

# *A word with God*



A Word with God daily devotional guide contains inspirational short stories that show real people trying to live faithfully in real-life situations.

**June 2015**



Join us every  
Monday night at 9pm on  
94.3 Faith FM Kitchener

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June 1, 2015

**Today is my Birthday**

Well... today is my birthday. I seem to be racking up quite a few of them and it doesn't appear that I will stop having them any time soon – so I need to make the best of them. My mother has told me that I was born during a rainy evening and thunderstorm, which is maybe why I have an affinity with thunderstorms and with the rain.

This is the beginning of my fifty-seventh year and I am looking forward to what this year will hold. I tend to be more of a glass that is half full kind of guy, and I really do look forward to where I am today and not behind to a day that I am longing to recapture.

In all honesty, these are great years (in many ways I feel no different than when I was twenty-five – just a little slower). I have always thought about life in that context. I love today. I try to not hang onto yesterday, and I do not place my hopes in a tomorrow that may never be. Scripture tells us that this is the day that the Lord has made, so I will rejoice and be glad in it.

It is easy for us to lose our way... to lose perspective. There is a tendency to get caught up in the disappointments and failures that life throws at us, and it can flavor the way we live out our todays, and the way we begin to anticipate what our lives will become. Have you met people that just have a negative outlook about everything? I don't want to be that guy!

Father, I want to live with a heart that is overflowing with gratitude. I struggle to remember and to do just that very thing, in the day to day of living. My old nature drags me irresistibly towards complaint, and my new nature struggles to find a life of praise and worship. Thank You for Your constant provision and Your never failing love that keeps my eyes looking towards each new day with a passion to serve You. Amen

Stan Starkey

**Psalm 86:15**

**But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.**

Anita Vandermeer, Katrina Fortin-Tangie, Josiah Fuller

June 2, 2015

**Loved, Ahead of Time**

This is a fantastic Psalm (which deserves a full, careful reading) revealing the amazing journey of ‘human development’ – featuring the more well-known words, “for I am fearfully and wonderfully made” (vs. 14). Mankind is the pinnacle of God’s physical/spiritual creation. God has permitted us to discern through this Psalm that he has an intimate knowledge of our being and nature (body, soul, and spirit) – “Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain unto it” (vs. 6) – as he is the one who fashions each of us.

The verse above has baffled commentators, as the word for “my substance, yet being imperfect” appears only here, except for the verb form which describes Elijah’s ‘folded mantle’. This word (*golem* in this Psalm; *galam* in 2 Kings 2:8) carries the meanings of ‘rolled, folded, and undeveloped’. This reflects the essences of genetic (DNA) and epi-genetic information which predetermines much of our physical developments. God knows more about us than we possibly could, given our limited knowledge and memory. He knows us from our very inception, he knows our thoughts aforesaid, and he knows our faults and failings down to the last molecule – and yet ***he still loves us!*** Comfort yourself that God surrounds, upholds, and loves each of us – rejoice in the surrender to his sovereignty and wisdom.

**Father, I rejoice that I am in your most capable hands, that you are sovereign over me, and that you love me! Help me to do that which is pleasing in your sight, to the glory of your most worthy name – Amen!**

Steve Wiseman

**Psalm 139:16**

**Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being imperfect; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them.**

Bev Gooden, Halima Fuller, Tessa Talat

June 3, 2015

**Come Apart and Rest**

The majority of working people have at one time or another had a strenuous work load where they felt totally exhausted and longed for a break or a day of rest. Physical refreshment is so important for us all.

As I get older, I find I need to rest more often and I realize that I can't do what I used to do. Having a little rest makes me more productive and useful in God's kingdom.

God, in His wisdom gave us commandments for our good, and if obeyed, we would know His blessing. One of those commandments is that we are to have a weekly day of rest. It is a proven fact that people are more energetic and productive and content if a day of rest is observed.

In Mark 6 Jesus gave to His disciples authority and instructions and a command to go and evangelize. When they returned they were weary and much in need of some rest. Jesus said "Come away by yourselves to a lonely place and rest a while". What welcome news for the disciples. Yes, physical refreshing is necessary from week to week. Not only are we more productive, but we are able to think more clearly and are more disciplined to keep our priorities in order.

Father, help us to be committed and obedient to your command to get a day of rest so that we can know Your blessings.

Ivan Preston

**Exodus 20:9-10a**

**"Six days you shall labour and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work."**

Susan Thomson, Pam Wright, Cheryl Borsi

June 4, 2015

### **God, is That You?**

I have been reading through Genesis over the last few days, and have found it incredible the way that God works things together. I've been wondering though, did the individual's in the story know what was really going on? Did Joseph know that he found favour in the eye of the Lord, and that is why everything around him was prospering? Jacob wrestled with God and was obedient, when he encountered Esau, they cried together for they were so happy to see one another. Was it through Jacob's obedience and his persistence that this occurred? I have had so many questions as I've read through Genesis, and these questions have caused me to examine my own life and wonder where God is working.

The other day I went to work when I normally would not have, and left at a time that I normally would never leave at. Right when I arrived to my bus stop, a man informed me a woman had fallen. I turned around, and there was a woman having a seizure who had fallen and cracked open her skull. I prayed as I called 911 and petitioned God, "Please God, help her!" The lady woke up from her seizure 4 minutes later (which is a very long seizure) and seemed fine, despite the fact that she was bleeding horrifically from her head. She was able to stand up and sit on the stretcher to go to the hospital. Did my presence make a difference? If I had not been there, if I had not been praying... what would have become of that situation? Was that a God ordained moment?

