,
to see the new leaves on the vines
and the blossoms on the pomegranate trees.
I am trembling; you have made me as eager for love
as a chariot driver is for battle.

The Women

Dance, dance, girl of Shulam.
Let us watch you as you dance.

The Woman

Why do you want to watch me
as I dance between the rows of onlookers?

Song of Solomon 7

The Man

What a wonderful young woman you are!
How beautiful are your feet in sandals.
The curve of your thighs
is like the work of an artist.
A bowl is there,
that never runs out of spiced wine.
A sheaf of wheat is there,
surrounded by lilies.
Your breasts are like twin deer,
like two gazelles.
Your neck is like a tower of ivory.
Your eyes are like the pools in the city of Heshbon,
near the gate of that great city.
Your nose is as lovely as the tower of Lebanon
that stands guard at Damascus.

Your head is held high like Mount Carmel.
Your braided hair shines like the finest satin;
its beauty could hold a king captive.
How pretty you are, how beautiful;
how complete the delights of your love.
You are as graceful as a palm tree,
and your breasts are clusters of dates.
I will climb the palm tree and pick its fruit.
To me your breasts are like bunches of grapes,
your breath like the fragrance of apples,
and your mouth like the finest wine.

The Woman

Then let the wine flow straight to my lover,
flowing over his lips and teeth.
I belong to my lover, and he desires me.
Come, darling, let's go out to the countryside
and spend the night in the villages.
We will get up early and look at the vines
to see whether they've started to grow,
whether the blossoms are opening
and the pomegranate trees are in bloom.
There I will give you my love.
You can smell the scent of mandrakes,
and all the pleasant fruits are near our door.
Darling, I have kept for you
the old delights and the new.

Song of Solomon 8

I wish that you were my brother,
that my mother had nursed you at her breast.
Then, if I met you in the street,
I could kiss you and no one would mind.
I would take you to my mother's house,
where you could teach me love.
I would give you spiced wine,
my pomegranate wine to drink.
Your left hand is under my head,
and your right hand caresses me.
Promise me, women of Jerusalem,
that you will not interrupt our love.

The Sixth Song

The Women

Who is this coming from the desert,
arm in arm with her lover?

The Woman

Under the apple tree I woke you,
in the place where you were born.
Close your heart to every love but mine;
hold no one in your arms but me.
Love is as powerful as death;
passion is as strong as death itself.
It bursts into flame
and burns like a raging fire.
Water cannot put it out;
no flood can drown it.
But if any tried to buy love with their wealth,
contempt is all they would get.

The Woman's Brothers

We have a young sister,
and her breasts are still small.
What will we do for her
when a young man comes courting?
If she is a wall,
we will build her a silver tower.
But if she is a gate,
we will protect her with panels of cedar.

The Woman

I am a wall,
and my breasts are its towers.
My lover knows that with him
I find contentment and peace.

The Man

Solomon has a vineyard
in a place called Baal Hamon.
There are farmers who rent it from him;
each one pays a thousand silver coins.

Solomon is welcome to his thousand coins,
and the farmers to two hundred as their share;
I have a vineyard of my own!
Let me hear your voice from the garden, my love;
my companions are waiting to hear you speak.

The Woman

Come to me, my lover, like a gazelle,
like a young stag on the mountains where spices grow.

10 August

Honesty Is the Best Policy

Never move an old boundary mark that your ancestors established.

(Proverbs 22:28 GNT)

Honesty is the best policy. My Father sees everything and cannot be fooled. I can fool most people most of the time but I cannot fool all people all of the time.

The Old Life and the New (Colossians 3:5-17)

But now you must get rid of all these things: anger, passion, and hateful feelings. No insults or obscene talk must ever come from your lips. Do not lie to one another, for you have taken off the old self with its habits and have put on the new self. This is the new being which God, its creator, is constantly renewing in his own image, in order to bring you to a full knowledge of himself. As a result, there is no longer any distinction between Gentiles and Jews, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarians, savages, slaves and free, but Christ is all, Christ is in all.

(Colossians 3:8-11 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for this day. Thank you for the Spirit of Christ who dwells in me, as well as in all others, whether slave or free, Black or White, Coloured or Indian. Thank you for abundant life. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

11 August

Love, Peace and Unity

Show me someone who does a good job, and I will show you someone who is better than most and worthy of the company of kings.

(Proverbs 22:29 GNT)

I always try to do everything the best I can, as unto my Heavenly Father.

The Old Life and the New (Colossians 3:5-17)

Be tolerant with one another and forgive one another whenever any of you has a complaint against someone else. You must forgive one another just as the Lord has forgiven you. And to all these qualities add love, which binds all things together in perfect unity. The peace that Christ gives is to guide you in the decisions you make; for it is to this peace that God has called you together in the one body. And be thankful.

(Colossians 3:13-15 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for a new day. Thank you for the LOVE and peace of Christ in my life. Thank you for your Spirit that leads me into perfect balance and unity with all of creation. Let your perfect will be done. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

12 August

Self-Control, Humility and Patience

When you sit down to eat with someone important, keep in mind who he is. If you have a big appetite, restrain yourself. Don't be greedy for the fine food he serves; he may be trying to trick you.

(Proverbs 23:1-3 GNT)

I always try to be humble, patient and self-controlled. The Holy Spirit endows me with these attributes.

Personal Relations in the New Life (Colossians 3:18-4:1 GNT)

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart as though you were working for the Lord and not for human beings. For Christ is the real master you serve. And wrongdoers will be repaid for the wrong things they do, because God judges everyone by the same standard.

Masters, be fair and just in the way you treat your slaves. Remember that you too have a master in heaven.

(Colossians 3: 23-25 & 4:1 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for life in abundance. Thank you for your Spirit who leads me and guides me to be self-controlled humble and patient. Thank you for guiding me to seek, find and pursue your perfect will at all times. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

13 August

Using Divine Wisdom and Diplomacy

Be wise enough not to wear yourself out trying to get rich. Your money can be gone in a flash, as if it had grown wings and flown away like an eagle.

(Proverbs 23:4 & 5 GNT)

Being led by the Holy Spirit and applying Divine wisdom, I can prevent wearing myself out.

Holy Spirit, stay with me.

Instructions (Colossians 4:2-6)

Be wise in the way you act towards those who are not believers, making good use of every opportunity you have. Your speech should always be pleasant and interesting, and you should know how to give the right answer to everyone.

(Colossians 4:5 & 6 GNT)

Diplomacy is key when communicating with unbelievers. If I represent Christ properly any unbeliever should have a desire to become one of his followers.

Heavenly Father, thank you for a new day with new revelation. Thank you for your Spirit and the Divine wisdom he brings when I am truly obedient in all my deeds and actions. Holy Spirit, lead me and teach me to remain focused on the task at hand. Guide me on the straight and narrow. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

14 August

The Power and Joy of the Holy Spirit

Don't eat at the table of a stingy person or be greedy for the fine food he serves. "Come on and have some more," he says, but he doesn't mean it. What he thinks is what he really is. You will vomit up what you have eaten, and all your flattery will be wasted.

(Proverbs 23:6-8 GNT)

The Life and Faith of the Thessalonians (1 Thessalonians 1:2-10)

For we brought the good news to you, not with words only, but also with power and the Holy Spirit, and with complete conviction of its truth. You imitated us and the Lord; and even though you suffered much, you received the message with the joy that comes from the Holy Spirit.

(1 Thessalonians 1:5a & 6 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit who empowers me with faith and fills me with joy. Thank you for your Word which gives me wisdom, insight and inspiration. Blessed be your holy name. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

15 August

Be Wise When Surrounded by Fools

Don't try to talk sense to a fool; he can't appreciate it.

(Proverbs 23:9 GNT)

It is better to give a fool a foolish answer to a foolish question than to try and give a sensible argument.

Paul's work in Thessalonica (1 Thessalonians 2:1-16)

We do not try to please people, but to please God, who tests our motives.

(1 Thessalonians 2:4b GNT)

Sometimes the Holy Spirit will prompt me to do things that may offend society and the public. However, if I am confident that it is the Holy Spirit prompting me, then I should be obedient, even if the public frowns at me.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, please give me the ability to hear your voice clearly. Give me the ability to discern between your voice and the voices of unclean spirits. Father, I seek your will, no matter the criticism of society and of the world. Let your perfect will be done this day, as always. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

16 August

Righteousness and Grace

Never remove an old boundary-mark or take over land owned by orphans. The LORD is their powerful defender, and he will argue their case against you. (Proverbs 23:10-11 GNT)

Being fair and righteous to the poor and previously disadvantaged is the right thing to do.

Paul's Work in Thessalonica (continued)

And there is another reason why we always give thanks to God. When we brought you God's message, you heard it and accepted it, not as a message from human beings but as God's message, which indeed it is. For God is at work in you who believe.

(1 Thessalonians 2:13 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for unconditional LOVE and grace. Thank you that your perfect will is being done. Thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, thank you for convicting me of my wrongs and leading me to be fair and righteous towards all people. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

17 August

Learn All You Can and Be Holy

Pay attention to your teacher and learn all you can.

(Proverbs 23:12 GNT)

Listen carefully to your teacher and never try to be smarter than him. Listen to your teacher and do not try to teach him. He knows his subjects better than you.

A Life That Pleases God (1 Thessalonians 4:1-12)

Finally, our brothers and sisters, you learned from us how you should live in order to please God. This is, of course, how you have been living. And now we beg and urge you in the name of the Lord Jesus to do even more. God wants you to be holy and completely free from sexual immorality.

(1 Thessalonians 4:1 & 3 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for teaching me through your Word and through your Spirit. Holy Spirit, teach me to discern between truth and lies. Father, I long to please you in every way in my everyday life. I long to live a holy life of significance and inspiration to all those still in darkness. Let your perfect will be done. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

18 August

Discipline of Self and of Children

Don't hesitate to discipline children. A good spanking won't kill them. As a matter of fact, it may save their lives.

(Proverbs 23:13-14 GNT)

Unruly children deserve to be disciplined through a proper spanking at the right time. Sparing the rod won't save the child.

A Life That Pleases God (1 Thessalonians 4:1-12)

God did not call us to live in immorality, but in holiness. So then, whoever rejects this teaching is not rejecting a human being, but God, who gives you his Holy Spirit.

(1 Thessalonians 4:7-8 GNT)

When I call on my Father's Holy Spirit, he will lead me away from immorality and straight into holiness. As a committed believer, I always strive towards holiness and sanctification.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit that fills me afresh each day and leads me to be self-disciplined. Holy Spirit, please continue to lead me into holiness and away from immorality. Let your LOVE and light fill me and flow through me to whosoever I come into contact with today that do not know you yet. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

19 August

Wisdom Brings Joy and Peace

Son, if you become wise, I will be very happy. I will be proud when I hear you speaking words of wisdom.

(Proverbs 23:15-16 GNT)

Acquiring wisdom is key to becoming joyful and happy. Wise people are happy people, no matter their circumstances. It is wise to stay content and joyful despite circumstances which may appear dark and gloomy. Speaking words of wisdom dispels darkness just like radiant light does and it releases joy and happiness.

Final Instructions and Greetings (1 Thessalonians 5:12-28)

See that no one pays back wrong for wrong, but at all times make it your aim to do good to one another and to all people. Be joyful always, pray at all times, be thankful in all circumstances. This is what God wants from you in your life in union with Christ Jesus. Do not to restrain the Holy Spirit; do not despise inspired messages. Put all things to the test: keep what is good and avoid every kind of evil.

(1 Thessalonians 5:15-22 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for Divine wisdom and joy. Thank you for the guidance and inspiration that your Spirit constantly brings. Holy Spirit, thank you for the gift of discerning between good and evil. Thank you for freedom of religion and freedom from having to be religious. Thank you for inner peace within my soul. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

20 August

The Future is Bright

Don't be envious of sinful people; let reverence for the LORD be the concern of your life. If it is, you have a bright future.

(Proverbs 23:17-18 GNT)

Sinful people may appear happy and prosperous, but they have an emptiness deep inside. I have filled my emptiness with reverence for my Father. I would much rather have Him in my life and be happy than all other worldly things with no joy and no sense of belonging. How about you? My Father is good and the future is bright.

The Judgement at Christ's Coming (2 Thessalonians 1:3-12)

God will do what is right: he will bring suffering on those who make you suffer, and he will give relief to you who suffer and to us as well.

(2 Thessalonians 1:6-7a GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for a new day. Thank you for your Spirit who inspires and empowers me to be victorious and joyful no matter my circumstances. Thank you for meeting all my needs and for the promise of a bright future. Blessed be your glorious name now and for ever. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

21 August

Discerning of Spirits

Listen, my son, be wise and give serious thought to the way you live. Don't associate with people who drink too much wine or stuff themselves with food. Drunkards and gluttons will be reduced to poverty. If all you do is eat and sleep, you will soon be wearing rags.

(Proverbs 23:19-21 GNT)

What have you done the past week for someone else besides you and your loved ones? What can you do to brighten up someone else's life today and to put a smile on a face or two? Are you living a life of significance?

The Obligation to Work (2 Thessalonians 3:6-15)

While we were with you, we used to say to you, "whoever refuses to work is not allowed to eat."

(2 Thessalonians 3:10 GNT)

The fruit of selfishness, drunkenness, and laziness is poverty. Be wise when choosing your friends.

Heavenly Father, thank you for all my blessings. Holy Spirit, please lead me and guide me and give me the gift of discerning so that I may discern accurately between spirits and steer clear from unclean influences and demonic spirits. Flow through me and let unclean spirits flee from my presence with fear and trembling. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

22 August

Truth, Wisdom, Learning and Good Sense

Listen to your father; without him you would not exist. When your mother is old, show her appreciation.

Truth, wisdom, learning, and good sense - these are worth paying for, but too valuable for you to sell.

A righteous man's father has good reason to be happy. You can take pride in a wise son.

Make your father and mother proud of you; give your mother that happiness. (Proverbs 23:22-25 GNT)

Warnings against False Teaching (1 Timothy 1:3-11)

It must be remembered, of course, that laws are made, not for good people, but for lawbreakers and criminals, for the godless and sinful, for those who are not religious or spiritual, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers, for the immoral, for sexual perverts, for kidnappers, for those who lie and give false testimony or who do anything else contrary to sound doctrine. (1 Timothy 1:9-10 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit who leads me day by day in truth, wisdom, learning and good sense. Thank you that your law is written on my heart. Holy Spirit, thank you for being my perfect guide and helper. Please remain with me throughout this day. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

23 August

Self-Control - A Fruit of the Spirit

Pay close attention, son, and let my life be your example. Prostitutes and immoral women are a deadly trap. They wait for you like robbers and cause many men to be unfaithful.

(Proverbs 23:26-28 GNT)

Leaders in the church (1 Timothy 3:1-7)

A church leader must be without fault; he must have only one wife, be sober, self-controlled, and orderly; he must welcome strangers in his home; he must be able to teach; he must not be a drunkard or a violent man, but gentle and peaceful; he must not love money; he must be able to manage his own family well and make his children obey him with all respect. For if a man does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of the church of God? He must be mature in the faith, so that he will not swell up with pride and be condemned, as the Devil was.

(1 Timothy 3:2-6 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, please fill me afresh today, so that I may be self-controlled and orderly and that I may resist the temptations of the flesh. Thank you for unconditional LOVE and grace. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

24 August

Good Character and Sincerity

Show me someone who drinks too much, who has to try out some new drink, and I will show you someone miserable and sorry for himself, always causing trouble and always complaining. His eyes are bloodshot and he has bruises that could have been avoided. Don't let wine tempt you, even though it is rich red, though it sparkles in the cup, and it goes down smoothly. The next morning you will feel as if you had been bitten by a poisonous snake. Weird sites will appear before your eyes, and you will not be able to think or speak clearly. You will feel as if you were out on the ocean, seasick, swinging high up in the rigging of a tossing ship. "I must have been hit," you will say; "I must have been beaten up, but I don't remember it. Why can't I wake up? I need another drink."
(Proverbs 23:29-35 GNT)

Helpers in the Church (1 Timothy 3:8-13 GNT)

Church helpers must also have a good character and be sincere; they must not drink too much wine or be greedy for money.
(1 Timothy 3:8 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your perfect will in my life. Thank you for your Word which is a light unto my path. Thank you for your Spirit who leads me away from temptations and also helps me to resist temptations. Let your perfect will be done. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

25 August

Honesty, Sobriety and Goodness

Don't be envious of evil people, and don't try to make friends with them. Causing trouble is all they ever think about; every time they open their mouth someone is going to be hurt.

(Proverbs 24:1-2 GNT)

I can choose my friends, but I cannot choose my family. I should choose wisely.

Helpers in the church (continued)

They should hold to the revealed truth of the faith with a clear conscience. They should be tested first, and then, if they pass the test, they are to serve. Their wives / women helpers must be of good character and must not gossip: they must be sober and honest in everything. A church helper must have only one wife, and be able to manage his children and family well. Those helpers who do their work well win for themselves a good standing and are able to speak boldly about their faith in Christ Jesus.

(1 Timothy 3:9-13 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for life, and it in abundance. Thank you for free will so that I might determine my own destiny. Holy Spirit, please flow through me so that I may choose wisely and use my free will to make good decisions. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

26 August

Wisdom and Understanding

Homes are built on the foundation of wisdom and understanding. Where there is knowledge, the rooms are furnished with valuable beautiful things.

(Proverbs 24:3-4 GNT)

False Teachers (1 Timothy 4:1-5 GNT)

The Spirit says clearly that some people will abandon the faith in later times; they will obey lying spirits and follow the teachings of Demons. Such teachings are spread by deceitful liars, whose consciences are dead, as if burnt with a hot iron. Such people teach that it is wrong to marry and to eat certain foods. But God created those foods to be eaten, after a prayer of thanks, by those who are believers and have come to know the truth. Everything that God has created is good; nothing is to be rejected, but everything is to be received with a prayer of thanks, because the word of God and the prayer make it acceptable to God.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit who leads me in wisdom and understanding and reveals all truth to me. Thank you for giving me free will to choose whether or not to be obedient to the leading of your Spirit. Holy Spirit, awaken my conscience so that I may be promptly obedient to you. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

27 August

Wisdom is power

Being wise is better than being strong; yes, knowledge is more important than strength. After all you must make careful plans before you fight a battle, and the more good advice you get, the more likely you are to win.

(Proverbs 24:5-6 GNT)

Responsibilities Towards Believers (1 Timothy 5)

But if anyone does not take care of his relatives, especially the members of his own family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

(1 Timothy 5:8 GNT)

It is the duty of every believer to take care of his relatives and own family. It is a privilege to look after family members and fellow believers.