This morning I left for work earlier than I ever have. A lady approached me at the bus terminal and asked if the bus was going to be arriving soon. I informed her that it was. She then began to tell me about her friend who woke up with congestive heart failure, and how they are 66 and have been best friends since they were 16. Tears filled her eyes as she recounted the story, and I informed her I would be praying for her. She thanked me profusely. I have their names hanging up over my desk. Is God using this situation as well? Did God want me to be there when Jean needed someone to simply share her pain with?

I have concluded that I will never be able to give God the glory He deserves, for I will never be able to fully comprehend the way He has worked in and through my life. I will never know how powerful God is, because often times I will not even know it's God's power at work. May we realize that even the most subtle, and trivial things at times, may be God moving mountains that we were unaware of.

Kimberly Heint

### **James 1:17**

**Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.**

Sherri Nickerson, Susan Ozua, Francis Paloum,

June 5, 2015

**Getting Back to The Gospel**

How often do you take time and remember the simple, yet profound message of Christianity? I'm afraid we spend far too much time focused out on the fringes of Christian belief, while the precious core message is given far too little time and attention. Jesus Christ, the Son of God, on the cross in your place. Both the price of our sin and the depth of God's love laid completely bare. Take a minute and reflect on that wonderful reality now.

In Jesus Christ we are offered unconditional love and acceptance by God. Have you truly experienced that warm welcome into the family of God? A friend of mine recently phoned me up with some incredible news. He informed me that he had recently come to understand that God truly does love him. After years of struggling with this matter, what a joyous cause for celebration this revelation was!

It is crucially important that we as Christians recognize that we are not saved by works but are saved *for* works. This distinction must be clear in our thinking. Moving away from the heart of the Christian message can cause us to lose our firm grasp of our new life in Jesus Christ. The Christian life is to be one characterized by love, demonstrated through a life of service to both God and others. Remember to get back to the gospel from time to time, and reflect on the life transforming message of Jesus Christ.

Father God, thank you for sending your Son Jesus to die in our place. Thank you for your great effort to bring us back to yourself. Please help us, and many many others, to truly embrace this incredible message. In your Son's name. Amen

Josh Wilhelm

**Ephesians 2:10**

**For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.**

Remy Salvatore, Alice Shantz, Santos Siguenza

June 6, 2015

### Contentment

1 Timothy 6:6-8 states, “But Godliness with contentment is great gain, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content.”

In James MacDonald’s Bible Study “When Life is Hard”, he tells us that we need to “be content with weakness in order to experience Christ’s strength”. Webster’s Dictionary defines contentment as satisfaction.

I have known folks who had everything money could buy but they were not content! They kept striving for more and more. They were never satisfied with what they had even when what they had was much more than what most of us had. They spend a good amount of their time worrying. We lived in Mexico for many years and I was privileged to have some dear friends who lived in a little one or two room cement home, dirt floors and no glass in their windows, no indoor plumbing, but they understood what it meant to be content. They had very little worldly goods but they were so rich in love and the joy of the Lord. They were content. Though they were content, they did not just sit back and say they had no needs and so didn’t bother to work to improve their lot in life, no, they worked hard. However they were content with what they had and lived with such a wonderful joy in the Lord. I learned much from these folks. I’ll forever be thankful they were a part of my life. Paul wrote to the Philippians “I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do everything through Him who gives me strength” (Phil. 4:12-13)

Lord, help me to learn to be content (satisfied) in every situation I find myself in.

Donna Preston

### 2 Corinthians 12:10

**“For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.”**

Livia Stanca, Lori Starkey, Dave Doherty, Oral Jackson

June 7, 2015

**No More packing**

I grew up in the same house that my mother moved into when she was 13 years old. While we went on family vacations every once and awhile, and visited family in Pittsburgh, I did not do much traveling or moving. When I graduated high school I moved to South Africa a few months after for nine months. From there I began to travel, a lot. It has been six years since I've graduated high school, and since then I have visited ten different countries, lived in three of them, and spent significant time in two. I have learned the art of packing, and doing it quickly. I've become much more skilled in travelling on airplanes and how to prepare for security checks to make the event smooth and easy. I've travelled, and travelled and travelled. I have fallen in love with ten different countries over the past six years, I have met hundreds of amazing people who have captured my heart, and I have invested in communities that I had to say tear filled goodbyes to.

One night while sitting in one of the many rooms I have called home over the last six years, I was overwhelmed with emotions. I was tired of packing, tired of moving, tired of change. I realized in that moment that one day I will no longer have to pack, I won't have to go through border controls, or on any plane rides that kill my knees (and I'm too young to have knee pain!), but I'll reach my eternal home! I sat on my bed rejoicing in the hope of eternity with God! What a beautiful eternity it will be! I will be surrounded by my brothers and sisters in Christ, and we will be able to worship God unabashedly! Oh how I long for that day, how I look with anticipation toward the day when I stand before the Lord of lords, and King of Kings, declaring His glory! While I sit here though, in this ever changing world, worshiping the never changing God, I praise Him for the opportunity we have to live our lives with Him! No matter what changes occur, no matter where I may find myself, or where I may be missing, God is present, and He will never leave me nor forsake me.

May we find comfort in that promise!

Kimberly Heintl

**Psalm 41:13**

**Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting!  
Amen and Amen.**

Stan Starkey, Emma Strong, Brendan DePhillippeaux

June 8, 2015

**Reminiscing – Part one – What a Wonderful God**

We finally arrived! Our new address was Balarampur, India. A little cottage featured a straw roof and cow-dung floors awaited us, but it was "home".

Our only means of transportation was a World-War 2 army jeep that would comfortably sit six persons - the only motorized vehicle in our area. Our nearest gas station was 35 miles away in the opposite direction.