Heavenly Father, thank you for divine wisdom and knowledge. Thank you for divine strength through wisdom. Holy Spirit, please continue to flow through me today in a powerful way. I am more than a conqueror through Christ who lives in me. Father, I honour you. Blessed be your holy name. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

28 August

Materialism - The Root of All Evil

Wise sayings are too deep for stupid people to understand. They have nothing to say when important matters are being discussed.

(Proverbs 24:7 GNT)

False Teaching and True Riches (1 Timothy 6:2b-10)

What did we bring into the world? Nothing! What can we take out of the world? Nothing! So then, if we have food and clothes, that should be enough for us. But those who want to get rich fall into temptation and are caught in the trap of many foolish and harmful desires, which pull them down to ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a source of all kinds of evil. Some have been so eager to have it that they have wandered away from the faith and have broken their hearts with many sorrows.

(1 Timothy 6:7-10 GNT)

Having all my needs met, is being truly rich. Contentment is better than complaining. The love of money is the root of all evil. My Father is good and He has always met all my needs. I have no reason not to trust Him to continue meeting all my needs. I serve an awesome Father who always comes through for me, and his timing is always perfect.

Heavenly Father, thank you for meeting all my needs and thank you for abundance. What can I do for you to brighten up someone else's life today? Have your way with me and achieve your goal with me and through me. Fill me afresh with your Spirit today and lead me in love and truth. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

29 August

Your Power in the Holy Spirit

If you are always planning evil, you will earn a reputation as a troublemaker. Any scheme a fool thinks up is sinful. People hate a person who has nothing but scorn for others.

(Proverbs 24:8-9 GNT)

I try to always consider others when making all kinds of plans. Their well-being has to be my guiding light.

Thanksgiving and Encouragement (2 Timothy 1:3-18)

For the Spirit that God has given us does not make us timid; instead, his Spirit fills us with power, love and self-control.

(2 Timothy 1:7 GNT)

The Holy Spirit fills me with power to handle all circumstances. All fear, anxiety and negative thoughts flee from me when I call on Him to fill me. He empowers me with self-control and gives me victory. My Father's love for me is unconditional and I can do nothing to earn it. I am His child and I am loved, no matter my past or present faults and mistakes.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit who empowers me with LOVE and a sound mind. Holy Spirit, thank you for giving me confidence to face any situation that comes my way. Thank you for perfect guidance every moment of my life. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

30 August

Loyal Disciples Receive Power from Above

If you are weak in a crisis, you are weak indeed.

(Proverbs 24:10 GNT)

The Spirit of God is powerful and will help me to overcome any old crisis which comes my way. In myself I am weak, but the Spirit of God makes me strong.

A Loyal Soldier of Christ Jesus (2 Timothy 2:1-13)

Take your part in suffering, as a loyal soldier of Christ Jesus. A soldier on active service wants to please his commanding officer and so does not get mixed up in the affairs of civilian life. An athlete who runs in a race cannot win the prize unless he obeys the rules. The farmer who has done the hard work should have the first share of the harvest. Think about what I am saying, because the Lord will enable you to understand it all.

(2 Timothy 2:3-7 GNT)

I do everything I do as unto my Father. I do everything to the best of my ability and give it my full attention, no matter how mundane a task it may seem. I have to focus on what I have been called for and on what I am currently busy with.

Heavenly Father, thank you for a brand-new day. Thank you for equipping me with your Spirit. Holy Spirit, please continue to fill me and flow through me in a powerful way. Help me to be a loyal soldier and a dedicated disciple of Christ Jesus. Thank you for always comforting me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

31 August

Sanctification and Obedience

Don't hesitate to rescue someone who is about to be executed unjustly. You might say that it is none of your business, but God knows and judges your motives. He keeps watch on you; he knows. And he will reward you according to what you do.

(Proverbs 24:11-12 GNT)

The Holy Spirit is my guide and I am obedient to him at all times.

An Approved Worker (2 Timothy 2:14-26)

As the Lord's servant you must not quarrel. You must be kind towards all, a good and patient teacher, who is gentle as you correct your opponents, for it may be that God will give them the opportunity to repent and come to know the truth. And they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the Devil, who has caught them and made them obey his will.

(2 Timothy 2:24-26 GNT)

Being a servant of the Lord is a great responsibility and calls for a Divine nature and holiness. As a servant of my Father, I have to lead by example and cannot act like the rest of the world.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit who convicts me of wrongdoing and sinfulness. Holy Spirit, I rely on you to be my teacher and guide. Thank you for your help and perfect guidance in all circumstances. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

September



01 September

The Word, the Spirit and Wisdom

Son, eat honey; it is good. And just as honey from the comb is sweet on your tongue, you may be sure that wisdom is good for the soul. Get wisdom and you have a bright future.

(Proverbs 24:13-14 GNT)

Last Instructions (2 Timothy 3:10-17)

Everyone who wants to live a godly life in union with Christ Jesus will be persecuted; and evil persons and imposters will keep on going from bad to worse, deceiving others and being deceived themselves. But as for you, continue in the truths that you were taught and firmly believe. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching the truth, rebuking error, correcting faults, and giving instruction for right living, so that the person who serves God may be fully qualified and equipped to do every kind of good deed.

(2 Timothy 3:12-13, 16-17 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Word and your Spirit to lead me in truth and right living. Thank you for Divine Wisdom and discernment between right and wrong. I honour you. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

02 September

Righteousness, Honesty and Self-Control

Don't be like the wicked who scheme to rob honest people or to take away their homes. No matter how often honest people fall, they always get up again; but disaster destroys the wicked.

(Proverbs 24:15-16 GNT)

The righteous and honest has favour with my Father and are always victorious in the end.

Titus' Work in Crete (Titus 1:5-16)

For since the church leader is in charge of God's work, he should be blameless. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered, or a drunkard or violent or greedy for money. He must be hospitable and love what is good. He must be self-controlled, upright, holy, and disciplined.

(Titus 1:7-8 GNT)

Working for my Father, requires discipline and self-control. A holy and blameless lifestyle is key to being a loyal child and a disciple of the Lord Jesus.

Heavenly Father, thank you for sending Jesus to be the first of many who truly love you and seek your will. Fill me with your Spirit so that I may come to know your perfect will for me and my loved ones. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

03 September

Love Your Enemies and Bless Them

Don't be glad when your enemies meet disaster, and don't rejoice when they stumble. The LORD will know if you are gloating, and he will not like it; and then he might not finish them.

(Proverbs 24:17-18 GNT)

Love for Enemies (Luke 6:27-36)

"But I tell you who hear me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, and pray for those who ill-treat you."

(Luke 6:27-28 GNT)

Sound Doctrine (Titus 2)

For God has revealed his grace for the salvation of the whole human race. That grace instructs us to give up ungodly living and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and Godly lives in this world. He gave himself for us, to rescue us from all wickedness and to make us a pure people who belong to him alone and are eager to do good.

(Titus 2:11-12 & 14 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, please continue to guide me and empower me to live a self-controlled and holy life. Help me to love my enemies and to bless them. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

04 September

Jesus Christ, the Way and the Truth

Don't let evil people worry you; don't be envious of them. A wicked person has no future - nothing to look forward to.

(Proverbs 24:19-20 GNT)

Followers of Christ are not concerned about or envious of evil people. My only concern for the lost is to show them the way. Whether they follow it is their choice and none of my concern.

Christian Conduct (Titus 3)

Remind your people to submit to rulers and authorities, to obey them, and to be ready to do good in every way. Tell them not to speak evil of anyone, but to be peaceful and friendly, and always to show a gentle attitude towards everyone. For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient and wrong. We were slaves to passion and pleasures of all kinds. We spent our lives in malice and envy; others hated us and we hated them.

(Titus 3:1-3 GNT)

Heavenly Father, I honour you and I love you for who you are. Righteous Father, fill me with your Spirit, so that I may represent you properly to all those that do not know you. Guide me and lead me to set a good example to the people of this world. Let your perfect will be done and let your Kingdom manifest in and around me with signs and wonders. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

05 September

Maintaining Christian Conduct in the World

Have reverence for the LORD, my son, and honour the king. Have nothing to do with people who rebel against them; such people could be ruined in a moment.

Do you realize the disaster that God or the king can cause?

(Proverbs 24:21-22 GNT)

If I love my Father, I will obey the authorities. The authorities are appointed by Him.

(Romans 13:1)

Christian Conduct (continued)

God poured out the Holy Spirit abundantly on us through Jesus Christ our Saviour, so that by his grace we might be put right with God and come into possession of the eternal life we hope for. Our people must learn to spend their time doing good, in order to provide for real needs; they should not live useless lives.

(Titus 3:6-7 & 14 GNT)

Followers of Christ are programmed to live meaningful lives.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit who fills me with wisdom and inspiration. Make my life significant and let me leave a legacy behind for generations to come. Help me to remain focused no matter my circumstances and let my conduct inspire those around me.

In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

06 September

Treating All Equally and Fairly

The wise have also said these things: it is wrong for judges to be prejudiced. If they pronounce a guilty person innocent, they will be cursed and hated by everyone. Judges who punish the guilty, however will be prosperous and enjoy a good reputation.

(Proverbs 24:23-25 GNT)

God's Word through His Son (Hebrews 1:1-3)

He reflects the brightness of God's glory and is the exact likeness of God's own being, sustaining the universe with his powerful word. After achieving forgiveness for human sins, he sat down in heaven at the right hand side of God, the supreme power.

(Hebrews 1:3 GNT)

Jesus came to earth to represent the image and the likeness of my Heavenly Father. He came to point the way to Him by being obedient to His will, even to the point of crucifixion and physical death.

Heavenly Father, thank you for sending Jesus to represent you. Jesus, thank you for liberating me from religiosity and self-condemnation. Holy Spirit, please continue to lead me in truth and righteousness. Make me victorious in everyday life and strengthen me in everything. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

07 September

The Holy Spirit, Honesty and Discernment

An honest answer is a sign of true friendship.

(Proverbs 24:26 GNT)

It is always better to be honest and truthful towards someone, than to hide the truth by sugar coating and misleading words. People appreciate the truth even though it may be hurtful at first. I have to be very careful and tactful when revealing painful truths.

The Greatness of God's Son

What are the angels, then? They are spirits who serve God and are sent by him to help those who are to receive salvation.

(Hebrews 1:14 GNT)

Angels or good spirits serve my Father and are sent by Him to help me receive salvation. I have to discern between good spirits sent by Him and demon spirits sent by Satan. The Holy Spirit will always be there to help me discern. He always leads and guides me.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit who dwells in me and inspires me with love, truth, honesty and discernment. Holy Spirit, please remain with me today and help me to be wise and to make good choices. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

08 September

Divine Wisdom and Discernment

Don't build your house and establish a home until your fields are ready, and you are sure you can earn a living.

(Proverbs 24:27 GNT)

I have to make sure I am where I should be before I decide to settle there. As soon as I am sure then I can go ahead and set up my home.

The One Who Leads Us to Salvation (Hebrews 2:5-18)

For Jesus is the one who leads them to salvation.

He purifies people from their sins, and both he and those who are made pure all have the same Father. That is why Jesus is not ashamed to call them his family. And now he can help those who are tempted, because he himself was tempted and suffered.

(Hebrews 2:10b-11 & 18 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Word and your Spirit. Thank you for helping me make wise decisions concerning my future. Thank you for sending Jesus to lead the way in an army of believers. Holy Spirit, please continue to lead and inspire me this day. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

09 September

Treating Others with Compassion

Don't give evidence against someone else without good reason, or say misleading things about him. Don't say, "I'll do to him just what he did to me! I'll get even with him!"

(Proverbs 24:28-29 GNT)

If at all possible, it is better not to testify against someone else and thus incriminating him. Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

Jesus Is Greater than Moses (Hebrews 3:1-6)

Moses was faithful in God's house as a servant, and he spoke of the things that God would say in the future. But Christ is faithful as the Son in charge of God's house. We are his house if we keep up our courage and our confidence in what we hope for.

(Hebrews 3:5-6 GNT)

Moses brought the Law and the Old Covenant. Jesus brought the New Covenant of grace.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Thank you for the New Covenant of grace. Your law is written on my heart and I gladly comply. Thank you for forgiveness of sins. Holy Spirit, please continue to guide me according to Divine will. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

10 September

Wisdom and Hard Work

I walked through the fields and vineyards of a lazy, stupid person. They were full of thorn bushes and overgrown with weeds. The stone wall round them had fallen down. I looked at this, thought about it, and learned a lesson from it: have a nap and sleep if you want to. Fold your hands and rest a while, but while you are asleep, poverty will attack you like an armed robber.

(Proverbs 24:30-34 GNT)

Ultimately laziness leads to poverty.

A Rest for God's People (Hebrews 3:7-19)

My fellow believers, be careful that no one among you has a heart so evil and unbelieving as to turn away from the living God.

(Hebrews 3:12 GNT)

I have to guard my heart against unbelief and evil and continue to seek my Father's face.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Thank you for making me wise and hard-working and protecting me from poverty and disaster. Please guide me from evil and unbelief. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

11 September

My All-Knowing Father

We honour God for what he conceals; we honour Kings for what they explain. You may never know what a king is thinking; his thoughts are beyond us, like the heights of the sky or the depths of the ocean.
(Proverbs 25:2-3 GNT)

Hebrews 4

The word of God is alive and active, sharper than any double-edged sword. It cuts all the way through, to where soul and spirit meet, to where joints and marrow come together. It judges the desires and thoughts of the heart. There is nothing that can be hidden from God; everything in all creation is exposed and lies open before his eyes. And it is to him that we must all give an account of ourselves.

(Hebrews 4:12-13 GNT)

Honour my Father and respect Him, for He knows everything and nothing can be hidden from Him.

Heavenly Father, thank you for today and thank you for making me hopeful for the future. Thank you for unconditional LOVE and grace towards me. Fill me afresh with your Spirit for this brand new day. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

12 September

Sanctification through the Spirit

Take the impurities out of silver and the artist can produce a thing of beauty. Keep evil advisors away from the king and his government will be known for its justice.

(Proverbs 25:4-5 GNT)

One rotten apple can spoil the entire box, just like one evil adviser can corrupt the entire government.

Jesus the Great High Priest (Hebrews 4:14-16)

Let us, then, hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we have a great high priest who has gone into the very presence of God - Jesus, the Son of God. Our High Priest is not one who cannot feel sympathy for our weaknesses. On the contrary, we have a High Priest who was tempted in every way that we are, but did not sin. Let us have confidence, then, and approach God's throne, where there is grace. There we will receive mercy and find grace to help us just when we need it.

(Hebrews 4:14-16 GNT)

With Jesus on my side, I can have the confidence to approach God's throne of grace with boldness.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit who sanctifies me and sets me free from evil thoughts and deeds. Holy Spirit, please continue to fill me and flow through me in a powerful way. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

13 September

Wisdom to be Humble

When you stand before the king, don't try to impress him and pretend to be important. It is better to be asked to take a higher position than to be told to give your place to someone more important.

(Proverbs 25:6-7 GNT)

It is better to be humble than being prideful and arrogant and then having to face humiliation.

God's Sure Promise (Hebrews 6:13-20)

So we who have found safety with him are greatly encouraged to hold firmly to the hope placed before us. We have this hope as an anchor for our lives. It is safe and sure, and goes through the curtain of the heavenly temple into the inner sanctuary. On our behalf Jesus has gone in there before us, and has become a high priest for ever, in the priestly order of Melchizedek.

(Hebrews 6:18b-20 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit who dwells in me and empowers me. Thank you for this day and for giving me hope for the future. I acknowledge that I am a mere mortal just passing through on a short earthly journey. Thank you for this life experience. Blessed be your holy name. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

14 September

Becoming Selfless Like the Master

Don't be too quick to go to court about something you have seen. If another witness later proves you wrong, what will you do then?

(Proverbs 25:8 GNT)

Unless it could help save someone's life, it is better not to become involved in court cases.

The Priest Melchizedek (Hebrews 7:1-14)

There is no doubt that the one who blesses is greater than the one who is blessed.

(Hebrews 7:7 GNT)

Jesus said: "There is more happiness in giving than in receiving."

(Acts 20:35b GNT)

Always consider others above yourself. Followers of Jesus become like him, totally selfless and prepared to die for one another.

Heavenly Father, thank you for this day. Thank you for sending your Son to earth to be my role model and perfect example of true selflessness. Holy Spirit, lead me and guide me to become totally selfless just like Jesus. Use me this day to live a life of significance and to brighten up someone else's day. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

15 September

Jesus, Our High Priest for Ever

If you and your neighbour have a difference of opinion, settle it between yourselves and do not reveal any secrets. Otherwise everyone will learn that you can't keep a secret, and you will never live down the shame.

(Proverbs 25:9-10 GNT)

I have no need to gossip or slander about my neighbour. Negative criticism shouldn't come from my mouth. If I can't say anything good or positive about someone, I would rather say nothing at all. This is something simple that my grandmother taught me when I was little, and I will never forget it.

Another Priest, like Melchizedek (Hebrews 7:15-28)

Jesus, then, is the High Priest that meets our needs. He is holy; he has no fault or sin in him; he has been set apart for sinners and raised above the heavens.

The Law of Moses appoints men who are imperfect to be high priests; but God's promise made with the vow, which came later than the Law, appoints the Son, who has been made perfect for ever.

(Hebrews 7:26 & 28 GNT)

Jesus is my high priest forever.

Heavenly Father, thank you for giving me a high priest for ever. Thank you for sending Jesus to earth to redirect my path back to you. Holy Spirit, thank you for your perfect guidance. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

16 September

Obsolescence of the Old Covenant

An idea well expressed is like a design of gold, set in silver.

(Proverbs 25:11 GNT)

It is good practice to formulate an idea properly in order to express it well. In this way people will buy into the idea.

Jesus Our High Priest (Hebrews 8)

By speaking of a new covenant, God had made the first one old; and anything that becomes old and worn out will soon disappear.

(Hebrews 8:13 GNT)

Jesus came to bring a new covenant to liberate humanity from religiosity and self-condemnation. There is no more need for primitive practices of animal or human sacrifices. The old covenant has become obsolete.

Heavenly Father, thank you for sending Jesus to proclaim liberty to the captives and sinners like me. Thank you for freedom from religiosity and self-condemnation. Thank you that I am now free to approach you directly without intervention of imperfect human beings. Thank you for your Spirit who lives in me and guides me in love, truth and righteousness. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

17 September

The New Dispensation of Grace

A warning given by an experienced person to someone willing to listen is more valuable than gold rings or jewellery made of the finest gold.

(Proverbs 25:12 GNT)

As someone with wisdom and experience, I should warn the younger generation of dangerous and potentially harmful potholes on the pathway of life. Those who are prepared to listen, will benefit from the warning.

Christ's Sacrifice Takes Away Sins (Hebrews 9:23-10:18)

For the blood of bulls and goats can never take away sins. And the Holy Spirit also gives us his witness. First he says, "This is the covenant that I will make with them in the days to come, says the Lord: I will put my laws in their hearts and write them on their minds." And then he says, "I will not remember their sins and evil deeds any longer." So when these have been forgiven, an offering to take away sins is no longer needed.

(Hebrews 10:4 & 15-18 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for forgiving and forgetting all of my past transgressions. Thank you for giving me a new covenant of grace and for writing your laws on my heart. Holy Spirit, thank you for constant help and guidance. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

18 September

Obedience and Excellence

A reliable messenger is refreshing to the one who sends him, like cold water in the heat of harvest time.

(Proverbs 25:13 GNT)

I strive to do everything I do with excellence as unto my Father, no matter how mundane the tasks may seem. I strive to be refreshing like a drink of cold water in the heat of the day and reliable and trustworthy in everything.

Let Us Come Near To God (Hebrews 10:19-39)

For there is no longer any sacrifice that will take away the sins if we purposely go on sinning after the truth has been made known to us. It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God!

(Hebrews 10:26 & 31 GNT)

My Father loves all his children and I cannot do anything to be loved any less or more. He will, however, correct and discipline me if I am disobedient. The key is to always be obedient.

Heavenly Father, thank you for unconditional LOVE and grace. Thank you also for correction and discipline if and when required. I love you and I honour you. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

19 September

Saved by Faith

People who promise things that they never give are like clouds and wind that bring no rain.

(Proverbs 25:14 GNT)

It is better to make no promises at all rather than making empty promises.

Let Us Come Near To God (continued) & Faith (Hebrews 11)

You need to be patient in order to do the will of God and receive what he promises.

We are not people who turn back and are lost. Instead we have faith and are saved.

To have faith is to be sure of the things we hope for, to be certain of the things we cannot see. It was by their faith that people of ancient times won God's approval. No one can please God without faith, for whoever comes to God must have faith that God exists and rewards those who seek him.

(Hebrews 10:36, 39 & 11:1-2, 6 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Thank you for giving me faith so that I can be sure of the things I hope for and certain of the things I cannot see. Holy Spirit, guide me and lead me that I will be honest and truthful at all times and deliver on all of my promises. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

20 September

Keeping My Eyes Fixed on Jesus

Patient persuasion can break down the strongest resistance and can even convince rulers.

(Proverbs 25:15 GNT)

Never be in a hurry to persuade someone who is difficult. Exercising patience will have better results.

God Our Father (Hebrews 12:1-11)

As for us, we have this large crowd of witnesses around us. So then, let us rid ourselves of everything that gets in the way, and of the sin which holds on to us so tightly, and let us run with determination the race that lies before us. Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, on whom our faith depends from beginning to end. He did not give up because of the cross! On the contrary, because of the joy that was waiting for him, he thought nothing of the disgrace of dying on the cross, and he is now seated at the right hand side of God's throne.

(Hebrews 12:1-2 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you that I can run the race of life with confidence, knowing that I am surrounded by a crowd of witnesses. Thank you for perfect guidance. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

21 September

Moderation, Peace and Holiness

Never eat more honey than you need; too much may make you vomit. Don't visit your neighbours too often; they may get tired of you and come to hate you.

(Proverbs 25:16-17 GNT)

Do all things in moderation and avoid excess.

Instructions and Warnings (Hebrews 12:12-29)

Try to be at peace with everyone, and try to live a holy life, because no one will see the Lord without it.

(Hebrews 12:14 GNT)

If I live in constant strife and worldliness, then I grieve the Holy Spirit and I will not see the Lord. When I live in peace with everyone and in holiness, then I attract the Holy Spirit into my life. With the Holy Spirit in my life, I am victorious.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit you are most welcome in my life. Stay with me and guide me and lead me in peace and holiness. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

22 September

Be Slow to Anger and to Accuse

A false accusation is as deadly as a sword, a club, or a sharp arrow.

(Proverbs 25:18 GNT)

Be careful never to accuse someone, unless you have hard evidence. Accusing someone falsely could be very embarrassing and it is difficult to undo. Always give someone the benefit of the doubt. If guilty, he or she will eventually get caught out.

How to Please God (Hebrews 13:1-19)

Keep on loving one another as Christian brothers and sisters. Remember to welcome strangers in your homes. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them. Remember those who are suffering, as though you were suffering as they are.

(Hebrews 13:1-3 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, thank you for guiding and leading me every day. Fill me afresh today and equip me for the task at hand. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

23 September

Employ Reliable People

Depending on an unreliable person in a crisis is like trying to chew with a loose tooth or walk with a crippled foot.

(Proverbs 25:19 GNT)

Avoid situations where you will be dependent on an unreliable person. It is better not to employ unreliable people. They will only let you down in crisis situations.

How to Please God (continued)

Marriage is to be honoured by all, and husbands and wives must be faithful to each other. God will judge those who are immoral and those who commit adultery.

Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be satisfied with what you have. For God has said, "I will never leave you; I will never abandon you." Let us be bold, then, and say, "The Lord is my helper, I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?"

(Hebrews 13:4-6 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for a brand-new day. Thank you for instituting marriage between husband and wife. Help me to always place the interest of my spouse above my own. Thank you for money. Help me not to idolise it and make it more important than you. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

24 September

Wisdom, Insight and Inspiration

Singing to a person who is depressed is like taking off his clothes on a cold day or like rubbing salt in a wound.

(Proverbs 25:20 GNT)

I should always exercise extreme wisdom when trying to cheer up a depressed person. The best I can do, is to listen with empathy, rather than singing or giving advice.

How to Please God (continued)

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and for ever. Do not let all kinds of strange teachings lead you from the right way. It is good to receive inner strength from God's grace, and not by obeying rules about foods; those who obey these rules have not been helped by them.

(Hebrews 13:8-9 GNT)

Father thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, thank you for wisdom, insight and inspiration. Continue to guide and inspire me throughout this day. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

25 September

Be Kind to Your Enemies

If your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them a drink. You will make them burn with shame, and the LORD will reward you.

(Proverbs 25:21-22 GNT)

If I am kind towards everyone, including my enemies, my Father will reward me.

How to Please God (continued)

Let us, then, always offer praise to God as our sacrifice through Jesus, which is the offering presented by lips that confess him as Lord. Do not forget to do good and to help one another, because these are the sacrifices that please God. Obey your leaders and follow their orders. They watch over your souls without resting, since they must give God an account of their service. If you obey them, they will do their work gladly; if not, they will do it with sadness, and that would be of no help to you. (Hebrews 13:15-17 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for a brand-new day. Thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, continue to inspire me that I may be kind to all people, including my worst enemies. Have your way with me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

26 September

Wisdom and Courage to Endure Trials

Gossip brings anger just as surely as the north wind brings rain.

(Proverbs 25:23 GNT)

Believers should avoid, at all cost, becoming involved in gossip. Worldly people enjoy gossip.

Faith and Wisdom (James 1:2-8)

My brothers and sisters, consider yourselves fortunate when all kinds of trials come your way, for you know that when your faith succeeds in facing such trials, the result is the ability to endure, but if any of you lack wisdom, you should pray to God, who will give it to you; because God gives generously and graciously to all. But when you pray, you must believe and not doubt at all. Whoever doubts is like a wave in the sea that is driven and blown about by the wind. People like that, unable to make up their mind and undecided in all they do, must not think that they will receive anything from the Lord.

(James 1:2-3 & 5-8 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for bringing trials and tribulations on my way to help me grow. Thank you, also, for giving me the strength and ability to endure these trials. Thank you for your Spirit who strengthens me and helps me to be victorious. Thank you for wisdom and courage to face every trial that comes my way. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

27 September

Resisting Temptations

Better to live on the roof than share the house with a nagging wife.

(Proverbs 25:24 GNT)

To be victorious in life, it is best to surround myself with positive and uplifting people.

Testing and Tempting (James 1:12-18)

Happy are all of those who remain faithful under trials, because when they succeed in passing such a test, they will receive as their reward the life which God has promised to those who love him. If people are tempted by such trials, they must not say, "This temptation comes from God." For God cannot be tempted by evil, and he himself tempts no one. But people are tempted when they are drawn away and trapped by their own evil desires. Then their evil desires conceive and give birth to sin; and sin, when it is full grown, gives birth to death.

(James 1:12-15 GNT)

The Holy Spirit gives me power and self-control to resist temptations that always come. Temptations are part of life.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, please continue to fill me with LOVE, power and self-control to be able to resist all temptations that come my way. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

28 September

Be Quick to Listen and Slow to Speak

Finally, hearing good news from a distant land is like a drink of cold water when you are dry and thirsty.

(Proverbs 25:25 GNT)

When I am weary and I receive good news, my heart jumps with joy. My joy is multiplied and my weary soul restored.

Hearing and Doing (James 1:19-27)

Everyone must be quick to listen, but slow to speak and slow to become angry. Human anger does not achieve God's righteous purpose. So get rid of every filthy habit and all wicked conduct. Submit to God and accept the word he plants in your hearts, which is able to save you.

Do not deceive yourself by just listening to his word; instead, put it into practice. But those who look closely into the perfect law that sets people free, who keep on paying attention to it and do not simply listen and then forget it, but put it into practice - they will be blessed by God in what they do.

(James 1:19b-22 & 25 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Thank you for giving me self-control to keep my big mouth shut and to listen, rather than judge, analyse and advise. Holy Spirit, thank you for helping me to wait patiently. Please continue to empower me in humility with joy and peace and patience. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

29 September

Freedom from Prejudice

A good person who gives in to someone who is evil reminds you of a polluted spring or a poisoned well.

(Proverbs 25:26 GNT)

Father, please help and empower me by your Spirit, to remain vigilant and take care not to yield to the poison of evil people. Help me to stand my ground without compromise.

Warning against Prejudice (James 2:1-13)

You will be doing the right thing if you obey the law of the Kingdom, which is found in the scripture, "Love your neighbour as you love yourself." But if you treat people according to their outward appearance, you are guilty of sin, and the Law condemns you as a law-breaker. Whoever breaks one commandment is guilty of breaking them all.

(James 2:8-10 GNT)

I should not treat people differently, based on their social status, skin colour or appearance. I have to treat all equally for God made everyone.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Thank you for wisdom and understanding. Thank you for empowering me with a sound mind. Holy Spirit, please continue to fill me and flow through me so that I may be a good representative. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

30 September

Faith and Actions

Too much honey is bad for you, and so is trying to win too much praise.

(Proverbs 25:27 GNT)

Honey is pleasant to eat and praise is pleasant to receive, but just as excessive honey is bad for me, so is excessive praise. I have been walking with my Father since 2008, and I still catch myself seeking excessive praise by showing off in front of people. Thankfully He is patient and merciful and continues to humble me day by day.

Faith and Actions (James 2:14-26)

My brothers and sisters what good is it for people to say that they have faith if their actions do not prove it? Can that faith save them? Suppose there are brothers or sisters who need clothes and don't have enough to eat. What good is there in you saying to them, "God bless you! Keep warm and eat well!" - if you don't give them the necessities of life? So it is with faith: if it is alone and includes no actions, then it is dead.

So then, as the body without the spirit is dead, so also faith without actions is dead.

(James 2:14-17 & 26 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for a brand new day. Thank you for making my faith alive and letting it show in my actions. Continue to fill me with your Spirit so that I may walk in victory and be a blessing to all those around me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

October



01 October

Controlling the Tongue

If you cannot control your anger, you are as helpless as a city without walls, open to attack.

(Proverbs 25:28 GNT)

When someone makes me angry, I count to ten and breathe deep before reacting. Sometimes it is better to just keep quiet, walk away and not react at all. I have walls around my city. How about you?

The Tongue (James 3:1-12)

But no one has ever been able to tame the tongue. It is evil and uncontrollable, full of deadly poison. We use it to give thanks to our Lord and Father and also to curse other people, who are created in the likeness of God. Words of thanksgiving and cursing pour out from the same mouth. My brothers and sisters, this should not happen! No spring of water pours out sweet water and bitter water from the same opening.

(James 3:8-11 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for self-control. Holy Spirit, please continue to fill me with self-control so that I may choose to keep quiet when I become angry. Guard my mouth that I will not curse anyone or speak harsh words. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

02 October

Wisdom, Purity and Peace

Praise for a fool is out of place, like snow in summer or rain at harvest time.
(Proverbs 26:1 GNT)

Positive criticism and compliments are good if they are truthful. Praising a fool does not qualify as an honest compliment.

The Wisdom from Above (James 3:13-18)

Where there is jealousy and selfishness, there is also disorder and every kind of evil. But the wisdom from above is pure first of all; it is also peaceful, gentle, and friendly; it is full of compassion and produces a harvest of good deeds; it is free from prejudice and hypocrisy. And goodness is the harvest that is produced from the seeds that peacemakers plant in peace.

(James 3:16-18 GNT)

When I receive Divine wisdom, it produces goodness and peace within me. I treat all people equally with friendliness, LOVE and compassion.

Heavenly Father, thank you for Divine wisdom and the gift of discernment. Holy Spirit, thank you for helping me to represent my Father properly, pure and holy. Thank you for peace that surpasses all understanding. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

03 October

Placing my Father before the World

Curses cannot hurt you unless you deserve them. They are like birds that fly by and never settle.

(Proverbs 26:2 GNT)

Illegitimate curses have no effect on me as I do not make them my own. I reject them and they can't cause me harm.

Friendship with the World (James 4:1-10)

Unfaithful people! Don't you know that to be the world's friend means to be God's enemy? People who want to be the world's friends make themselves God's enemies. "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble."

So then, submit to God. Resist the devil, and he will run away from you. Come near to God, and he will come near to you. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

(James 4:4, 6b, 7, 8a & 10 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Thank you for unconditional LOVE and grace. Thank you that I can bring all my problems to you in prayer. Holy Spirit, help me not to be a pleaser of this dark world. Thank you for the numerous humbling experiences that I have been receiving daily during the last few weeks at government hospitals and various other institutes. Be with me throughout this day, keep me humble and protect me, all according to Divine will. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

04 October

Judge Not and You Will Not be Judged

You have to whip a horse, you have to bridle a donkey, and you have to beat a fool.

(Proverbs 26:3 GNT)

Fools that do not react to or respond positively to verbal instructions may have to be beaten to achieve any progress. Best of all is to totally avoid employing fools that do not understand instructions. In this day and age, we cannot go about beating up people as it is not morally acceptable. Holy Spirit, help me to treat all people equally and to steer clear of trouble with fools.

Warning against Judging a Fellow-Christian (James 4:11-12 GNT)

Do not criticise one another, my brothers and sisters. If you criticise fellow-Christians or judge them, you criticise the Law and judge it. If you judge the Law, then you are no longer one who obeys the Law, but one who judges it. God is the only lawgiver and judge. He alone can save and destroy. Who do you think you are, to judge someone else?

(James 4:11-12 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Thank you for grace and forgiveness. Help me not to judge and condemn others. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

05 October

Wisdom, Discernment and Humility

If you answer a silly question, you are just as silly as the person who asked it. Give a silly answer to a silly question, and the one who asked it will realise that he is not as clever as he thinks.

(Proverbs 26:4-5 GNT)

The wise thing to do is to steer clear from a silly communication or else to reply with a silly answer.

Warning against Boasting (James 4:13-17)

Now listen to me, you that say, "Today or tomorrow we will travel to a certain city, where we will stay a year and go into business and make a lot of money." You don't even know what your life tomorrow will be! You are like a puff of smoke, which appears for a moment and then disappears. What you should say is this: "If the Lord is willing, we will live and do this or that." But now you are proud, and you boast; all such boasting is wrong.

(James 4:13-16 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for wisdom and discernment. Holy Spirit, thank you for perfect guidance. Thank you for keeping me humble at all times. Please continue to inspire me throughout this day. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

06 October

Being Wise, Kind and Fair

If you let a fool deliver a message, you might as well cut off your own feet; you are asking for trouble.

(Proverbs 26:6 GNT)

It is better not to make use of the services of a fool for an important task.

Warning to the Rich (James 5:1-6)

Your life here on earth has been full of luxury and pleasure. You have made yourself fit for the day of slaughter.

(James 5:5 GNT)

Being reasonably well off with a life full of luxury and pleasure, I have to tread carefully and be sure not to abuse my employees. I'd rather pay them a decent wage and so ascertain that I remain blessed. It is a terrible thing to abuse others in order to please myself.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, thank you for giving me the necessary guidance to make wise decisions. Help me not to enrich myself at the cost of others. Help me to be kind and fair to all people. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

07 October

Wisdom and Truth

A fool can use a proverb about as well as crippled people can use their legs.
(Proverbs 26:7 GNT)

Fools have great difficulty using proverbs. Proverbs are used by the wise and the educated.

Patience and Prayer (James 5:7-20)

Above all, my brothers and sisters, do not use an oath when you make a promise. Do not swear by heaven or by earth or by anything else. Say only "Yes" when you mean yes, "No" when you mean no, and then you will not come under God's judgement.

(James 5:12 GNT)

To avoid coming under my Father's judgement, I'd rather not swear by anything or make any promises. It is best for me to be truthful at all times.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, you are more than welcome in my life. Please remain with me and guide me in wisdom and in truth. Guard my heart and guard my tongue and actions. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

08 October

The Prayer of Faith

Praising someone who is stupid makes as much sense as tying a stone to a catapult.

(Proverbs 26:8 GNT)

Praise and compliments are to be given truthfully to those who deserve them. If I have nothing to say that is uplifting and truthful, it is best to say nothing at all.

Patience and Prayer (continued)

Are any of you ill? You should send for the church elders, who will pray for them and rub olive-oil on them in the name of the Lord. This prayer made in faith will heal the sick; the Lord will restore them to health, and the sins they have committed will be forgiven. So then, confess your sins to one another, so that you will be healed. The prayer of a good person has a powerful effect. (James 5: 14-16 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, thank you for faith. Thank you that when I pray in faith you actually release power and answer my prayer. Help me and guide me to make bold prayers of faith. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

09 October

Jesus Christ our Living HOPE

A fool quoting a wise saying reminds you of a drunk trying to pick a thorn out of his hand.