Then a medical emergency arose, and suddenly thirteen people crowded in to travel to a new village where the "specialist" resided.

On our return home we decided to drive on a dried up river bed. Now, we only had 50 Miles to go. Suddenly the engine sputtered and quit. I jumped out of the jeep into the blazing noon sun to check on our dilemma - a splintered gas line!

I recalled a former British soldier telling me if you have a break in your gas line it would help to put hand soap on the line and wrap it with tape. I tried that and it did not work. The gas kept coming! Continued...

Ron Byers

**Ecclesiastes 7:8**

**The end of the matter is better than its beginning, and patience is better than pride.**

Mike Strong, Linda Summers, Sherry Curry, John Heo

June 9, 2015

**Reminiscing (Part 2)**

Our Indian friends and children had to leave the jeep or suffocate. The temperature was rising and our water supply was low! I was still holding the splintered line and praying actually begging for God's intervention. Nothing happened!

Now I was becoming frustrated - there would be no cars, buses and no C A A to call. Our 5 year old son turned to me and said.

"Dad. Why don't you pray?" and told him I had prayed, so why don't you pray now? He pushed my hand off the line and prayed. When he took his hand off, the tape was wet, but no more gas leak!

We all drove home safely, got the men, women and little ones to their abodes thanking the Lord for the miracle.

It made me well aware there is a big difference in knowing God answers prayer and believing He WILL answer prayer in His own perfect way and timing.

God can do anything, but fail!

Ron Byers

**John 14:4**

**You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.**

Naomi Strong, Andrew Talat, Carlie Earl, Lenora Green

June 10, 2015

**Replacing the Perfect**

For eighteen years (at this point) the children of Israel had not only abandoned the LORD God who had delivered them from their enemies, but they had also turned to Baalim, Ashtaroth, and the gods of Syria, Zidon, Moab, the Ammonites and the Philistines (vs. 6). It seems that man, by nature, desires to worship *something*, or at least recognize that there is some force out there that is greater than him/herself. And it is not quite possible that humans can just simply abandon God and go on with life as if there never was a God at all. Humans must replace God with something else (objects, others, ideas); but the act of ‘worship’ continues in some form or other (zealous dedication to causes, obsessions, fixations, passions, or the gamut of egocentrism).

But there is nothing in this grand universe which can replace a vibrant relationship with the Living Creator, Redeemer and Almighty LORD God. Hidden jealousies explain the vitriolic and venomous approach that unbelievers have towards God’s children – pray for your enemies that their hearts would be softened.

If you find yourself – in those bitter moments, when you are tempted to abandon your walk – being pulled away, ask yourself to whom or what you would turn to? He alone is worthy; there is none else (Deuteronomy 4:39).

**Father, it is only unto you, and from you, that we have any hope at all. Draw me unto yourself – though I am not worthy – but because of your mighty name’s sake, and your unfathomable love. Amen!**

Steve Wiseman

**Judges 10:10**

**And the children of Israel cried unto the LORD, saying, We have sinned against thee, both because we have forsaken our God, and also served Baalim.**

Dave Thomson, Josh Wilhelm, John Borsi, Ruth Gore,

June 11, 2015

### **Spiritual Refreshment**

The Bible tells the story of a woman who had not found true contentment and peace in her life. She had been married five times and was again involved in another relationship. She was always looking for that perfect guy that would make her happy. Maybe there had been abuses in her marriages, maybe there were financial problems or maybe she had married a good looking fellow who was in fact a lazy bum. We just don't know. However there was a thirst for a good life where peace and contentment could be found. Then one day she met the Master, Jesus the Christ.

She had gone to the well at Sychar Samaria to get some fresh clean water but that day her life was about to change because of Jesus. Jesus told her that the water of the well would not bring her what she longed for but the water that He would give to her would indeed be living water which would bring her true peace and joy. That day she put her faith in Jesus and believed that He was the Messiah.

In Acts 3:19 Peter was preaching the good news of the gospel and exhorted the Jews to repent, that their sins would be wiped out, so that times of refreshing would come from the presence of the Lord.

Spiritual refreshment will not come if sin is not dealt with, but when sin is dealt with living water comes and we have wonderful times of spiritual refreshment. In the presence of Jesus there is joy and pleasure.

Father, thank You for the living water that brings spiritual refreshment and joy.

Ivan Preston

### **11 Corinthians 7:10**

**“Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation.”**

Earl Gooden, Becca Mundy, Clare Fuller, Robert Goodale

June 12, 2015

**My God, Our God is AWESOME!**

I need to proclaim the goodness of God. There are times when I forget how mighty He is, and then there are these moments where it is almost as if God hits me upside my head, and I realize that He is so incredibly powerful! Today is one of those days, therefore I am going to be proud in my Lord and brag about Him.

A few years ago my friend was going through a very hard time. I was living overseas, and I wanted to be there for her, but honestly I couldn't be. I informed her in the morning that I would be praying for her, and though I knew there was power in prayer, I felt my words fell flat because I had no action behind them. Foolish of me, I know... for I forgot that the weight behind prayer is the ever present power of God. The power of God that is far more powerful than my actions could ever be. During this time, I was journaling my prayers to help me remember what I prayed. I began to pray that God would remind her of how greatly He loved her. I was living in a tropical country and was thinking about flowers, since they surrounded me, and therefore prayed for flowers for her. I was thinking in terms of a beautiful plant on her path as she came home from work... not remembering that it was January in Canada and that flowers were few and far between. Later on that day she sent me an email informing me that her friend stopped in at her office and brought her flowers. She was telling me how encouraging it was to her, and how she was thankful to know I had been praying for her. Honestly, if I had not been journaling my prayers, I do not think I would have believed it myself. I instantly took a picture of my prayer and sent it to my friend, telling her that while her friend might have brought her flowers, her friend was sent by God. We both were in awe of how incredible God is.

A few days later I kept waking up with the name of a friend from high school on my mind. I had not spoken to this friend for three years probably. For a week straight I prayed for him. Every time I sat down to pray, his name over powered any other thought that I had, and I took time to pray for him. I knew that he was a self-proclaimed agnostic and though he wished he could believe in God, he had never found it possible. I finally sent him an email to inform him, to which he responded by telling me he had been feeling the call to pursue God and be baptised. He was unsure if it was really God calling him toward baptism, but my email had helped him to see that God was most definitely calling out to him. A few months later he sent me an update to let me know he had given his life over to God and knows my prayers played a crucial part in that.

God moves! God answers prayers! God sees our needs! God sees our broken hearts! Whatever it may be today, whatever you may feel God laying on your heart, cast that care before God. We serve THE awesome God! All praise, glory and honour go to Him!

Kimberly Heintl

**1 Peter 5:7**

**Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you**

Steve Wiseman, Victor Pomerileau, Marlyn Starkey, Brad Borsi

June 13, 2015

**What Is The Foundation of A House Built Out of?**

A few weeks ago my friend posted a conversation she had had with her small son. He was playing away with his Lego blocks and asked his mom: “What is the foundation of our house made of?” His mom answered: “Um..I don’t know. What do you think it is made of?” She figured he’d tell her it was made of cement or something related to his Lego blocks. His answer: “Jesus”.

Now I know that this little boy was probably thinking about his house that he lived in and we all know that every house built needs a good foundation if it’s to stand the test of time but this little guy was scripturally right on the mark. 1 Corinthians 3:11 says “For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ.”

I believe that we need to build our spiritual home on the true foundation: Jesus. All other foundations will crumble and fall. In fact Jesus teaches us in Matthew 7:24-27 that “Anyone who listens to my teaching and follows it is wise, like a person who builds a house on solid rock. Though the rain comes in torrents and the floodwaters rise and the winds beat against that house, it won’t collapse because it is built on bedrock. But anyone who hears my teaching and doesn’t obey it is foolish, like a person who builds a house on sand. When the rains and floods come and the winds beat against that house, it will collapse with a mighty crash.”

Lord, help me to build my life on You! You are the only solid foundation that will stand.

Donna Preston

**Isaiah 28:16**

**So this is what the Sovereign Lord says: “See, I lay a stone in Zion, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone for a sure foundation; the one who relies on it will never be stricken with panic.”**

Sarah Wiseman, Larry Shantz, Mike Salvatore, Dan Bennett

June 14, 2015

### What Is Better?

Mark tells us the story of Jesus healing the man with the withered hand. Jesus kept butting heads with the religious leaders of His day, and there were times that Jesus was in danger from the actions of these men and those who they stirred up. This was one of those times. They had been watching Jesus very closely. He had been drawing a large crowd of those who were interested in His teaching, and the great numbers of miracles that He was performing.

In fact, after one of these teaching times it says that the people who were listening, were amazed at His teaching, in that He taught as one having authority, not as the other teachers who they were used to listening to. This caused the other leaders and teachers to become extremely jealous of Him.

They began following Him around, trying to stop or interfere with His teaching, and watching critically, everything that He did so as to be able to discredit Him. This particular time, they were aware that the man with the withered hand was present. They had been asking each other what they thought Jesus was going to do. They had an expectation that He would heal the man, and they were hoping that He would do it that day, which was a Sabbath.

They had some pretty strange rule about what a person could or could not do on the Sabbath. God had definitely set up some boundaries, but they had expanded on what God had originally given. They had seen Jesus do other things on the Sabbath that were against their interpretation of the law, and they were hoping to make an example of Him.

Jesus asked a very penetrating question. What is better? To do good on the Sabbath or to do evil? To allow a man to continue to suffer or to bring healing to the man? Jesus looked His would be accusers in the eye and in front of everyone called the man with the withered hand forward and healed him instantaneously, and completely.

Father, I want to have that kind of courage in my life. I want to be able to give an appropriate answer to the questions that people are asking, and I want to be able to point them to Your Son Jesus. Sometimes I do have that kind of courage... and I know where it comes from, it comes from You. It is for the other times that I come to You and ask that You would fulfill Your promise that in the difficult times Your Spirit would speak through me. Amen

Stan Starkey

#### 1 Peter 3:15

**But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect,**

Rachel Wiseman, Mary Salvatore, Gord Salm, Winni Bankazo

June 15, 2015

### The Calling

I have been teaching through the Gospel of Mark for the last few months, and I really like the way that Mark portrays the life of Jesus. There is such an urgency and energy that Mark brings in his writing of the story of Jesus life, and this keeps propelling me forward into the Gospel story.

I have been thinking about what it must have been like for each of the men who followed Jesus, when they first understood that He was calling them to follow Him. I try and place myself in their shoes, as they heard the words, “come follow me”. Those must have been mind boggling moments in time. I can imagine that there were many reasons that would present themselves, on why it was impossible for them to drop their livelihoods, everything that they were familiar with, and follow this itinerant rabbis.

I think back to the time when I had my encounter with Jesus, when I knew in my heart of hearts that there was something that He wanted me to do with my life, that was different than what I was planning. In the beginning I had thought that this might involve teaching in a Christian school, and then the plan became much more radicle. I still have a hard time picturing me doing the thing that I am doing. I wonder if those first disciples felt like that. Did Peter ever wake up in the morning and say to himself, “what am I doing – how did I ever get here from there?”