(Proverbs 26:9 GNT)

When a fool uses a wise saying, it does not have the same impact as when used by a wise person. A fool will most probably use it totally out of context.

A Living Hope (1 Peter 1:3-12)

Their purpose (the trials you suffer) is to prove that your faith is genuine. Even gold, which can be destroyed, is tested by fire; and so your faith, which is much more precious than gold, must also be tested, so that it may endure. Then you will receive praise and glory and honour on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed.

(1 Peter 1:7 GNT)

Jesus Christ is my living HOPE and the cornerstone on which my faith is built.

Heavenly Father, thank you for Jesus. Thank you Holy Spirit for reminding me of everything that Jesus taught me. Thank you for perfect guidance and strength to overcome and conquer all trials and tribulations that come my way. Please remain with me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

10 October

The Gift of Salvation

An employer who hires any fool that comes along is only hurting everybody concerned.

(Proverbs 26:10 GNT)

To avoid trouble, it is better not to hire fools. I'd rather pay a little more and hire someone with competence.

A Living Hope (continued)

You love him (Jesus Christ), although you have not seen him, and you believe in him, although you do not now see him. So you rejoice with a great and glorious joy which words cannot express, because you are receiving the salvation of your souls, which is the purpose of your faith in him.

It was concerning this salvation that the prophets made careful search and investigation, and they prophesied about this gift which God would give you.

(1 Peter 1:8-10 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit who liberated me from religiosity and gave me the free gift of salvation through Jesus Christ. Thank you for the gift of today. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

11 October

Holy Living and Obedience

The most stupid fool is better off than someone who thinks he is wise when he is not.

(Proverbs 26:12 GNT)

Fools who think they are wise, are really foolish and in for unpleasant surprises when they realise their judgement errors.

A Call to Holy Living (1 Peter 1:13-25)

So then, have your minds ready for action. Keep alert and set your hopes completely on the blessing which will be given when Jesus Christ is revealed. Be obedient to God, and do not allow your lives to be shaped by those desires you had when you were still ignorant. Instead, be holy in all that you do, just as God who called you is holy. The Scripture says, "Be holy because I am holy."

(1 Peter 1:13-16 GNT)

As an obedient child, I strive to live a holy life which pleases my Father.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Thank you for wisdom and self-control. Thank you for perfect guidance each and every day. Thank you for grace and favour. Holy Spirit, remain with me and continue to strengthen me throughout this new day. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

12 October

Holy Living in Response to Salvation

Why don't lazy people ever get out of the house? What are they afraid of?
Lions?

(Proverbs 26:13 GNT)

Lazy people are held captive by a mind-set which restricts them from getting out and doing something for themselves.

A Call to Holy Living (continued)

You call him Father, when you pray to God, who judges all people by the same standard, according to what each one has done; so then, spend the rest of your lives here on earth in reverence for him. For you know what was paid to set you free from the worthless manner of life handed down by your ancestors. It was not something that can be destroyed, such as silver or gold; it was the costly sacrifice of Christ, who was like a lamb without defect or flaw.

(1 Peter 1:17-19 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Thank you for Jesus that brought a new covenant and paid for it with his life. I am indeed thankful for your unconditional LOVE and grace. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

13 October

The Living and Eternal Good News

Lazy people turn over in bed. They get no farther than a door swinging on its hinges.

(Proverbs 26:14 GNT)

Lazy people are listless people. They have no desire to do anything. Their only desire is to do as little as possible.

A Call to Holy Living (continued)

Now that by your obedience to the truth you have purified yourselves and have come to have a sincere love for your fellow-believers, love one another earnestly with all your heart (a pure heart). For through the living and eternal Word of God you have been born again as the children of a parent who is immortal, not mortal. As the scripture says, "All human beings are like grass, and all their glory is like wildflowers. The grass withers, and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord remains for ever." This word is the Good News that was proclaimed to you.

(1 Peter 1:22-25 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit and your Word. Thank you for the living and eternal Good News that remains with me for ever. Holy Spirit, please guide me throughout this day. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

14 October

Becoming Living Stones like Jesus

Some people are too lazy to put food in their own mouths.

(Proverbs 26:15 GNT)

It is one thing to be lazy, but to be too lazy to feed myself is really very extreme.

Holy Spirit, help me that I will never become this lazy.

The Living Stone and the Holy Nation (1 Peter 2:1-10)

Rid yourselves, then, of all evil; no more lying or hypocrisy or jealousy or insulting language. Be like new-born babies, always thirsty for the pure spiritual milk, so that by drinking it you may grow up and be saved. As the Scripture says, "You have found out for yourselves how kind the Lord is. "Come to the Lord, the living stone rejected by people as worthless, chosen by God as valuable. Come as living stones, and let yourselves be used in building the spiritual temple, where you will serve as holy priests to offer spiritual and acceptable sacrifices to God through Jesus Christ.

(1 Peter 2:1-5 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, help me to become a living stone like my Lord Jesus Christ. Help me become holy so that I might represent you well. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

15 October

The Stone That Makes People Stumble

A lazy person will think he is more intelligent than seven people who can give good reasons for their opinions.

(Proverbs 26:16 GNT)

Father, please strengthen me and help me not to live a lazy life in arrogance.

The Living Stone and the Holy Nation (continued)

For the Scripture says, "I chose a valuable stone, which I am placing as the cornerstone in Zion; and whoever believes in him will never be disappointed."

This stone is of great value for you that believe; but for those who do not believe: "The stone which the builders rejected as worthless turned out to be the most important of all." And another Scripture says, "This is the stone that will make people stumble, the rock that will make them fall." They stumbled because they did not believe in the word; such was God's will for them.

(1 Peter 2:6-8 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for a brand-new day. Thank you for all my blessings. Help me to never become lazy and listless. Thank you for your Spirit and your Word. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

16 October

Called into My Father's Marvellous Light

Getting involved in an argument that is none of your business is like going down the street and grabbing a dog by the ears.

(Proverbs 26:17 GNT)

It is better for me not to get involved in arguments that is none of my business and does not concern me at all.

The Living Stone and the Holy Nation (continued)

But you are the chosen race, the Kings priests, the holy nation, God's own people, chosen to proclaim the wonderful acts of God, who called you out of darkness into his own marvellous light. At one time you were not God's people, but now you are his people; at one time you did not know God's mercy, but now you have received his mercy.

(1 Peter 2:9-10 GNT)

When I became born-again, on July 19, 2008 A.D., I became one of God's own people. He called me from darkness into his marvellous light.

Heavenly Father, thank you for calling me out of darkness into your marvellous light. Thank you for your grace and mercy. Thank you for choosing me and for giving me the opportunity to become your son. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

17 October

Submitting to the Authorities

Someone who misleads someone else and then claims that he was only joking is like a mad person playing with a deadly weapon.

(Proverbs 26:18-19 GNT)

Wise people do not mislead other people intentionally and then claim that they were only joking.

Slaves of God (1 Peter 2:11-17)

For the sake of the Lord submit to every human authority: to the Emperor, who is the supreme authority, and to the governors, who have been appointed by him to punish the evil doers and to praise those who do good. Live as free people; do not, however, use your freedom to cover up any evil, but live as God's slaves.

Respect everyone, love your fellow believers, honour God, and respect the Emperor.

(1 Peter 2:13-14 & 16-17 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit who guides me in wisdom every day. Holy Spirit, help me always to submit to the authorities and to respect everyone. Help me to LOVE my fellow man as myself. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

18 October

Enduring Suffering Like Christ

Gossip is so tasty! How we love to swallow it!
(Proverbs 26:22 GNT)

As a believer, I should not get involved in gossip, but avoid it at all costs. I should practise the Golden Rule and do unto others as I would have them do unto me. Gossip does not match these criteria.

The Example of Christ's Suffering (1 Peter 2:18-25)

For what credit is there if you endure the beatings you deserve for having done wrong? But if you endure suffering even when you have done right, God will bless you for it. It was to this that God called you, for Christ himself suffered for you and left you an example, so that you would follow in his steps. He committed no sin, and no one ever heard a lie come from his lips. When he was insulted, he did not answer back with an insult; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but placed his hopes in God, the righteous Judge.

(1 Peter 2:20-23 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit who strengthens me day by day. Help me to endure suffering without complaining, just like Jesus did. Help me to follow the example that he had set. Holy Spirit, keep on strengthening me for the journey that I have chosen. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

19 October

True Beauty Comes from Within

Insincere talk that hides what you are really thinking is like a fine glaze or unrefined silver on a cheap clay pot.

(Proverbs 26:23 GNT)

It is not fitting for a believer to be insincere. It is better to be sincere, honest and truthful in everything.

Wives and Husbands (1 Peter 3:1-7)

You should not use outward aids to make yourselves beautiful, such as the way you do your hair, or the jewellery you put on, or the dresses you wear. Instead, your beauty should consist of your true inner self, the ageless beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of the greatest value in God's sight. For the devout women of the past who placed their hope in God used to make themselves beautiful by submitting to their husbands.

(1 Peter 3:3-5 GNT)

True beauty comes from within.

Heavenly Father, thank you for the lady in my life. Thank you for the ageless beauty that comes from her gentle and quiet spirit. Holy Spirit, please continue to fill me so that your beauty may shine through me also. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

20 October

Love and Sincerity

A hypocrite hides hatred behind flattering words. They may sound fine, but don't believe him, because his heart is filled to the brim with hate. He may disguise his hatred, but everyone will see the evil things he does.

(Proverbs 26:24-26 GNT)

Wives and Husbands (continued)

In the same way you husbands must live with your wives with the proper understanding that they are weaker than you. Treat them with respect, because they also will receive, together with you, God's gift of life. Do this so that nothing will interfere with your prayers.

(1 Peter 3:7 GNT)

As the fairer gender, women should be treated like ladies, with much respect and gentleness.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, lead me and guide me at all times to be sincere and non-hypocritical. Help me to treat women with the utmost respect and gentleness, as ladies should be treated. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

21 October

Love, Trust and Respect

People who set traps for others get caught themselves. People who start landslides get crushed.

(Proverbs 26:27 GNT)

It is better not to set traps for others. I am in no position to judge or mistrust another person on face value. I have learnt to rather trust people. If they should end up betraying that trust relationship, I will avoid them moving forward.

Suffering for Doing Right (1 Peter 3:8-22)

But have reverence for Christ in your hearts, and honour him as Lord. Be ready at all times to answer anyone who asks you to explain the hope you have in you, but do it with gentleness and respect. Keep your conscience clear, so that when you are insulted, those who speak evil of your good conduct as followers of Christ will be ashamed of what they say. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if this should be God's will, than for doing evil.

(1 Peter 3:15-17 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit of LOVE, power and self-control. Holy Spirit, please continue to empower me to LOVE all people and to remain humble and kind towards all. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

22 October

Controlled by my Father's Will

You have to hate someone to want to hurt him with lies. Insincere talk brings nothing but ruin.

(Proverbs 26:28 GNT)

The Bible teaches me to love my enemies. It follows therefore that I should hate no-one. If I love all people, I will not engage in spreading lies about them.

Changed Lives (1 Peter 4:1-6)

Since Christ suffered physically, you too must strengthen yourselves with the same way of thinking that he had; because whoever suffers physically is no longer involved with sin. From now on, then, you must live the rest of your earthly lives controlled by God's will and not by human desires. You have spent enough time in the past doing what the heathen like to do. Your lives were spent in indecency, lust, drunkenness, orgies, drinking parties, and the disgusting worship of idols.

(1 Peter 4:1-3 GNT)

When I became born-again, my lifestyle suffered a permanent change, which cannot be undone. It is a good thing though. Once you are called to work for the LORD, there is no looking back or turning back. It is a lifetime commitment.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit who leads me and guides me day by day on the straight and narrow way. Thank you for changing me so that I now prefer your will above my own. Holy Spirit, strengthen me to actually really LOVE my enemies and to remain obedient to Divine will. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

23 October

Using the Anointing on My Life

Never boast about tomorrow. You don't know what will happen between now and then.

(Proverbs 27:1 GNT)

What you should say is this: "If the Lord is willing, we will live and do this or that." But now you are proud, and you boast; all such boasting is wrong.

(James 4:15-16 GNT)

Good Managers of God's Gifts (1 Peter 4:7-11)

The end of all things is near. You must be self-controlled and alert, to be able to pray. Above everything, love one another earnestly, because love covers over many sins. Open your homes to each other without complaining. Each one, as a good manager of God's different gifts, must use for the good of others the special gift he has received from God.

(1 Peter 4:7-10 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, please guide and lead me in all humility to do my Father's will. Continue to anoint me for what I am called to do. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

24 October

Strengthened During Suffering

Let other people praise you - even strangers; never do it yourself.

(Proverbs 27:2 GNT)

Self-exaltation is dangerous. When I humble myself, then my Father exalts me.

"God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble."

(James 4:6b GNT)

Suffering as a Christian (1 Peter 4:12-19)

Happy are you if you are insulted because you are Christ's followers; this means that the glorious Spirit, the Spirit of God, is resting on you. If any of you suffer, it must not be because you are a murderer or a thief or a criminal or a meddler in other peoples' affairs. However, if you suffer because you are a Christian, don't be ashamed of it, but thank God that you bear Christ's name.

(1 Peter 4:14-16 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, thank you for lifting me up and exalting me when I humble myself. Thank you for strengthening me when I am persecuted and insulted. Thank you for keeping me standing. Please remain with me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

25 October

Leading by Example

The weight of stone and sand is nothing compared to the trouble that stupidity can cause.

(Proverbs 27:3 GNT)

Father, please give me wisdom so that I will make wise decisions and not stupid and impulsive ones. Make me wise in all circumstances.

The Flock of God (1 Peter 5:1-11)

I appeal to you to be shepherds of the flock that God gave you and to take care of it willingly, as God wants you to, and not unwillingly. Do your work, not for mere pay, but from a real desire to serve. Do not try to rule over those who have been put in your care, but be examples to the flock. And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the glorious crown which will never lose its brightness.

(1 Peter 5:2-4 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for a brand new day. Thank you for your Spirit who gives me wisdom in all circumstances. Help me to set a good example to those who look up at me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

26 October

Kindness and Humility

Anger is cruel and destructive, but it is nothing compared to jealousy.

(Proverbs 27:4 GNT)

There is a saying that goes: "jealousy makes you nasty", and it is very true. A jealous wife or husband can really become very nasty. Jealousy is a really awful trait that I should avoid at all cost.

The Flock of God (continued)

In the same way you younger people must submit to your elders. And all of you must put on the apron of humility, to serve one another; for the scripture says, "God resists the proud, but shows favour to the humble." Humble yourselves, then, under God's mighty hand, so that he will lift you up in his own good time. Leave all your worries with him, because he cares for you.

(1 Peter 5:5-7 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, please fill me with wisdom and humility so that I will not be jealous of anyone. Instead, let me serve all people and be kind to them. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

27 October

Wise Council, Firmness and Strength

Better to correct someone openly than to let him think you don't care for him at all.

(Proverbs 27:5 GNT)

To avoid embarrassing someone, I try to correct them in private, but I have to do it openly rather than not at all.

The Flock of God (continued)

Be alert, be on the watch! Your enemy, the Devil, roams round like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour. Be firm in your faith and resist him, because you know that your fellow-believers in all the world are going through the same kind of sufferings. But after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who calls you to share his eternal glory in union with Christ, will himself perfect you and give you firmness, strength, and a sure foundation. To him be the power for ever! Amen.

(1 Peter 5:8-11 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, thank you for a secure foundation, strength and firmness. Thank you for the confidence and ability to counsel those who need counselling. Thank you for wisdom and inspiration. Please remain with me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

28 October

Wisdom, Knowledge and Discernment

Friends mean well, even when they hurt you. But when an enemy puts an arm round your shoulder - watch out!

(Proverbs 27:6 GNT)

I have to be wise when an enemy suddenly befriends me. Normally he will have some or other hidden agenda. Be careful boy.

Holy Spirit, thank you for the warning.

God's Call and Choice (2 Peter 1:3-15)

God's divine power has given us everything we need to live a truly religious life through our knowledge of the one who called us to share in his own glory and goodness. In this way he has given us the very great and precious gifts he promised, so that by means of these gifts you may escape from the destructive lust that is in the world, and may come to share the divine nature.

(2 Peter 1:3-4 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, welcome in my life. Please continue to inspire me throughout this day. Fill me with wisdom, knowledge and discernment and free me from the love of the world. Fill me with Divine nature, peace and joy. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

29 October

My Father's Love and Goodness

When you are full, you will refuse honey, but when you are hungry, even bitter food tastes sweet.

(Proverbs 27:7 GNT)

When I am really hungry I appreciate any food, no matter how bland or tasteless it may be.

Thank you Father, that I have enough to eat and thank you for the extra little treats and luxuries at times.

God's Call and Choice (continued)

For this very reason (the divine nature) do your best to add goodness to your faith; to your goodness add knowledge; to your knowledge add self-control; to your self-control add endurance; to your endurance add godliness; to your godliness add Christian affection; and to your Christian affection add love.

These are the qualities you need, and if you have them in abundance, they will make you active and effective in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

(2 Peter 1:5-8 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for unconditional LOVE and grace. Thank you for meeting all my needs and much more. Thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, thank you for being my helper and my light to guide me through darkness. Please stay with me. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

30 October

Choosing to Live in the Light

Anyone away from home is like a bird away from its nest.

(Proverbs 27:8 GNT)

It is always nice to go away on holiday but there is no place like home. Like a bird I am drawn back to my nest. Home is a place of comfort and safety.

God's Call and Choice (continued)

So then, my brothers and sisters, try even harder to make God's call and his choice of you a permanent experience; if you do so, you will never abandon your faith. In this way you will be given the full right to enter the eternal Kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

And so I will always remind you of these matters, even though you already know them and are firmly grounded in the truth you have received.

(2 Peter 1:10-12 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for welcoming me in the Kingdom of LOVE and light. Holy Spirit, thank you for leading and guiding me to stay on the straight and narrow way. Please remain with me. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

31 October

Jesus, the Way and the Truth

Oil and perfume rejoice the heart; so does the sweetness of a friend's counsel that comes from the heart.

(Proverbs 27:9 *Amplified Bible*)

The power of loving counsel can heal and restore a broken soul.

"Do unto others as you would have them do unto you" - Jesus the Christ of Nazareth.

Eye-Witnesses of Christ's Glory (2 Peter 1:16-21)

We have not depended on made-up stories in making known to you the mighty coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. With our own eyes we saw his greatness. We were there when he was given honour and glory by God the Father, when the voice came to him from the Supreme Glory, saying, "This is my own dear Son, with whom I am pleased!" We ourselves heard this voice coming from heaven, when we were with him on the holy mountain.