Father, I am not sure that I have traveled the path in front of me exactly as You would have laid it out for me. In fact I know that there are many times that I have been slow to obey your direct calling on my life. Thank You for Your patience. Thank You for Your perseverance in working in and through my life. Amen

Stan Starkey

### Matthew 4:19

**Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people.**

Ainsley Salvatore, Jesse Wiseman, Bob Puersten, Lois Byers

June 16, 2015

**Diplomats For Christ**

One day while driving I got stuck behind a car that was going unbelievably slow. When we stopped at a red light, I saw that the license plate read, "DIPLOMAT". I thought it was quite interesting, and realized that this individual was most likely going to speed limit due to the fact that he/she was representing their country well. As I inched closer to get a better look at the license plate to see if I could see where this individual was from, I noticed that the expiration date on the plate had expired! No wonder this individual was going so slow, it was not because they were trying to represent their country well, but because their license plate had expired three months ago!

As Christians, we are diplomats for the Kingdom of Heaven. While we might not have an expired license plate, there are times in our life that we put things off, or we ignore problems that need to be addressed. There are even times when we live our lives in a way that is not honouring to God, nor how a diplomat of Christ should live. What are the things in our lives that might need a bit of up – keep? Maybe it is our temper that gives us away, or our unwillingness to forgive, or our failure to love in the way Christ has called us to love? As Christians we need to be daily sitting before the throne of God and asking that He chisel away at the things that are not honouring to Him, and to mold us and shape us into the men and women He has designed us to be.

Heavenly Father God, thank you that you have called us to be your children. Thank you for the honour we have to be a part of your Kingdom and to live our lives in relation with you, and those around us. Father, may you trim away at the things in our lives that are not pleasing to you, and may we daily strive to reflect your image more and more in all we do!

Kimberly Heintz

**Ephesians 2:10**

**For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works,  
which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.**

Ben Wiseman, Jack Priolo, Ivan Preston, Ron Byers

June 17, 2015

### Are We Asleep?

Jesus had been preaching and speaking to people for a number of days. He was by the sea and at times the crowd had pressed Him in, to the point that He had begun teaching from a boat that had been pulled up close to the shore. I find it intriguing, that at a time with no public address system, Jesus was speaking to thousands of people at a time... and being heard.

I love reading about the individuals who come to Jesus so that they can have a conversation with Him. Sometimes they are planned, such as the woman at the well, and other times it appears that they are chance meetings such as where mothers see an opportunity for Jesus to bless their children and the moment is a spontaneous response to the situation.

After one of these teaching times, Jesus and His disciples decided to cross the Sea of Galilee. It was at the end of a long day of ministry, and so they set out and the exhausted Jesus immediately fell asleep in the back of the boat. What a natural response of someone who had tired themselves out ministering to those who were needy. I used to not really understand why Jesus had fallen asleep, and had assumed that it was just an opportunity for the disciples to learn a life lesson as they were crossing the sea. Having taught every day, several times a day, for a number of weeks in Colombia, I now know the kind of exhaustion that Jesus was feeling (well only in a small way, because I have never had a ministry of healing and of the public pressing in, like He experienced)

It was during this sleep of exhaustion that the disciples were in a very precarious place. They knew that Jesus had said that they were going over to the other side, but right in the moment of this ginormous storm, they had begun to have their doubts. The one who could help them was fast asleep and they had about run out of confidence that they were going to make it to the other side.

Father, I know that we sing about keeping our eyes on Jesus. I know that we are not to look to any other for the things of life, for safety, for comfort, for support, and for our very lives. I am so much like Your disciples. Sometimes I think that You are asleep, that You do not know, that somehow You are missing the fact that I am in need... and I fail to exercise the faith, that if it were the size of a grain of mustard, I could move mountains. I need Your help to turn my eyes upon Jesus... to look on His wonderful face, and to make the things of this earth to grow dim in the light of His glory. Amen

Stan Starkey

### Psalm 16:8

**I keep my eyes always on the LORD.  
With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.**

Donna Preston, Heather Pook, Kerry Petker, Ricardo Moreno

June 18, 2015

### **The Sovereign God**

Job had been speaking of God the Creator's great power and sovereignty over this his universe (including the phrase, "and treadeth upon the waves of the sea" – verse 8b – this should remind us that when Jesus walked on the water he was demonstrating that he is himself the Creator). Job's point here was to acknowledge that God is sovereign over mankind; no one will be able to challenge him face-to-face [once they realize that he indeed is the sovereign Creator]. Nebuchadnezzar had also come to this realization the 'hard way' after a seven year episode (see Daniel 4:35). Isaiah also reinforces God's answerable sovereignty over mankind (Isaiah 45:9).

God's power, knowledge, wisdom, and plan far transcend that of mankind. God's plan for us is good (Romans 8:28). It is not easy dealing with pride – as it seems to come with subtlety and 'naturally' – but we need to submit to God's will having faith that he is sovereign and loving God, even in *unpleasant* times. He is LORD and he is good! (See 1 Peter 4:19)

**Father, I ask that there would be more of you and less of me in my life. I acknowledge that you are God and LORD; reign in me. Amen.**

Steve Wiseman

#### **Job 9:12**

**Behold, he taketh away, who can hinder him? who will say unto him,  
What doest thou?**

June 19, 2015

**Refreshing One Another's Spirit**

Years ago we had a number of volunteers come to Oakville to help us build the church there. One of these men was a plumber and had committed himself to overseeing and doing all the plumbing. Over the years I would call him just to remind him of how much we had appreciated his labor of love. We would visit for a time and just before we ended our call, he would say “well, your call has made my day.” In other words, his spirit was lifted.

Paul mentioned on several occasions how others had refreshed his spirit. In 1 Corinthians 16:18 he makes reference to three men by saying: “they have refreshed my spirit and yours”.

In Romans 15:32 Paul told the Romans that he longed to find refreshing rest in their company. In Philemon verse 30 Paul request to Philemon was: “let me benefit from you in the Lord; refresh my heart in Christ”.

Do we refresh one another in our church by getting together to fellowship? We encourage one another when we get together for a coffee and share each other's burdens.

Lord, help us to refresh the lives of others, lifting their spirits. Amen.

Ivan Preston

**11 Corinthians 7:13**

**“..we rejoiced even much more for the joy of Titus, because his spirit has been refreshed by you all.”**

Sam Nordquist, Sunday Ozua, Steve Nickerson, Olga Culpic

June 20, 2015

### The Beauty of Simplicity

I love living near my sister and her children. There is something so peaceful about knowing that my big sister is only a five minute drive away. Lately I have been spending a lot of time at my sister's house. My niece the other day told me it seemed like I was at her house EVERYDAY. I truly want to cherish these moments, because honestly they are so precious and time goes incredibly fast. The other day I went for a walk with my 18 month old nephew. He was so excited to look at the ants that were crawling around, and to pick up every rock that he seemed to encounter along the way. He smiled at everyone we passed and yelled HELLO to everyone sitting on their front porch. I walked behind him, watching his every step. He would wobble every once and awhile, and sometimes would find himself falling down on his bottom. He would look up at me, and I smiled, encouraging him to move forward. I know that my presence is important to him at this stage in life. Often time's young children will look to their parents, or someone they can trust, to see how to react in situations. They need that extra bit of reassurance throughout their growing process to know that they are safe, and will be protected.

Later on that evening my sister and I set up a fire in the backyard. We had put the children to bed and were about to having some great sisterly bonding when my niece decided she was not willing to sleep. She came running outside and climbed into my lap. There I sat, holding this precious six year old girl who has grown up faster than I could have ever imagined. Instead of sending her back to bed, I sat there with her for a few hours. We giggled and joked around, watched the fire burn to just a few coals, and then it rage again as we put more logs onto the fire. I held in my tears as I held on to my niece tightly, knowing this moment in time would be something I would cherish forever, as this beautiful young girl rapidly grows up. I held her in my arms and prayed that God would lead her and guide her, and that her beauty will forever be found in who He has created her to be.

In the same way that my nephew needs reassurance that he is safe and will be protected as he ventures off into the world, I often look to God as I take steps of faith, to make sure that He is watching, and to find my safety. Though my niece is a bit older, she still craves that one on one time with me, the moments where we can just be the two of us, and this is something I too long for with God. Those sweet moments where I can simply sit in His presence and know that He is holding me closely.

Father, thank you that you desire to be in a relationship with us, and that you love us beyond words.

Kimberly Heint

### Isaiah 41:13

**For I am the LORD your God who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you.**

Samson Alia, Rebecca Nordquist, Tasha McLimont, Natalie Jackson

June 21, 2015

### **A Little Something From the Word**

Luke 17:11-19 tells us the story of the 10 lepers who asked Jesus for pity and “when he saw them, he said, “Go show yourselves to the priests.” That was it! He didn’t even stop and make a big fuss over them or anything. He simply gave them the command to go show themselves to the priests. The scripture says “and as they went, they were cleansed.” Sometimes healing requires action! They hadn’t even been specific in asking what they needed or wanted but Jesus knew. He didn’t tell them that they were healed. He just gave them a command! And they obeyed! Only one came back and thanked Him and I’m thinking – typical human nature. How often God intervenes in our lives and we forget to even thank Him.

We can learn so much from this portion of scripture. Get your Bible out and let’s learn together. 1. The request – they didn’t even request what they desperately needed – they only asked for His pity. So like us. We pray and ask God for what we think we need, but just like these men, we need so much more. 2. Obedience – they went and did as they were told. They didn’t ask why or wonder, they just went. They must have known that if they went to the priest, that they were already healed because the priest was the final say in whether they were cleansed of Leprosy or not. They just obeyed. Most of the time I’m sad to say that I don’t “just obey”. How much I miss!

3. Cleansing – in the very act of obedience we often receive the cleansing. Wow! If we only understood. Leprosy is a picture of sin – and how we need the cleansing! Only God can cleanse us. Only He can heal us.

4. Thankfulness – while all 10 were healed – only one came back to thank the Lord, but in coming back, this one guy learned something very important. He learned that his faith had healed him. I got to thinking how often we miss God’s best when we forget to thank Him for that which He has already done in our hearts. I pray that God will give each of us a thankful heart so that we can receive ALL God has for us. 5. Faith – the result of this obedience and cleansing and thankfulness is faith. How we need faith to believe God.

Donna Preston

#### **Luke 17:15**

**“And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, with a loud voice glorifying God”**

Nehema Ozua, Jeremiah Nordquist, Seth McLimont, Kyle Vandermeer

June 22, 2015

### Peace on The Sea

There are many times that I wish I could experience the stories of the Bible, but one of these in particular is the stilling of the storm on the Sea of Galilee. Though this really happened in time and space – it can also stand as a metaphor for any one of the difficult situations in our lives. The stormy sea can represent any stormy experience that I may be facing. It could be a hospital room where I am sitting with a loved one listening to news that I would rather not hear. I could be a relationship that has gone bad, or it could be the life of a child that has gone sideways and is now experiencing the fallout of the law of sowing and reaping.