(2 Peter 1:16-18 *GNT*)

Heavenly Father, thank you for sending your own dear Son as my representative of the way back to you. Holy Spirit, lead me in love and truth to stay on the narrow way. Guide me and lead me to be a worthy ambassador of Christ. Amen.

November

(November for Ladies and Gentlemen)



01 November

Nearby Friends and Neighbours

Do not forget your friends or your father's friends. If you are in trouble, don't ask a relative for help; a neighbour nearby can help you more than relatives who are far away.

(Proverbs 27:10 GNT)

Eye-Witnesses of Christ's Glory (continued)

So we are even more confident of the message proclaimed by the prophets. You will do well to pay attention to it, because it is like a lamp shining in a dark place until the Day dawns and the light of the morning star shines in your hearts. Above all else, however, remember that no one can explain by himself or herself a prophecy in the Scriptures. For no prophetic message ever came just from the human will, but people were under the control of the Holy Spirit as they spoke the message that came from God.

(2 Peter 1:19-21 GNT)

Heavenly Father, I thank you once again for your Spirit that gives me wisdom and understanding. Thank you for friends and neighbours that are nearby to help me in crisis situations. Thank you that your perfect will is being done all of the time. Thank you for abundant life and joy. Holy Spirit, stay with me. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

02 November

Wisdom and Understanding

Be wise, my son, and I will be happy; I will have an answer for anyone who criticizes me.

(Proverbs 27:11 GNT)

False Teachers (2 Peter 2)

False prophets appeared in the past among the people, and in the same way false teachers will appear among you. They will bring in destructive, untrue doctrines, and will deny the Master who redeemed them, and so they will bring upon themselves sudden destruction. Even so, many will follow their immoral ways; and because of what they do, others will speak evil of the Way of truth. In their greed these false teachers will make a profit out of telling you made-up stories. For a long time now their Judge has been ready, and their Destroyer has been wide-awake!

(2 Peter 2:1-3 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for wisdom, understanding and a knowingness of false doctrine. Thank you for dwelling within me and enlightening me. Thank you that your perfect will is accomplished day by day. Holy Spirit, stay with me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

03 November

Sensibility and Power with Humility

Sensible people will see trouble coming and avoid it, but an unthinking person will walk right into it and regret it later.

(Proverbs 27:12 GNT)

False Teachers (continued)

And so the Lord knows how to rescue godly people from their trials and how to keep the wicked under punishment for the Day of Judgement, especially those who follow their filthy bodily lusts and despise God's authority.

The false teachers are bold and arrogant, and show no respect for the glorious beings above; instead, they insult them. Even the angels, who are so much stronger and mightier than these false teachers, do not accuse them with insults in the presence of the Lord.

(2 Peter 2:9-11 GNT)

False teachers can often be identified by their ego, arrogance and prideful attitude.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit of truth and humility. Holy Spirit, please continue to fill me and help me not to become puffed up and arrogant, especially when I experience signs and wonders. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

04 November

Wisdom and Righteousness

Anyone stupid enough to promise to be responsible for a stranger's debts deserves to have his own property held to guarantee payment.

(Proverbs 27:13 GNT)

False Teachers (continued)

If people have escaped from the corrupting forces of the world through their knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, and then are again caught and conquered by them, such people are in a worse state at the end than they were at the beginning. It would have been much better for them never to have known the way of righteousness than to know it and then turn away from the sacred command that was given them. What happened to them shows that the proverbs are true: "A dog goes back to what it has vomited" and "A pig that has been washed goes back to roll in the mud."

(2 Peter 2:20-22 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Thank you for wisdom and righteousness as my guiding light. Holy Spirit, please continue to lead me and guide me at all times to make sound decisions. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

05 November

Experiencing my Father's Wisdom

You might as well curse your friends as wake them up early in the morning with a loud greeting.

(Proverbs 27:14 GNT)

No one likes being woken with a loud greeting early in the morning.

The Promise of the Lord's Coming (2 Peter 3)

First of all you must understand that in these last days some people will appear whose lives are controlled by their own lusts. They will mock you and will ask, "He promised to come, didn't he? Where is he? Our ancestors have already died, but everything is still the same as it was since the creation of the world!" They purposely ignore the fact that long ago God gave a command, and the heavens and earth were created. The earth was formed out of water and by water, and it was also by water, the water of the flood, that the old world was destroyed. But the heavens and the earth that now exist are being preserved by the same command of God, in order to be destroyed by fire.

(2 Peter 3:3-7 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, thank you for holy inspiration and guidance. Please continue to be with me and lead me today. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

06 November

Wisdom to Know What Should be Accepted

A nagging wife is like water going drip-drip-drip on a rainy day. How can you keep her quiet? Have you ever tried to stop the wind or ever tried to hold a handful of oil?

(Proverbs 27:15-16 GNT)

There are some things in life that I cannot change and just have to learn to live with.

The Promise of the Lord's Coming (continued)

But the Day of the Lord will come like a thief. On that Day the heavens will disappear with a shrill noise, the heavenly bodies will burn up and be destroyed, and the earth with everything in it will vanish. Since all these things will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people should you be? Your lives should be holy and dedicated to God, as you wait for the day of God and do your best to make it come soon - the Day when the heavens will burn up and be destroyed, and the heavenly bodies will be melted by the heat.

(2 Peter 3: 10-12 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Thank you for unconditional and unmerited LOVE and grace. Holy Spirit, thank you for helping me and enabling me to live a holy life. Please remain with me. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

07 November

People Teach Me

People learn from one another, just as iron sharpens iron.

(Proverbs 27:17 GNT)

I learn daily from people around me. When I'm too old to learn, then I'll be ready to blow out my last breath. Every day brings new challenges and new lessons and this makes life interesting and exciting.

The Promise of the Lord's Coming (continued)

But we wait for what God has promised; new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness will be at home. And so, my friends, as you wait for that Day, do your best to be pure and faultless in God's sight and to be at peace with him. Look on our Lord's patience as the opportunity he is giving you to be saved, just as our dear brother Paul wrote to you, using the wisdom that God gave him. This is what he says in all his letters when he writes on the subject. There are some difficult things in his letters which ignorant and unstable people explain falsely, as they do with other passages of the Scriptures, so they bring on their own destruction.

But you, my friends, already know this. Be on your guard, then, so that you will not be led away by the errors of lawless people and fall from your safe position. But continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be the glory, now and for ever! Amen.

(2 Peter 3:13-18 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, thank you for bringing people into my life every day to teach me. Thank you for leading me and guiding me in pureness and righteousness. Please remain with me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

08 November

Diligence and Loyalty is Always Rewarded

Take care of a fig-tree and you will have figs to eat. Servants who take care of their master will be honoured.

(Proverbs 27:18 GNT)

Experience has taught me that even in the most mundane tasks in life, ninety nine point nine percent is not good enough. This would leave room for the Enemy to creep in like a weed. My Father is holy and he expects all or nothing. In the long run I will reap the rewards.

The Word of Life (1 John 1:1-4)

We write to you about the Word of life, which has existed from the very beginning. We have heard it, and we have seen it with our eyes; yes, we have seen it, and our hands have touched it. When this life became visible, we saw it; so we speak of it and tell you about the eternal life which was with the Father and was made known to us. What we have seen and heard, we announce to you also, so that you will join with us in the fellowship that we have with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We write this in order that our joy may be complete.

(1 John 1:1-4 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, thank you for inspiring me to be diligent in all my tasks and chores. Thank you for great rewards. Please fill me afresh today and remain with me through the entire day. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

09 November

Doing Introspection

It is your own face that you see reflected in the water and it is your own self that you see in your heart.

(Proverbs 27:19 GNT)

I need to do some introspection today and judge myself. I should stop for a minute and then turn the mirror towards myself. It is so easy to always find fault with everybody else and blaming everybody else. I have to stop it all and go within. Everything in my life, good or bad, is a result of my own doing. I take ownership of it all. I accept the fact that I am personally responsible for my life. I brought everything on myself, and I have to take ownership and stop blaming the whole world. I used to blame my Father when things go wrong, but from now on I will turn the mirror within and have a good look at my heart.

Holy Spirit, thank you for convicting me today.

God is Light (1 John 1:5-10)

God is light, and there is no darkness at all in him.

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and there is no truth in us. But if we confess our sins to God, he will keep his promise and do what is right: he will forgive us our sins and purify us from all our wrongdoing. If we say that we have not sinned, we make God out to be a liar, and his word is not in us.

(1 John 1:5b; 8-10 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for life and it in abundance. Thank you for your great LOVE and power and compassion that enable me to face and overcome all obstacles, trials and tribulations. Holy Spirit, thank you for helping me to see my own sins clearly and giving me strength to address them one by one, and one day at a time. Please remain with me and continue to guide and empower me. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

10 November

Overcoming Human Desires

Human desires are like the world of the dead - there is always room for more.
(Proverbs 27:20 GNT)

My biggest enemy and obstacle to living a holy life is probably my fleshly desires.

Christ our Helper (1 John 2:1-6)

And Christ himself is the means by which our sins are forgiven, and not our sins only, but also the sins of everyone.

If we obey God's commands, then we are sure that we know him. Those who say that they know him, but do not obey his commands, are liars and there is no truth in them. But all those who obey his word are people whose love for God has really been made perfect. This is how we can be sure that we are in union with God; those who say that they remain in union with God should live just as Jesus Christ did.

(1 John 2:2-6 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, thank you for helping me to overcome the desires of the flesh and to become more and more like Jesus. Strengthen me today to be a conqueror and an overcomer. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

11 November

Passing My Daily Tests

Fire tests gold and silver; a person's reputation can also be tested.

(Proverbs 27:21)

I should do my best to pass all life's tests. The Holy Spirit strengthens me.

The New Command (1 John 2:7-17)

However the command I am now writing to you is new, because its truth is seen in Christ and also in you. For the darkness is passing away, and the real light is already shining. Those who say that they are in the light, yet hate their brothers and sisters, are in the darkness to this very hour. Those who love their brothers and sisters live in the light and so there is nothing in them that will cause them or someone else to sin. But those who hate their brothers and sisters are in the darkness; they walk in it and do not know where they are going, because the darkness has made them blind.

(1 John 2:8-11 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Thank you for testing and moulding me on a daily basis so that I can be shaped according to your will. Holy Spirit, please continue to guide me and lead me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

12 November

Wisdom Don't Come from Beating

Even if you beat fools until they're half dead, you still can't beat their foolishness out of them.

(Proverbs 27:22 GNT)

It is of no use beating a fool. It will make him no wiser.

The New Command (continued)

I am writing to you, my children, because your sins are forgiven for the sake of Christ. I am writing to you, fathers, because you know him who has existed from the beginning. I am writing to you, young people, because you have defeated the Evil One.

I am writing to you, my children, because you know the Father. I am writing to you, fathers, because you know him who has existed from the beginning. I am writing to you, young people, because you are strong; the word of God lives in you, and you have defeated the Evil One.

(1 John 2:12-14 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Thank you for wisdom and guidance. Holy Spirit, please continue to be with me and guide me throughout this day. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

13 November

My Father is Greater than The World

Look after your sheep and cattle as carefully as you can, because wealth is not permanent. Not even nations last for ever. You cut the hay and then cut the grass on the hillside while the next crop of hay is growing. You can make clothes from the wool of your sheep and buy land with the money you get from selling some of your goats. The rest of the goats will provide milk for you and your family, and for your servant women as well.

(Proverbs 27:23-27 GNT)

The New Command (continued)

Do not love the world or anything that belongs to the world. If you love the world, you do not love the Father. Everything that belongs to the world - what the sinful self desires, what people see and want, and everything in this world that people are so proud of - none of this comes from the Father; it all comes from the world. The world and everything in it that people desire is passing away; but those who do the will of God live for ever.

(1 John 2:15-17 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Thank you for providing for me abundantly. Thank you that I have never experienced lack. Thank you that you are greater than the world. Holy Spirit, please remain with me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

14 November

The Wicked Run

The wicked run when no one is chasing them, but an honest person is as brave as a lion.

(Proverbs 28:1 GNT)

Unlike wicked people, honest people are relaxed because they have no real enemies.

The Enemy of Christ (1 John 2:18-29)

My children, the end is near! You were told that the Enemy of Christ would come; and now many enemies of Christ have already appeared, and so we know that the end is near. These people really did not belong to our fellowship, and that is why they left us; if they had belonged to our fellowship, they would have stayed with us. But they left so that it might be clear that none of them really belonged to us.

But you have had the Holy Spirit poured out on you by Christ, and so all of you know the truth.

(1 John 2:18-20 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Thank you that I do not have to be constantly on the run like the wicked. Thank you for revealing the truth to me at all times. Holy Spirit, I need you, please remain with me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

15 November

A True Son

When a nation sins, it will have one ruler after another. But a nation will be strong and endure when it has intelligent, sensible leaders.

(Proverbs 28:2 GNT)

Strong nations have intelligent, sensible leaders.

The Enemy of Christ (continued)

I am writing to you, then, not because you do not know the truth; instead it is because you do know it, and you also know that no lie ever comes from the truth. Who, then, is the liar? Is it those who say that Jesus is not the Messiah. Such people are the Enemies of Christ - they reject both the Father and the Son. For all those who reject the Son also reject the Father; those who accept the Son have the Father also.

Be sure, then, to keep in your hearts the message you heard from the beginning. If you keep that message, then you will always live in union with the Son and the Father. And this is what Christ himself promised to give us - eternal life.

(1 John 2:21-25 GNT)

Heavenly father, thank you for your Spirit. Thank you for sending Christ to earth to be a shining example of a True Son. Holy Spirit, guide me and lead me that I may also become a true son, just like Jesus. Help me to stay away from a sinful lifestyle. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

16 November

Uplifting the Poor

Someone in authority who oppresses poor people is like a driving rain that destroys the crops.

(Proverbs 28:3 GNT)

To oppress poor people is evil and destructive. The poor can make a significant difference to society through upliftment and empowerment programs.

The Enemy of Christ (continued)

I am writing this to you about those who are trying to deceive you. But as for you, Christ has poured out his Spirit on you. As long as his Spirit remains in you, you do not need anyone to teach you. For his Spirit teaches you about everything, and what he teaches is true, not false. Obey the Spirit's teaching, then, and remain in union with Christ. You know that Christ is righteous; you should know, then, that everyone who does what is right is God's child.

(1 John 2:26-27 & 29 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit who teaches me everything I need to know. Holy Spirit, thank you for truth in LOVE. Thank you for helping me and enabling me to be a righteous child of my Father. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

17 November

Obeying my Father's Law

If you have no regard for the law, you are on the side of the wicked; but if you obey it, you are against them.

(Proverbs 28:4 GNT)

As a child of my Heavenly Father, it is my duty to obey the law. Failing to do so is like siding with the wicked and comes with certain consequences.

Children of God (1 John 3:1-10)

My dear friends, we are now God's children, but it is not yet clear what we shall become. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he really is. Everyone who has this hope in Christ keeps himself pure, just as Christ is pure.

Whoever sins is guilty of breaking God's law, because sin is breaking of the law. You know that Christ appeared in order to take away the sins (our sins), and that there is no sin in him. So everyone who lives in union with Christ does not continue to sin; but whoever continues to sin has never seen him or known him.

(1 John 3:2-6 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit and thank you for your law. Holy Spirit, thank you for teaching me and convicting me when I break the law. Stay with me and help me to be an obedient child at all times. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

18 November

Turning My Back on Sin

Evil people do not know what justice is, but those who worship the LORD understand it well.

(Proverbs 28:5 GNT)

Unlike the wicked, the righteous accept accountability for their actions. As I sow I shall also reap. Karma (the law of sowing and reaping) is real. Whatever I put out there will come back to me one way or another.

Children of God (continued)

Let no one deceive you, my children! Whoever does what is right is righteous, just as Christ is righteous. Whoever continues to sin belongs to the Devil, because the Devil has sinned from the very beginning. The Son of God appeared for this very reason, to destroy what the Devil had done.

None of those who are children of God continue to sin, for God's very nature is in them; and because God is their Father, they cannot continue to sin. This is the difference between God's children and the Devil's children: all who do not do what is right or do not love others are not God's children.

(1 John 3:7-10 GNT)

I am a child of my Heavenly Father.

Holy Spirit, help me to stay in line and to turn my back on sin.

Father, thank you for your Spirit who leads me and guides me day by day to steer clear from sin. Holy Spirit, you are most welcome in my life. Please stay with me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

19 November

Honesty is A Must

Better to be poor and honest than rich and dishonest.
(Proverbs 28:6 GNT)

For me honesty is not an option, it is a must.

Love One Another (1 John 3:11-18)

The message you heard from the very beginning is this: we must love one another. We must not be like Cain; he belonged to the Evil One and murdered his own brother Abel. Why did Cain murder him? Because the things he himself did were wrong, but the things his brother did were right.

So do not be surprised my brothers and sisters, if the people of the world hate you. We know that we have left death and come over into life; we know it because we love our brothers and sisters. Whoever does not love is still under the power of death.

(1 John 3:11-14 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, you are welcome in my life. Lead me and guide me and teach me at all times to LOVE others unconditionally. Lead me always to be honest in everything. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

20 November

True Unconditional Love

A young man who obeys the law is intelligent. One who makes friends with good-for-nothings is a disgrace to his father.

(Proverbs 28:7 GNT)

I always choose my friends wisely because I can, and good-for-nothings may have a bad influence on me. We can choose our friends, but we cannot choose our families.

Love One Another (continued)

All who hate others are murderers, and you know that murderers have not got eternal life in them. This is how we know what love is: Christ gave his life for us. We too, then, ought to give our lives for our brothers and sisters! Rich people who see a brother or sister in need, yet close their hearts against them, cannot claim that they love God. My children, our love should not be just words and talk; it must be true love, which shows itself in action.

(1 John 3:15-18 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Thank you for unconditional LOVE and grace. Holy Spirit, teach me and guide me to LOVE my brothers and sisters unconditionally. Let your LOVE and light shine in me and through me and dispel all darkness in and around me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

21 November

Treating Others Fairly

If you get rich by charging interest and taking advantage of people, your wealth will go to someone who is kind to the poor.

(Proverbs 28:8 GNT)

I always do my very best to be careful not to abuse others in order to get what I want in life, as I have admittedly done in my "previous life".