Whatever is happening – I am now living on a dark and stormy sea that has me wondering if I will ever get to the other side, or will I falter and find myself drowned by the circumstances. My boat feels like it is so full. I am sure that my bucket is way too small, and that there are not enough hands to stay ahead of the impending doom. At least the disciples had the common sense to wake Jesus out of His sleep. They at least came to the point that they realized that they had only one recourse... the Son of God.

This puzzles me about my own condition. I wonder why it takes me so long to call out on the name of the Son of God. I wonder why I struggle so long in my own strength, doing my own thing, working harder and harder to overcome the circumstances of life... and then finally in the end I call out, almost too late.

Father, Your Son spoke, and He was able to contain the most violent of storms. The men around Him were astonished... and yet they had been with Him when He had already done so many miraculous things. Your Word says that He spoke and the wind stopped – it wore itself out. He spoke and calmness filled space and time where only moments before the water boiled over the sides of their craft.

There are times where I need to find that kind of peace. There are times when I need that kind of intervention in my world. Father, there is a part of me that wants to experience You Son like this. As they were amazed so I want to be amazed. As they were astonished so I want the same thing in my life. Amen

Stan Starkey

### Isaiah 26:3

**You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You.**

Grace Ozua, Haley Nordquist, Mark McLimont, Maritza Moreno

June 23, 2015

### **The Power of Age in Ministry**

There is something about the lives of our seniors that is a great inspiration to me. I have always had a special relationship with those who are older than myself. It could be that I am an only child and that I did not have a lot of connection with children my age... and so I came to connect with those who were much older than myself.

My grandparents, on both sides, were a great part of my life and in many ways I am so much richer for their addition to my life. I can remember spending many afternoons listening to the stories of my grandpa Starkey. To this day I am not sure which parts were accurate and which were the product of embellishment. He had such a great way of telling a story that would pull you in and keep you on the edge of your seat.

I have learned to greatly value age, and even more so as I have seen the faithful ministry of the seniors of our church. Not long ago we had a church work day. This was a time to turn back the ravages of winter and prepare the grounds for a summer of ministry. In some ways I was sad that the greatest number of those who came to the workday were over fifty. Each one was there with a twinkle in their eye, and a spring in their step. We have been blessed by those who see it as a great opportunity to serve in even the smallest way. The greatest encouragement was a couple well into their eighties, who brought fun and laughter wherever they went.

One of my older friends has spent the last couple of years encouraging seniors not to stop being used by God in the life of the church. He contends that these are the greatest days of serving God. What would God have for you today? How would He use your gifts to build His kingdom? How could these days be the best ministry days of your life?

Father, keep a fire to my heart. Help me to not back off. Help me to press forward through each season of life so that every day is a day lived to the fullest. Help me to grow old in Your service. Amen

Stan Starkey

### **Colossians 3:2**

**Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth**

Fiona Ozua, Gabrielle Nordquist, Mateo MacKenzie, Thomas Fuller

June 24, 2015

### **God is Enough**

I have a dear friend who I met during my university studies. He is not a Christian, though he has a Master of Divinity. We will talk about life at times and what we are currently struggling with. Usually when I talk about the hard moments in my life, he will jokingly say to me, "maybe you do not have a strong enough faith, maybe you have doubts, or you are too weak for God to answer you." I often laugh at his remark, and inform him that maybe he is on to something.

Unfortunately, I truly believe a lot of Christians believe this may be the case. Here is a little story I once read that really impacted my life, "In Torgau a wretched little woman once came to me and said, 'Ah, dear Doctor, I have idea that I'm lost and can't be saved because I can't believe.' Then I replied, 'Do you believe, dear lady, that what you pray in the Creed is true?' She answered with clasped hands, 'Oh, yes, I believe it; it's most certainly true!' I replied, 'Then go in God's name, dear lady. You believe more and better than I do.' It's the devil who puts such ideas into people's heads and says, 'Ah, you must believe better. You must believe more. Your faith is not very strong and is insufficient.' In this way he drives them to despair." (Martin Luther, *Table Talk*, p. 453). How true that is! Often times we believe we must have a stronger faith, or that God has not done what we want because we have not appeased Him. This takes grace out of the equation though, and leaves us with a god who will only answer our prayers if we earn his response. That does not sound like my God.

May we remember that in the good and bad times, God is faithful. May we not live our lives honouring God solely so that we will not have hard times, but may we glorify God because He deserves to be worshipped. May our actions never be intended to manipulate God to oblige to our will, but may we find freedom in knowing that in our great moments and our not so lovely moments, God's love surpasses both!

Kimberly Heint

#### **Ecclesiastes 7:14**

**In the day of prosperity be joyful, and in the day of adversity consider: God has made the one as well as the other, so that man may not find out anything that will be after him.**

Abigail Nordquist, Anna Ozua, Judy MacKenzie, Maria Arteaga Montilla

**June 25, 2015**

**We Do Not Labor in Vein**

I recently read about a missionary who felt he was a failure. It is an amazing story of growth from a seed planted by a missionary.

Back in 1912 Dr. William Leslie went to the Congo as a medical missionary. He ministered to a remote tribe for 17 years before returning to the U.S. a discouraged man feeling like a failure. Nine years later he died.

In 2010 Eric Ramsay led a team to the Congo and found a network of eight churches in a dense jungle area of the Congo where Dr. Leslie had been stationed. Dr. Leslie had taught the tribal children to read and write and had told Bible Stories to them. He had also started the first organized educational system. His goal was to spread Christianity.