Courage before God (1 John 3:19-24)

If our conscience condemns us, we know that God is greater than our conscience and that he knows everything. And so, my dear friends, if our conscience does not condemn us, we have courage in God's presence. We receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commands and do what pleases him. What he commands is that we believe in his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as Christ commanded us. Those who obey God's commands live in union with God and God lives in union with them. And because of the Spirit that God has given us we know that God lives in union with us.

(1 John 3:20-24 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for a brand-new day. Thank you for your Spirit who dwells in me and guides and strengthens me day by day. Holy Spirit, you are most welcome in my life. Please continue to guide me to LOVE all people. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

22 November

True Obedience and the True Spirit

If you do not obey the law, God will find your prayers too hateful to hear.
(Proverbs 28:9 GNT)

If we are disobedient to God, we should not expect to have our prayers answered.

The True Spirit and the False (1 John 4:1-6)

My dear friends, do not believe all who claim to have the Spirit, but test them to find out if the Spirit they have comes from God. For many false prophets have gone out everywhere. This is how you will be able to know whether it is God's Spirit: anyone who acknowledges that Jesus Christ came as a human being has the Spirit who comes from God. But anyone who denies this about Jesus does not have the Spirit from God. The Spirit that he has is from the enemy of Christ; you heard that it would come, and now it is here in the world already.
(1 John 4:1-3 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Thank you for sending Jesus in a human form to come and teach me true obedience and to liberate me from religiosity. Holy Spirit, please continue to be with me and to lead me throughout this day. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

23 November

Treating Others in a Christ-Like Manner

If you trick an honest person into doing evil, you will fall into your own trap.
The innocent will be well rewarded.

(Proverbs 28:10 GNT)

My motto is to treat others the way I would like to be treated.

Lord Jesus, thank you for the perfect example.

The True Spirit and the False (continued)

But you belong to God, my children, and have defeated the false prophets, because the Spirit who is in you is more powerful than the spirit in those who belong to the world. Those false prophets speak about matters of the world, and the world listens to them because they belong to the world. But we belong to God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever does not belong to God does not listen to us. This, then, is how we can tell the difference between the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

(1 John 4:4-6 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for the Spirit of truth. Holy Spirit, please continue to guide and empower me to treat others the way I would like to be treated. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

24 November

God is Love

Rich people always think they are wise, but a poor person who has insight into character knows better.

(Proverbs 28:11 GNT)

God is Love (1 John 4:7-21)

Dear friends, let us love one another, because love comes from God. Whoever loves is a child of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. And God showed his love for us by sending his only Son into the world, so that we might have life through him. This is what love is: it is not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the means by which our sins are forgiven.

Dear friends, if this is how God loved us, then we should love one another. No one has ever seen God, but if we love one another, God lives in union with us, and his love is made perfect in us.

(1 John 4:7-12 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your LOVE and your Spirit. Holy Spirit, please continue to fill me today. Thank you for giving me insight into character and for teaching me how to truly LOVE others. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

25 November

Following the Example of Christ

When good people come to power, everybody celebrates, but when bad people rule, people stay in hiding.

(Proverbs 28:12 GNT)

Father, please put good people into positions of power. Thank you that your perfect will is being done.

God is Love (continued)

We are sure that we live in union with God and that he lives in union with us, because he has given us his Spirit. And we have seen and tell others that the Father sent his Son to be the Saviour of the world. If anyone declares that Jesus is the Son of God, he lives in union with God and God lives in union with him. And we ourselves know and believe the love which God has for us. God is love, and those who live in love live in union with God and God lives in union with them. Love is made perfect in us in order that we may have courage on Judgement Day; and we will have it because our life in this world is the same as Christ's.

(1 John 4:13-17 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Thank you for loving me even though I am disobedient and live a sinful life. Holy Spirit, please guide me to love others and to live in peace with them. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

26 November

Loving All People

You will never succeed in life if you try to hide your sins. Confess them and give them up; then God will show mercy to you.

(Proverbs 28:13 GNT)

God is Love (continued)

There is no fear in love; perfect love drives out all fear. So then, love has not been made perfect in anyone who is afraid, because fear has to do with punishment. We love because God first loved us. If we say we love God, but hate our brothers and sisters, we are liars. For people cannot love God, whom they have not seen, if they do not love their brothers and sisters, whom they have seen. The command that Christ has given us is this: all who love God must love their brother or sister also.

(1 John 4:18-21 GNT)

If I hate people, I hate their Creator who made them in his image. I Love my Father and I love all of His creation great and small alike!

Holy Spirit, please give me the strength and self-control that I need to love my enemies.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your great LOVE. Holy Spirit, teach me to tolerate and love my enemies. Thank you for your guidance and inspiration. Stay with me and strengthen me. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

27 November

Obedience and Victory

Always obey the LORD and you will be happy. If you are stubborn, you will be ruined.

(Proverbs 28:14 GNT)

Being obedient to my Father is important. Disobedience will not bring blessings.

Our Victory over the World (1 John 5:1-5)

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Messiah is a child of God; and whoever loves a father loves his child also. This is how we know that we love God's children: it is by loving God and obeying his commands. For our love for God means that we obey his commands. And his commands are not too hard for us, because every child of God is able to defeat the world. And we win the victory over the world by means of our faith. Who can defeat the world? Only the person who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

(1 John 5:1-5 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, thank you for teaching me and for leading me in obedience. Thank you for peace, joy and victory. Please stay with me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

28 November

Eternal Life in Christ

Poor people are helpless against a wicked ruler; he is as dangerous as a growling lion or a prowling bear.

(Proverbs 28:15 GNT)

I am truly thankful that my rulers are righteous and fair towards all.

Father, thank you for righteous rulers that have a reverence for you. Thank you that your perfect will is always being done.

The Witness about Jesus Christ (1 John 5:6-12)

The testimony is this: God has given us eternal life, and this life has its source in his Son. Whoever has the Son has this life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

(1 John 5:11-12 GNT)

Eternal Life (1 John 5:13-21)

I am writing this to you so that you may know that you have eternal life - you that believe in the Son of God. We have courage in God's presence, because we are sure that he hears us if we ask him for anything that is according to his will. He hears us whenever we ask him; and since we know this is true, we know also that he gives us what we ask from him.

(1 John 5:11-15 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Thank you for giving me eternal life and thank you for giving me what I ask when I pray according to your will.

Thank you for giving my country righteous rulers. Please continue to guide them and lead them to stay faithful to their calling. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

29 November

Honest Rulers Rule for Long Periods

A ruler without good sense will be a cruel tyrant. One who hates dishonesty will rule a long time.

(Proverbs 28:16 GNT)

Honest rulers are loved by the people and stay in power for long. Please remember that in my Father's economy thirty years is not necessarily a long time for a so-called "unrighteous or cruel" ruler. The key is contentment and obedience to my rulers, for my Father has given them the power to rule. Complaining does not help anyone, but praying and voting does.

Eternal Life (continued)

If you see your brother or sister commit a sin that does not lead to death, you should pray to God, who will give them life. This applies to those whose sins do not lead to death. But there is sin which leads to death, and I do not say that you should pray to God about that. All wrongdoing is sin, but there is sin which does not lead to death. We know that none of God's children keep on sinning, for the Son of God keeps them safe, and the Evil One cannot harm them.

(1 John 5:16-18 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, you are most welcome in my life. Please continue to lead me away from sin and wrongdoing. Help me to stay on the straight and narrow path and to say "no thank you" to all temptation. Please continue to lead and guide the rulers of my country, wherever I seek residence, to be righteous and honest. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

30 November

Truth and Love

Someone guilty of murder is digging his own grave as fast as he can. Don't try to stop him.

(Proverbs 28:17 GNT)

A guilty conscience can destroy someone and I do not need to become involved with his matters. It would count in his favour, however, if he confesses to his friends and turns back to my Father with a repentant heart. My Father knows everything about everyone and I cannot hide anything from Him.

The Second Letter of John

Introduction

The Second Letter of John was written by "the Elder" to "the dear Lady and to her children," probably meaning a local church and its members. The brief message is an appeal to love one another and a warning against false teachers and their teachings.

Truth and Love (2 John 4-11)

How happy I was to find some of your children live in the truth, just as the Father commanded us. And so I ask you, dear Lady: let us all love one another. This is no new command I am writing to you; it is the command which we have had from the beginning. This love I speak of means we must live in obedience to God's commands. The command, as you have all heard from the beginning, is that you must all live in love.

Many deceivers have gone out all over the world, people who do not acknowledge that Jesus Christ came as a human being. Such a person is a deceiver and the enemy of Christ.

(2 John 4-7 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Thank you for a brand-new Spirit-filled day. Holy Spirit, thank you for leading me in truth and LOVE. Continue to guide me and convict me of my sins, so I can confess, repent, make right and move on. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

December



01 December

My Father's People are Honest

Be honest and you will be safe. If you are dishonest, you will suddenly fall.
(Proverbs 28:18 GNT)

As a child of my Heavenly Father, I always choose honesty. To me it is definitely the best policy.

The Third Letter of John

Introduction

The Third Letter of John was written by "the Elder" to a church leader named Gaius. The writer praises Gaius because of his help to other Christians, and warns against a man named Diotrefes.

Diotrefes and Demetrius (3 John 9-12)

My dear friend, do not imitate what is bad, but imitate what is good. Whoever does good belongs to God; whoever does what is bad has not seen God.

(3 John 11 GNT)

My Father's children will be known by their actions. Dishonest and insincere people do not know Him and do not belong to Him. His people are loving, kind, peaceful, honest and sincere.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit who dwells in me and leads and strengthens me every step of *The Way*. Holy Spirit, please stay with me so that I may continue to walk the straight and narrow path. Guide me to be honest and sincere at all times, no matter temptations and circumstances. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

02 December

Loving my Father and Working Hard

A hard-working farmer has plenty to eat. People who waste time will always be poor.

(Proverbs 28:19 GNT)

People who are lazy tend to be poor and do not experience abundance.

The Letter from Jude

Introduction

The Letter from Jude was written to warn against false teachers who claimed to be believers. In this brief letter, which is similar in content to 2 Peter, the writer encourages his readers "to fight on for the faith which once and for all God has given to his people."

Warnings and Instructions (Jude 17-22)

They (the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ) said to you, "When the last days come, people will appear who will mock you, people who follow their own godless desires." These are the people who cause divisions, who are controlled by their natural desires, who do not have the Spirit. But you, my friends, keep on building yourselves up on your most sacred faith. Pray in the power of the Holy Spirit, and keep yourselves in the love of God, as you wait for our Lord Jesus Christ in his mercy to give you eternal life.

(Jude 18-21 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for abundant life. Thank you for your Spirit who leads me and keeps me in your LOVE. Holy Spirit, help me that I will remain hard-working, no matter whether I feel like it or not. Continue to lead me and guide me throughout this day. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

03 December

Liberated from the Bondage of Sin and Dishonesty (Do the Right Thing and be Free)

Honest people will lead a full, happy life. But if you are in a hurry to get rich, you are going to be punished.

(Proverbs 28:20 GNT)

I should never compromise on honesty or integrity in order to get rich quickly. I should never enrich myself at the cost or disadvantage of others.

The Revelation to John

Introduction

The Revelation to John was written at a time when Christians were being persecuted because of their faith in Jesus Christ as Lord. The writer's main concern is to give his readers hope and encouragement and to urge them to remain faithful during times of suffering and persecution.

For the most part the book consists of several series of revelations and visions presented in symbolic language that would have been understood by Christians of that day, but would have remained a mystery to all others. As with the themes of a symphony, the themes of this book are repeated again and again in different ways through the various series of visions.

Greetings to the Seven Churches (Revelation 1:4-8)

He loves us, and by his sacrificial death he has freed us from our sins and made us a kingdom of priests to serve his God and Father. To Jesus Christ be the glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

Look, he is coming on the clouds! Everyone will see him, including those who pierced him. All peoples on earth will mourn over him. So shall it be!

"I am the first and the last," says the Lord God Almighty, who is, who was, and who is to come.

(Revelation 1:5b-8 GNT)

Jesus came to set me free from the bondage of sin. Because of my thankfulness I no longer wilfully sin.

Heavenly Father, thank you for sending Jesus to earth to liberate me and free me from my sins. Holy Spirit, you are welcome in my life. Please continue to help me to steer clear from wilful sinning. Father I honour you and I love you. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

04 December

Let Go of Prejudice and Live Victoriously

Prejudice is wrong. But some judges will do wrong to get even the smallest bribe.

(Proverbs 28:21 GNT)

As a child of my Heavenly Father, I should be careful not to have preconceived ideas about people, based on their backgrounds, skin colour, race, creed, sexual orientation etcetera. Prejudice is wrong. Full stop!

The message to Ephesus (Revelation 2:1-7)

"Think how far you have fallen! Turn from your sins and do what you did at first. If you don't turn from your sins, I will come to you and take your lampstand from its place. But this is what you have in your favour: you hate what the Nicolaitans do, as much as I do."

"If you have ears, then, listen to what the Spirit says to the churches!"

"To those who win the victory I will give the right to eat the fruit of the tree of life that grows in the Garden of God.

(Revelation 2:5-7 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Thank you for making me victorious and for giving me the right to eat of the fruit that grows in your garden. Holy Spirit, please continue to guide me against prejudice and help me to remain victorious. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

05 December

Heavenly Riches Surpasses All

Selfish people are in such a hurry to get rich that they do not know when poverty is about to strike.

(Proverbs 28:22 GNT)

Wealth obtained by selfishness will not last. Getting rich at the cost of others will eventually result in poverty.

The Message to Smyrna (Revelation 2:8-11)

"I know your troubles; I know that you are poor - but really you are rich! I know the evil things said against you by those who claim to be Jews but are not; they are a group that belongs to Satan! Don't be afraid of anything you are about to suffer. Listen! The Devil will put you to the test by having some of you thrown into prison, and your troubles will last ten days. Be faithful to me, even if it means death, and I will give you life as your prize of victory."

(Revelation 2:9-10 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Thank you for making me rich by meeting all my needs. Thank you for giving me eternal life even though I face death and my physical body eventually returns to dust. Thank you for your constant LOVE and provision. Holy Spirit, please remain with me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

06 December

Divine Counsel and Heavenly Manna

Correct someone, and afterwards he will appreciate it more than flattery.
(Proverbs 28:23 GNT)

Flattery won't help someone who does things poorly or wrong. Correcting them will be more appreciated in the end.

The Message to Pergamum (Revelation 2:12-17)

"Now turn from your sins! If you don't, I will come to you soon and fight against those people with the sword that comes out of my mouth."

"If you have ears, then, listen to what the Spirit says to the churches!"

"To those who win the victory I will give some of the hidden manna. I will also give each of them a white stone on which is written a new name that no one knows except the one who receives it.

(Revelation 2:16-17 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for a brand-new day. Thank you for forgiving all my transgressions and for correcting me when I do wrong. Thank you for giving me some of the hidden manna and a white stone with a new name. Thank you for your Spirit and for all your promises. Holy Spirit, stay with me and strengthen me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

07 December

Taking a Stand Against Sin

Anyone who thinks it isn't wrong to steal from his parents is no better than a common thief.

(Proverbs 28:24 GNT)

Stealing is wrong no matter from who or why.

The Message to Thyatira (Revelation 2:18-29)

I know what you do. I know your love, your faithfulness, your service, and your patience. I know that you are doing more now than you did at first. But this is what I have against you: you tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a messenger of God. By her teaching she misleads my servants into practising sexual immorality and eating food that has been offered to idols. To those who win the victory, who continue to the end to do what I want, I will give the same authority that I received from my Father: I will give them authority over the nations, to rule them with an iron rod and to break them to pieces like clay pots. I will also give them the morning star.

"If you have ears, then, listen to what the Spirit says to the churches!

(Revelation 2:19-20 & 26-29 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Thank you for a brand-new day. Holy Spirit, please continue to lead me and inspire me throughout this day. Help me to take a stand against sin and sinful people and to speak up when necessary. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

08 December

The Sin of Selfishness

Selfishness only causes trouble. You are much better off to trust the LORD.
(Proverbs 28:25 GNT)

Selfish people rely on their own strength to achieve their goals and often hurt others to satisfy their selfish desires. Selfless people, on the other hand trust my Father to meet their needs and place the needs of others above their own. Selfless people are content whilst the self-centred are always unfulfilled.

The Message to Sardis (Revelation 3:1-6)

So wake up, and strengthen what you still have before it dies completely. For I find that what you have done is not yet perfect in the sight of my God.

Remember, then, what you were taught and what you heard; obey it and turn from your sins. If you do not wake up, I will come upon you like a thief, and you will not even know the time when I will come.

(Revelation 3:2-3 GNT)

Selfishness is my cardinal sin and probably also that of the largest majority of mankind. By nature I am selfish and self-centred.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, help me to crucify my selfish sinful self and to become selfless just like Jesus. Sanctify me and lead me to perfection day by day. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

09 December

Learn From the Wise

It is foolish to follow your own opinions. Be safe and follow the teachings of wiser people.

(Proverbs 28:26 GNT)

Unlike fools, wise people follow the teachings of wiser people instead of relying on their own opinions only. Jesus Christ was a wise teacher and master. Today he still has many disciples all around the world. I am proud to be one of them.

The Message to Philadelphia (Revelation 3:7-13)

Because you have kept my command to endure, I will also keep you safe from the time of trouble which is coming upon the world to test all the people on earth. I am coming soon. Keep safe what you love, so that no one will rob you of your victory prize. I will make those who are victorious pillars in the temple of my God, and they will never leave it. I will write on them the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, the New Jerusalem, which will come down from heaven from my God. I will also write on them my new name.

"If you have ears, then, listen to what the Spirit says to the churches!

(Revelation 3:10-13 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for sending Jesus Christ to earth to teach me. Thank you for sending your Spirit to continue to teach me after Jesus ascended. Holy Spirit, thank you for your wisdom, power, LOVE and protection. Please continue to lead me and strengthen me with your perfect LOVE. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

10 December

Give Freely

Give to the poor and you will never be in need. If you close your eyes to the poor, many people will curse you.

(Proverbs 28:27 GNT)

Karma is real and works both ways. Generous people always have enough. As I sow I shall also reap.

The Message to Laodicea (Revelation 3:14-22)

I know what you have done; I know that you are neither cold nor hot. How I wish you were either one or the other! But because you are lukewarm, neither hot nor cold, I am going to spit you out of my mouth! You say, 'I am rich and well off; I have all I need.' But you do not know how miserable and pitiful you are! You are poor, naked and blind.

Listen! I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with them, and they will eat with me.

(Revelation 3:15-17 & 20 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, continue to teach me and guide me to be hot rather than lukewarm. Guide me to give freely, whatever I have, to help the needy. Stay with me and continue to strengthen me. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

11 December

Righteous Rulers

People stay in hiding when the wicked come to power. But when they fall from power, the righteous will rule again.

(Proverbs 28:28 GNT)

My Father allows the wicked to rule for a season, but they normally fall from power after a short while and the righteous take over again.

Worship in Heaven (Revelation 4)

Surrounding the throne on each of its sides, were four living creatures covered with eyes in front and behind. Day and night they never stop singing: "Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was, who is, and who is to come." The four living creatures sing songs of glory and honour and thanks to the one who sits on the throne, who lives for ever and ever. When they do so, the twenty-four elders fall down before the one who sits on the throne, and worship him who lives for ever and ever. They throw their crowns down in front of the throne and say, "Our Lord and God! You are worthy to receive glory, honour and power. For you created all things, and by your will they were given existence and life."

(Revelation 4:6b, 8b, 9-11 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. I worship you for who you are. Thank you for righteous rulers most of the time and for removing those from power who turn wicked. Thank you for unconditional LOVE and grace. Holy Spirit, please stay with me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

12 December

Listening to Wise Counsel

If you get more stubborn every time you are corrected, one day you will be crushed and never recover.

(Proverbs 29:1 GNT)

It is better to listen to wise counsel and to stop tempting fate rather sooner than later.

The Scroll and the Lamb (Revelation 5)

They stood round the throne, the four living creatures, and the elders, and sang in a loud voice: "The Lamb who was killed is worthy to receive power, wealth, wisdom, and strength, honour, glory, and praise!" And I heard every creature in heaven, on earth, in the world below, and in the sea - all living beings in the universe - and they were singing: "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb, be praise and honour, glory and might, for ever and ever!" The four living creatures answered, "Amen!" And the elders fell down and worshipped.

(Revelation 5:11b-14 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for filling me day by day with your life giving Spirit. Holy Spirit, thank you for guidance and wise counsel. Please stay with me and continue to strengthen me throughout this new day. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

13 December

My Father is Righteous - Salvation is for All

Show me a righteous ruler and I will show you a happy people. Show me a wicked ruler and I will show you a miserable people.

(Proverbs 29:2 GNT)

I strive to be righteous and fair towards others. The righteous are always blessed by my Father. He allows a wicked ruler to rule for a season. I do not understand His ways, because He is Spirit and His ways are higher than mine. Father, thank you that your perfect will is always being done.

The Enormous Crowd (Revelation 7:9-17)

...there was an enormous crowd - no one could count all the people! They were from every race, tribe, nation, and language, and they stood in front of the throne and of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palm branches in their hands.

They called out in a loud voice: "Salvation comes from our God, who sits on the throne and from the Lamb!"

All the angels stood round the throne, the elders, and the four living creatures. Then they threw themselves face downward in front of the throne and worshipped God, saying, "Amen! Praise, glory, wisdom, thanksgiving, honour, power, and might belong to our God for ever and ever! Amen!"

(Revelation 7:9-12 GNT)

Salvation is for all, irrespective of race, tribe, nation or language.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Thank you for your righteousness. Thank you for salvation. I love you and I honour you. Holy Spirit, fill me afresh today and give me strength to persevere. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

14 December

Appreciating Wisdom - Making Sound Decisions

If you appreciate wisdom, your father will be proud of you. It is a foolish waste to spend money on prostitutes.

(Proverbs 29:3 GNT)

Wise men make their fathers proud. Spending money on prostitutes is foolish and wasteful.

The Angel and the Little Scroll (Revelation 10)

...I saw another angel coming down out of heaven. He was wrapped in a cloud and had a rainbow round his head; his face was like the sun, and his legs were like pillars of fire. He had a small scroll open in his hand. He put his right foot on the sea and his left foot on the land, and called out in a loud voice that sounded like the roar of lions. After he had called out, the seven thunders answered with a roar. As soon as they spoke, I was about to write. But I heard a voice speak from heaven, "Keep secret what the seven thunders have said; do not write it down!"

(Revelation 10:1-4 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Thank you for giving to me abundantly and for meeting all my needs. Have your way with me. Holy Spirit, please continue to give me wisdom and help me make sound decisions. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

15 December

Prophets and Ambassadors of Justice

When the king is concerned with justice, the nation will be strong, but when he is only concerned with money, he will ruin his country.

(Proverbs 29:4 GNT)

Justice strengthens a country, but corruption ruins it.

The Angel and the Little Scroll (continued)

Then the angel that I saw standing on the sea and on the land raised his right hand to heaven and took a vow in the name of God, who lives for ever and ever, who created heaven, earth, and the sea, and everything in them. The angel said, "There will be no more delay! But when the seventh angel blows his trumpet, then God will accomplish his secret plan, as he announced to his servants, the prophets."

(Revelation 10:5-7 GNT)

My Father reveals his secret plans to his servants the prophets who act as catalysts in the fulfilment thereof.

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit who dwells in me and enlightens me. Holy Spirit, I welcome you. Please remain with me and continue to inspire me to be a just ambassador and to remain faithful to my specific calling. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

16 December

Calling a Spade a Spade

If you flatter your friends, you set a trap for yourself and them.

(Proverbs 29:5 GNT)

Two-faced people are insincere with their friends. This type of behaviour indicates a lack of the Holy Spirit, and causes unnecessary enmity and strife.

The Angel and the Little Scroll (continued)

Then the voice that I had heard speaking from heaven spoke to me again, saying, "Go and take the open scroll which is in the hand of the angel standing on the sea and on the land."

I went to the angel and asked him to give me the little scroll. He said to me, "Take it and eat it; it will turn sour in your stomach, but in your mouth it will be sweet as honey."

I took the little scroll from his hand and ate it, and it tasted sweet as honey in my mouth. But after I swallowed it, it turned sour in my stomach. Then I was told, "Once again you must proclaim God's message about many nations, races, languages, and kings."

(Revelation 10:8-11 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, encourage and empower me to be truthful, no matter whether I upset my friends or the whole world. Continue to use me amongst the nations. In the mighty name of Jesus the Messiah, amen.

17 December

Joyfully Proclaiming my Father's Liberation Message

Evil people are trapped in their own sins, while honest people are happy and free. (Proverbs 29:6 GNT)

An honest person does not lie awake at night, but falls asleep soon after his head hits the pillow. Have no secrets and tell no lies. Honestly is always the best policy. When I am truthful, my soul is free.

The Two Witnesses (Revelation 11:1-14)

"Go and measure the temple of God and the altar, and count those who are worshipping in the temple. But do not measure the outer courts because they have been given to the heathen, who will trample on the Holy City for forty-two months. "I will send my two witnesses dressed in sackcloth, and they will proclaim God's message during those 1260 days."

They have authority to shut up the sky so that there will be no rain during the time they proclaim God's message. They have authority also over the springs of water, to turn them into blood; they have authority also to strike the earth with every kind of plague as often as they wish.

(Revelation 11:1b-3 & 6 GNT)

Heavenly Father, have your way with me. Strengthen me through the power of your Spirit to proclaim your message of liberation to the nations with a joyful heart. Holy Spirit, help me remain honest and to fulfil my calling even though it means becoming infamous and unpopular. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

18 December

The Poor Also Have Rights

A good person knows the rights of the poor, but wicked people cannot understand such things.

(Proverbs 29:7 GNT)

Just like the rich have rights, so do the poor. All people should be treated with respect and dignity, irrespective of social standing.

The Two Witnesses (continued)

When they finish proclaiming their message, the beast that comes up out of the abyss will fight against them. He will defeat them and kill them, and their bodies will lie in the street of the great city, where their Lord was crucified. The symbolic name of that city is Sodom, or Egypt. People from all nations, tribes, languages, and races will look at their bodies for three and a half days and will not allow them to be buried. The people of the earth will be happy because of the death of these two. They will celebrate and send presents to each other, because those two prophets brought much suffering upon the earth. (Revelation 11:7-10 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, please continue to guide me and lead me so that I will not look down at, or mistreat the poor. Help me to treat others the way I would like to be treated. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

19 December

My Father's People Restore the Peace

People with no regard for others can throw whole cities into turmoil. Those who are wise keep things calm.

(Proverbs 29:8 GNT)

Selfish people can have a devastating effect on peace and harmony. Wise people can help to restore peace and harmony.

The Two Witnesses (continued)

After three and a half days a life-giving breath came from God and entered them, and they stood up; and all who saw them were terrified. Then the two prophets heard a loud voice say to them from heaven, "Come up here!" As their enemies watched, they went up into heaven in a cloud. At that very moment there was a violent earthquake, a tenth of the city was destroyed, and seven thousand people were killed. The rest of the people were terrified and praised the greatness of the God of heaven.

The second horror is over, but the third horror will come soon!

(Revelation 11:11-14 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for a brand-new day. Use me as a catalyst to make your perfect plan come to pass on earth. Use me as you please and make your perfect will known to me through your Spirit. Holy Spirit, continue to lead me and guide me. Fill me with wisdom, power, LOVE and understanding. Give me soundness of mind and self-control. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

20 December

My Father is Righteous and Wise

When an intelligent person brings a lawsuit against a fool, the fool only laughs and becomes loud and abusive.

(Proverbs 29:9 GNT)

Fools generally disregard the law and the rights of others.

The Woman and the Dragon (Revelation 12)

...a great and mysterious site appeared in the sky. There was a woman, whose dress was the sun and who had the moon under her feet and a crown of twelve stars on her head.

She was soon to give birth, and the pains and suffering of childbirth made her cry out.

Another mysterious site appeared in the sky. There was a huge red dragon with seven heads and ten horns and a crown on each of his heads.

With his tail he dragged a third of the stars out of the sky and threw them down to the earth.

He stood in front of the woman, in order to eat her child as soon as it was born.

Then she gave birth to a son, who will rule over all the nations with an iron rod.

But the child was snatched away and taken to God and his throne.

(Revelation 12:1-5 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Thank you for wisdom, insight and inspiration. Have your way with me and let your perfect will be done. Holy Spirit, continue to inspire me and strengthen me for the task at hand. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

21 December

My Father is Righteous

Bloodthirsty people hate anyone who's honest, but righteous people will protect the life of such a person.

(Proverbs 29:10 GNT)

Honest people should avoid the company of bloodthirsty people. It is safer and better for them to seek company with the righteous.

The Woman and the Dragon (continued)

Then war broke out in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, who fought back with his angels; but the dragon was defeated, and he and his angels were not allowed to stay in heaven any longer. The huge dragon was thrown out - that ancient serpent, called the Devil, or Satan, that deceived the whole world. He was thrown down to earth, and all his angels with him.

(Revelation 12:7-9 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, welcome in my life. Please continue to guide me and strengthen me to resist the temptations of the devil. Surround me with righteous and holy people and protect me from all evil. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

22 December

Learning to Manage Anger

Stupid people express their anger openly, but sensible people are patient and hold it back.

(Proverbs 29:11 GNT)

It is better for me to keep quiet and count to ten than to express my anger in the heat of the moment.

The Two Beasts (Revelation 13)

Then I saw a beast coming up out of the sea. It had ten horns and seven heads; on each of its horns there was a crown, and on each of its heads there was a name that was insulting to God. The beast looked like a leopard, with feet like a bear's feet and a mouth like a lion's mouth. The dragon gave the beast his own power, his throne, and his vast authority. One of the heads of the beast seemed to have been fatally wounded, but the wound had healed. The whole earth was amazed and followed the beast. Everyone worshipped the dragon because he had given his authority to the beast. They worshipped the beast also, saying, "Who is like the beast? Who can fight against it?"

(Revelation 13:1-4 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for this day. Thank you for your Spirit who guides me and strengthens me day by day. Holy Spirit, thank you for unfailing power and LOVE. Please continue to increase my self-control and enable me to control my anger. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

23 December

My Father's Rulers are Righteous

If a ruler pays attention to false information, all his officials will be liars.
(Proverbs 29:12 GNT)

Rulers should ensure that they only pay attention to the truth. If this is not the case the government officials will all be corrupt.

The Two Beasts (continued)

It (the beast) was allowed to fight against God's people and to defeat them, and it was given authority over every tribe, nation, language, and race. All people living on earth will worship it, except those whose names were written before the creation of the world in the book of the living which belongs to the Lamb that was killed.

"Listen, then, if you have ears!

Whoever is meant to be captured will surely be captured; whoever is meant to be killed by the sword will surely be killed by the sword. This calls for endurance and faith on the part of God's people."

Then I saw another beast, which came up out of the earth. It had two horns like a lamb's horns, and it spoke like a dragon.

It used the vast authority of the first beast in its presence. It forced the earth and all who live on it to worship the first beast, whose wound had healed. This second beast performed great miracles; it made fire come down out of heaven to earth in the sight of everyone.

And it deceived all the people living on the earth by means of the miracles which it was allowed to perform in the presence of the first beast. The beast told them to build an image in honour of the beast that had been wounded by the sword and yet lived.

(Revelation 13:7-14 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Holy Spirit, thank you for giving me the ability to discern between truth and lies. Please fill and guide our rulers also to discern properly. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

24 December

My Father the Righteous Judge

A poor person and his oppressor have this in common - the LORD gave eyes to both of them.

(Proverbs 29:13 GNT)

Whether rich or poor, all were created equally by my Father and were given eyes to see. The oppressor sees the effect of his actions on the oppressed, and so does the oppressed. One day, all will be judged, both oppressor and oppressed.

The Three Angels (Revelation 14:6-13)

...I saw another angel flying high in the air, with an eternal message of Good News to announce to the peoples of the earth, to every race, tribe, language, and nation. He said in a loud voice, "Honour God and praise his greatness! For the time has come for him to judge. Worship him who made heaven, earth, sea, and the springs of water!"

(Revelation 14:6-7 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for being the Righteous Judge. Thank you for your Spirit who guides me and strengthens me day by day. Holy Spirit, please continue to inspire me to discern right from wrong and help me to live a righteous life. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

25 December

Righteous Kings Rule for Long

If a king defends the rights of the poor, he will rule for a long time.

(Proverbs 29:14 GNT)

Kings and rulers are given their authority by my Father. If they are fair and consider the rights of all people, He will let them rule for long periods.

The Fall of Babylon (Revelation 18-19:4)

...I saw another angel coming down out of heaven. He had great authority, and his splendour brightened the whole earth. He cried out in a loud voice: "She has fallen! Great Babylon has fallen! She is now haunted by demons and unclean spirits; all kinds of filthy and hateful birds live in her. For all the nations have drunk her wine - the strong wine of her immoral lust. The kings of the earth practised sexual immorality with her, and the merchants of the world grew rich by her unrestrained lust."

(Revelation 18:1-3 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for righteous kings and rulers. Holy Spirit, fill me and guide me to stand up for those whose rights are being violated. Use me and have your way with me. Send me where you would like me to be. I am ready now and I am willing and able to serve you. Blessed be your Holy name. In the name of Jesus the Christ of Nazareth, amen.

26 December

Discipline and Reverence for my Father

Correction and discipline are good for children. If they have their own way, they will make their mothers ashamed of them.

(Proverbs 29:15 GNT)

Discipline never did any child any harm. When children are well disciplined they normally turn into excellent adults.

The Wedding-Feast of the Lamb (Revelation 19:5-10)

Then there came from the throne the sound of a voice, saying, "Praise our God, all his servants and all people, both great and small, who have reverence for him!" Then I heard what sounded like a large crowd, like the sound of a roaring waterfall, like loud peals of thunder. I heard them say, "Praise God! For the Lord, our Almighty God, is King! Let us rejoice and be glad; let us praise his greatness! For the time has come for the wedding of the Lamb, and his bride has prepared herself for it. She has been given clean shining linen to wear."

(The linen is the good deeds of God's people.)

(Revelation 19:5-8 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for parents that disciplined me when I was young. Holy Spirit, thank you for still correcting and convincing me, even today. Thank you that I, together with all church members can be married to Jesus the Christ and head of the church. Amen.

27 December

The Downfall of the Evil and Subsequent Peace

When evil people are in power, crime increases. But the righteous will live to see the downfall of such people.

(Proverbs 29:16 GNT)

Cycles of evil rulers and crime may come, but the righteous will see their downfall.

The Thousand Years (Revelation 20:1-6)

Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding in his hand the key of the abyss and a heavy chain. He seized the dragon, that ancient serpent - that is, the Devil, or Satan - and chained him up for a thousand years. The angel threw him into the abyss, locked it, and sealed it, so that he could not deceive the nations any more until the thousand years were over. After that, he must be let loose for a little while.

(Revelation 20:1-3 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Thank you for the downfall of evil rulers and subsequent periods of peace. Thank you for the period of thousand years of peace. Let your perfect will be done. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

28 December

Discipline and Judgement

Discipline your children and you can always be proud of them. They will never give you reason to be ashamed.

(Proverbs 29:17 GNT)

I disciplined my children properly when they were young. I did my share to make the world a better place.

The Final Judgement (Revelation 20:11-15)

Then I saw a great white throne and the one who sits on it. Earth and heaven fled from his presence and was soon no more. And I saw the dead, great and small alike, standing before the throne. Books were opened, and then another book was opened, the book of the living. The dead were judged according to what they had done, as recorded in the books. Then the sea gave up its dead. Death and the world of the dead also gave up the dead they held. And all were judged according to what they had done. Then death and the world of the dead were thrown into the lake of fire. (This lake of fire is the second death.)

Whoever did not have their names written in the book of the living were thrown into the lake of fire.

(Revelation 20:11-15 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Thank you for disciplining me and helping me so that my name may be written in the book of life and that I may not be condemned on the day of judgement. Holy Spirit, thank you for having helped me as a parent to discipline my children when they were still young. Please continue to guide me and strengthen me throughout this new day. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

29 December

My Father's Guidance and His Blessings

A nation without God's guidance is a nation without order. Happy are those who keep God's law!

(Proverbs 29:18 GNT)

I need to always seek my Father's guidance in everything I do. There cannot be order in a nation without Divine guidance.

The New Heaven and the New Earth (Revelation 21:1-8)

And he said, "It is done! I am the first and the last, the beginning and the end. To anyone who is thirsty I will give the right to drink from the spring of the water of life without paying for it. Those who win the victory will receive this from me: I will be their God, and they will be my children. But cowards, traitors, perverts, murderers, the immoral, those who practice magic, those who worship idols, and all liars - the place for them is the lake burning with fire and sulphur, which is the second death."

(Revelation 21:6-8 GNT)

Heavenly Father, thank you for your Spirit. Thank you for your law, your guidance and your blessings. Holy Spirit, stay with me and keep on directing my path throughout this day. In the mighty name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

30 December

Liberate, Inspire and Shine like Jesus

People with quick tempers cause a lot of quarrelling and trouble.

(Proverbs 29:22 GNT)

Wise people are slow to anger and avoid unnecessary arguments. When I become angry, I count to ten whilst taking a deep breath. This strategy sure kept me out of serious trouble on many an occasion.

The coming of Jesus (Revelation 22:6-17)

"Whoever is evil must go on doing evil, and whoever is filthy must go on being filthy; Whoever is good must go on doing good and whoever is holy must go on being holy."

"Listen!" says Jesus. "I am coming soon! I will bring my rewards with me, to give to each one according to what he has done.

I am the first and the last, the beginning and the end.

Happy are those who wash their robes clean and so have the right to eat the fruit from the tree of life and to go through the gates into the city. But outside the city are the perverts and those who practice magic, the immoral and the murderers, those who worship idols and those who are liars both in words and deeds.

(Revelation 22:11, 14-15 GNT)

As a follower of Christ I have learnt to be careful not to tell people what to do and how to live. I try to lead by example and inspire through my lifestyle rather than preaching and Bible punching. I have learnt to give advice only when somebody asks for it.

Heavenly Father, I honour you. Thank you for sending Jesus to earth to awaken me as a captive and free me from the curse of religion. Holy Spirit, continue to inspire and enlighten me. In the name of Jesus the Christ, amen.

31 December

Accepting the Water of Life with Humility

Arrogance will bring your downfall, but if you are humble, you will be respected.
(Proverbs 29:23 GNT)

"God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble."

(James 4:6 GNT)

"For all those who make themselves great will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be made great."

(Luke 14:11 GNT)

The coming of Jesus (continued)

"I, Jesus, I have sent my angel to announce these things to you in the churches. I am descended from the family of David; I am the bright morning star."

The Spirit and the Bride say, "Come!"

Everyone who hears this must also say, "Come!" Come, whoever is thirsty; accept the water of life as a gift, whoever wants it.

(Revelation 22:16-17 GNT)

As a follower of Christ, I am very careful of becoming proud, puffed up and judgemental towards people of different colour, sexual orientation, gender, creed and culture. As a true believer I have learnt to treat others with humility and respect, no matter their cultural background, sexual orientation or social standing. This is the right thing to do in order to represent my King properly.

Heavenly Father, thank you for sending Jesus to earth as the first Master, Teacher and Messiah to represent you properly. Holy Spirit, please continue to remind me of, and lead me according to the teachings of the Christ. I humbly accept the water of life as a free gift. Amen.

Establishment of Jesus Christ Healing Ministries (JChm)

JChm is a web-based ministry that was established on 1 September 2011 by André and Erika le Grange. André and Erika were married on 12 December 1998 and have two adult daughters, Nikita and Bianca. Erika owns and manages a doggy parlour in Centurion, Pretoria, South Africa and André instructs learner drivers.

André was called into full-time ministry on 19 July 2008 at age 39 during a Christian gathering "Loftus vir Jesus" with the famous evangelist Angus Buchan. During the previous year, 2007, at a dealer meeting in Cape Town, South Africa, the Lord spoke to André's heart in his hotel room one night. "Do you want to do this work until you are old and grey, then retire and die?" André decided that evening that he wanted to retire before 40 and do something meaningful with his life. At that time he had an old Nokia Cellular phone which had a facility for greeting you with a welcome note when you turned it on. André programmed the following welcome note into his phone that evening. "Andries, opskud as jy wil aftree voor 40", which means: "Get a move on if you want to retire before 40."

On Monday, 21 July 2008 (2 days after his conversion and decision to go into full-time ministry) André, driven by the Holy Spirit, sent a Christian message to all recipients on his employer FMCSA's (Ford Motor Company of Southern Africa's) e-mail address book, in an attempt to inspire all its employees. At that time the world was experiencing economic recession and many FMCSA employees were anxious and fearful of the future due to talk of retrenchments and job cuts. The e-mail tracking option for delivery and read reports was selected as a default setting. This fact, together with the large number of recipients in the Pretoria and Port Elizabeth assembly plants, caused an overload and subsequent crash of the server.

A few days later it was a public holiday for all NUMSA members (Blue Collar hourly paid employees). André, who had slept very little since his conversion and calling into full-time ministry (19 July 2008) decided to jog to the office in his tracksuit to tender his resignation at the HR Office. HR Officers and fellow colleagues observed that André was behaving irrationally and called the company doctor to assess the situation. The company doctor prescribed some medication to help André calm down and relax, but he refused to take the medication. She then called an ambulance to come and collect him and take him to a psychiatric hospital for rest and observation. By this time André was singing the Lord's Prayer with hands held high and a great crowd gathered because of the commotion. On the way out of the offices André saw a demon spirit of fear in the company doctor and pushed her behind the neck, causing her to stumble and fall.

The ambulance arrived and the paramedics stood ready but André refused to get in and asked them whether there was anyone sick who needed an ambulance. Eventually the police were called to remove André from the premises and his manager convinced him to go with them to evaluate their vehicle for tyre vibration and cab shake (it was a Ford Super cab pick-up). At that time this was something that André did on a regular basis as part of his job. The police proceeded to take André to a government hospital for treatment. On the way there they stopped and left him in the vehicle. All the windows were shut and he was hot and became claustrophobic and kicked out one of the small rear windows. At that time the police came back to the vehicle and removed him with force from the front and threw him into the canopy at the back. The two policemen could not restrain him and were assisted by bystanders to get him into the canopy.

At the hospital a great struggle ensued once again to control André. He was tied to a bed and sedated. Two weeks later he was discharged and put onto chronic medication. He had now been diagnosed with bipolar mood disorder type one.

André refused to accept his diagnosis and took all the chronic medication and burnt it in disgust. After a short period of sick leave André returned to work, but was overwhelmed by the backlog of unanswered e-mails and sheer workload. He made an appointment with the psychiatrist and was booked off for approximately three months. When the sick leave was almost over, FMCSA offered voluntary separation packages, and André gladly accepted one of these. His dream of retiring before 40 had been realised.

It was however only the start of many trials, tribulations and a period of lots of Bible study and spiritual growth. André needed to grow and become a mature Christian if he desired to go into full-time ministry. This meant being certified as a government patient and being treated and medicated for more than ten years at Weskoppies Mental Institution in Pretoria South Africa.

André was hospitalised from 2008 until December 2017 for periods of up to 3 months at a time without the option to refuse hospitalisation or treatment (medication). During this period André was hospitalised 17 times and all the latest and greatest drugs were tested on him.

During September 2011 André's wife (Erika) designed God's website (www.JChm.co.za) at André's request, and it has been live ever since. *JChm* is a virtual ministry with spiritual, mental and physical healing as primary objective. It consists mainly of a series of articles to encourage and inspire and bring spiritual, mental and physical healing to its readers. It has been funded by André and Erika since day one and was registered as an NPO during 2019, as the main objective is to serve humanity as opposed to being a profit driven company. *"There is more happiness in giving than in receiving." (Acts 20:35b GNT).*



The sole purpose of this 366 Day Daily Devotional Book is to uplift humanity. It offers new perspective in a loveless, dark and hopeless world with promises of LOVE, light and hope.

We are all special creatures of the Creator of the Universe. We are emotional beings who need more than the mundane material riches and pleasures of this world. My desire is to present you (the reader) with a little foretaste of a purposeful life.

If you feel that you are trapped and that there is something missing in your life, this book might just help you to find it.

This first edition is made available absolutely free and at no charge as the primary objective is to uplift and inspire as opposed to profit generation.

Donations, however, are welcomed as it does cost money to produce and distribute.

If you have been blessed by its contents, please consider making a donation of any amount so that more copies may be printed and made available.

Account name: Jesus Christ healing ministries

Bank: First National Bank of South Africa

Account number: 62822543345

Branch name: Lynnwood (The Grove Mall)

Branch code: 250655

Swift code: FIRNZAJJ

NPO number: 228-818 NPO

PBO number: TBE

BBBEE certificate number: TBE

Please remember that books are meant to be read and should not be tucked away in bookshelves. Please pass this book on as soon as you are done with it or if you do not intend reading it. For a free electronic download please visit www.JesusChristhealingministries.co.za or www.JChm.co.za



JChm Mission Statement

We believe that everything we receive should be shared in a 50/50 ratio with those who have been in a previously disadvantaged position.

Our Philosophy

We believe in always tipping 100% when enjoying a meal at a restaurant if the service is good. If the service is absolutely poor, we tip a minimum of 10%. Ten percent is the absolute minimum if the service is horrendous. Additionally, we also believe in tipping the kitchen staff.

Our Philosophy Explained with a Practical Example:

I am very hungry and I feel like crispy French fries with lots of salt. I know this eatery that serves a lovely plate of crispy chips. It is a new month and I have already bought groceries. I feel like relaxing and being served whilst checking and replying to messages on my laptop or mobile phone. I know that a plate of crispy chips costs R40 and I have R150 left in my budget.

I sit down at the eatery and the waitress brings me a menu. She seems somewhat disturbed but she tries to be friendly nevertheless.

To my surprise the price of a plate of potato chips has increased from R40 to R50. Okay, it looks as if I am still in a position to afford the French fries. Due to my philosophy I will not have enough money available to buy anything else but the plate of chips.

R50 for the food + R50 tip for the kitchen staff + R50 for my waitress = R150. I am still within my budget and I have just enough money available. In a few minutes the waitress returns to take my order. I proceed to order a plate of crispy potato chips and a glass of tap water. I notice the disappointment in her facial expression as she takes down my cheapskate order. She still tries to be friendly though and keeps a good attitude.

Thirty seconds later she returns with a jug of tap water and a glass with a slice of lemon and some ice cubes. She asks me if I need anything else, to which I respond that I need the Wifi password. She proceeds to write it down on a piece of paper.

I enjoy a lovely glass of good quality South African tap water with fresh lemon and a single ice cube. It is winter time and I do not enjoy ice-cold water. I proceed to check my WhatsApp messages and miraculously manage to reply to all of them in 20 minutes. As I am done my waitress returns, just to tell me that the chef accidentally spoilt the French fries. They came out soggy due to unscheduled load shedding and he is about to prepare new crispy French fries. As I have an appointment coming up in 10 minutes, I ask her to stop the chef and to bring the soggy fries. It is okay, I will eat them. When my food arrives, the chef comes with the waitress to personally apologise.

The fries actually turn out to be quite palatable with the aid of lots of salt and vinegar. When I receive the bill, I tip both the waitress and chef R50 each. The waitress smiles from ear to ear and tears up after sharing that she needed only another R50 to buy the big pack of budget nappies for her baby. The chef and his right-hand lady come to thank me personally. They share that they both needed R25 each to buy prepaid electricity and paraffin respectively as they had to wash with cold water during the previous two weeks of this cold winter month. Seeing their smiles and their appreciation makes me happy and gives me a sense of purpose. It is always more blessed to give than to receive.

This example summarises the golden standard by which JChm operate. We strive to apply the golden rule under all circumstances and towards all of humanity. If we do not have extra funds to visit a restaurant or eatery, we would rather buy a bag of potatoes, some oil and prepaid electricity to prepare a meal at home.

We are governed by the golden rule and we strive to apply it in all areas of our lives. We believe in extending this rule to all sentient beings, including dogs, cats, cows, chickens, sheep, fish and even bees, spiders, poisonous snakes, rats, mice, mosquitoes, flies, cockroaches and the like.

We believe that this rule should be applied to all sentient beings and all of creation. For this reason we have adopted a vegan lifestyle.

Jesus Christ healing ministries (NPO 228-818) supports the vegan way of living.

Definition of a Vegan (What is a Vegan?)

A vegan is a person who is opposed to any form of animal abuse, injustice and exploitation, whether directly or indirectly.

At JChm we are against any form of cruelty to animals and we are 100% against supporting any individual, business or industry that have any partnership or financial interest in buying, selling or promoting non-vegan items.

Essentially we boycott these entities and also act as whistle blowers to expose them. We do not hate them, however, and we are available to help them transcend partially vegan and non-vegan enterprises to fully vegan enterprises. We will not hesitate to expose deceiving advertisements which are designed to fool and mislead would-be vegans and non-vegans into buying their products originating from animal farms.

We take a stand against any form of deception or untruths and blatant lies. We endeavour to inform the uninformed paying public of all the facts surrounding the speciesism and hidden cruelty associated with animal farming.

For more information, please visit:

JChm.co.za / JesusChristhealingministries.co.za

adaptt.org

The Jesus Film, i.e. The Gospel according to Saint Luke is available on YouTube for free download in all the Official South African Languages.

isiZulu: <https://youtu.be/i4uFQelS710?si=9zt27yYzF7pyAZ1o>
Afrikaans: https://youtu.be/R5N0343Cvtc?si=5b2Hx8_rAY1iqiFu
English: <https://youtu.be/dYHBhaC9VMU?si=ivrn-daQMzI8GgAf>
isiXhosa: <https://youtu.be/tlm-GCZtow4?si=p6ur1wUesqAQRs8>
isiNdebele: https://youtu.be/Sg7IIGvEKts?si=98CEmwZ_qzKycoTt
siSwati: <https://youtu.be/TGGWXrFnUKI?si=VrMt5TOrr9pdyJ61>
sePedi: <https://youtu.be/Jh921zkJpfc?si=NyK1jUpwqsPcmNLO>
seSotho: <https://youtu.be/QvC6q632vSY?si=cJvPYaPqTRIPE8wZ>
seTswana: <https://youtu.be/cbERsRruXWI?si=M7Or4C9KzEL8yYS->
xiTsonga: <https://youtu.be/hDqV55sPCyg?si=apjE9HLTIBHrJgIS>
tshiVenda: <https://youtu.be/LJLxjhQIXNU?si=tQ6hS1PrSuhUkqII>

A Final Word by the Author

In 2018 A.D. my great love and mother of our children, decided to file for divorce. The reasons that she provided for this drastic action, is that she is tired of my bipolar. This, together with my refusal to take the prescribed chronic mind altering medication, drove her to this course of action. Since my first diagnosis with Bipolar Type 1, and hospitalization back in 2008 A.D., she had already been quietly contemplating divorce. The only reason why she backed down for ten years, up to 2018 A.D., was for the benefit of our children.

When the reverent at the Government Psychiatric Hospital told her that I was married to bipolar without medication, it was the final straw on the camel's back. This caused her to finally go ahead and file for divorce.

I do not believe in divorce, as the Bible teaches that God hates it (Malachi 2:16) and it also says: "No human being must separate, then, what God has joined together." (Mark 10:9 GNT)

When we marry and become intimate with one-another, the Bible teaches that we become one flesh (Genesis 2:24 NKJV). These facts, together with the vows we make when we get married, altogether prohibit us from divorcing one another and especially for petty selfish reasons.

When we marry, we make vows before God and many witnesses, that we will stick together through good times and bad, through health and in sickness, for better or worse, until death do us part. Considering all of this, marriage is a lifetime commitment with no way out. I consider myself a married man, as the love of my life is still alive. During conversation I refer to her as my wife and not as my ex-wife.

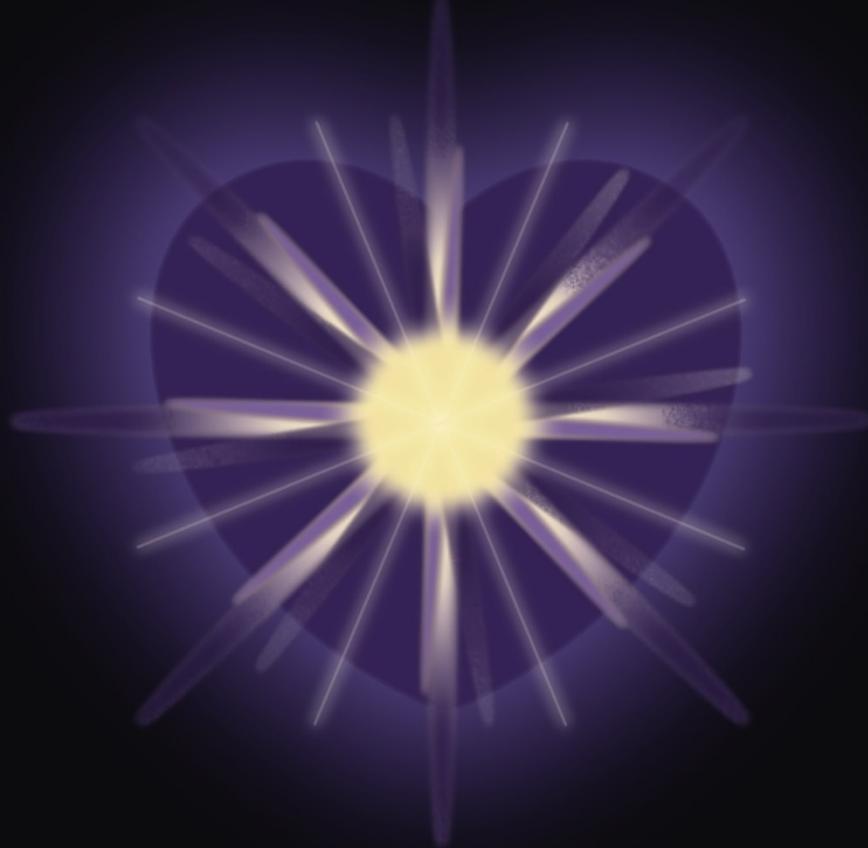
My hope is that when she finishes reading her copy of this book, she will return to her rightful place by my side.

The devil is a liar and a deceiver. Since Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection the devil lost all his power. He specialises in creating doubt, fear and disharmony within the family unit. If believers can learn to see through this tactic of the enemy and stop mistrusting one-another and running to the divorce courts for petty disagreements, the world will become a better place. The devil will have no more power.

"So then, submit yourselves to God. Resist the Devil, and he will run away from you." (James 4:7 GNT)

This book is solely intended to help humanity and is not for sale. If you have been blessed by its contents, please consider making a donation of any amount so that more copies can be made available.

JChm



Behold God God is Love

Account name: Jesus Christ healing ministries Bank: First National Bank South Africa Account number: 62822543345
Branch name: Lynnwood (The Grove Mall) Branch code: 250655 Swift code: FIRNZAJJ NPO number: 228-818 NPO

Please remember that books are meant to be read and should not be stowed away in bookshelves. Please pass this book on as soon as you are done with it or if you do not intend reading it. For a free electronic download please visit www.JesusChristhealingministries.co.za or www.JChm.co.za