Dr. Leslie felt like a failure and thought that he had not made any kind of an impact in the lives of the people, but the legacy he left was huge. Sometimes we don't see the results and fruit of our ministry because it takes years for fruitful ministry to be seen. Paul, in writing to the Corinthians said: "...be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord".

Father, help us to faithfully serve you to the best of our abilities using the talents and abilities You have given us, knowing that our work is not in vain.

Ivan Preston

**Proverbs 11:30**  
**"He that winneth souls is wise."**

Brian Ozua, John MacKenzie, Levi Kusaula, Mike Gore

June 26, 2015

### Rest in the Lord

I've been reflecting a bit on my experiences at Emmanuel. I've changed a lot in the way I write papers. In my first year, my dad gave me some advice that I just obeyed without really being aware of it. He told me that the brain functions best if it has regular intervals of rest. As a result, during my first year, I would take twenty minutes to write a paper, and then take a five minute break. I'd usually just stare at the ceiling, or pace up and down the hallway to recollect my thoughts. Surprisingly, this really worked. I found that I could keep my thoughts in order, while spending the better part of a day dedicated to this one task. But the thing is, I didn't really know how well it was working at the time. I think I took it for granted, because this practice slowly started to disappear, and in my second year, I found myself getting some severe writer's block, and writing papers started to become a chore rather than a privilege.

Eventually, I realized what the problem was: I'd been forcing my brain to do something it wasn't designed to do, to run at full steam for a whole semester. In third year, I tried to once again force myself to take five minute breaks, but for some reason, I still couldn't remember to take the break I needed. I soon learned that I was not filling the time with anything substantial, and therefore didn't care about it, but I was just doing it because I had been told to. I didn't make the principle of rest my own. So I started teaching myself to juggle. Kind of a weird solution, but I found that having something to practice during those five minutes helped me to remember that I needed them. I think scripture paints a similar picture of the Sabbath. God established the Sabbath to give us the principle of weekly rest, because we're simply not designed to run full steam, 7 days a week. But Jesus frequently criticizes the Pharisees for only caring about the religious command, rather than the principle it expresses, which is that God loves his creation and knows they need rest, because he built them that way. I believe that the bible's depiction of rest is meant to be a freeing thing. I think we can take the principle expressed on Sundays to enjoy ourselves, reconnect with those things we love to do, the people we love to hang out with, whatever will get us recharged and reconnected with God, and get us amped up to serve him for another week. At the end of the day, we should be reconnected with the truth that God loves his creation enough to include rest in our schedules, and can be trusted to care for us.

Thank you Heavenly Father for your abundant provision in our lives, and for your perfect knowledge of your creation. Help us to reconnect with the principles that you have given for our good, and offer you heartfelt thanks in return. Amen

Brendan DePhillippeaux

### Mark 2:28, NIV

**“Then he said to them, ‘The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath.’”**

Clarisse MacKenzie, Lea Kusaula, Glenn Keohn, Suzanna Fuller

June 27, 2015

### **Plowing and Planting**

My husband Ivan loves the springtime. He's already been out to the farm working the land to get it ready to plant. He's happy!! He truly enjoys getting on his little tractor and putting around the field. Then he will get off the tractor, stand back and admire his handiwork. Next comes the planting of the seeds and then the wait for the rain to come and the seeds to sprout.

Years ago, I listened as a young man gave a sermon at our church about Plowing. It wasn't the fields he was talking about. It was about plowing up the hard ground of our hearts and preparing them for the good seeds of righteousness that we need planted within. His sermon left a deep impression on me and planted in me the desire to keep my heart soft before the Lord.

Hosea 10:12 says: "I (the Lord) said, 'Plant the good seeds of righteousness, and you will harvest a crop of love. Plow up the hard ground of your hearts, for now is the time to seek the Lord, that He may come and shower righteousness upon you.'" Now I realize that this verse contains much for us to chew on, but I'll keep this short.

Before we plant, we must plow and work up the land. We have to get all the weeds out. We need to break down all the hard clumps of soil. Spiritually speaking we must clear our hearts of weeds of evil habits etc. by repenting of our sins and seeking the Lord. We prepare our hearts so that the Lord can plant the seeds of righteousness in us. The Lord will shower us with His righteousness (His rain) and we will reap a wonderful crop of love!

Thank you Lord that as we seek You with all our hearts, You plant Your seeds of righteousness in us and we will be changed into Your likeness and will be filled with Your love. Lord, help me to keep seeking and plowing up the hard places in my heart so You can fill them with Your righteousness and love.

Donna Preston

### **Jeremiah 4:3**

**This is what the Lord says to the people of Judah and to Jerusalem:**

**``Break up your unplowed ground and do not sow among thorns``.**

Bailie MacKenzie, Cyprien Kusaula, Lynn Johnston, Rachel Goodale,

June 28 , 2015

**The LORD God Our Leader**

The people had just demanded of Samuel that they have a king out of a jealousy over their surrounding nations' circumstances. They wanted a king that they could touch, see, lead them into battle, and influence. However, all the best of motives may not have been in place in desiring a leader over them that could be swayed.

Samuel was not willing to go along with the people's request, but God did say that it was he [God himself] that the people were rejecting, not Samuel (who was – as a prophet – the go-between for the people and God). To show the people the caution and hazard of this decision, and warning them to remain faithful to the LORD God, Samuel prayed for a thunderstorm, which happened, out of season, that very day (vs. 17-18).

May it be in our lives, that we would not be desirous of this world's system. But let us continue faithfully in following God in obedience to his word which he has entrusted to us. He will not forsake, but is pleased to make us his children.

**Father, help me not to look to this world for leadership, but unto you. You are the Almighty God and King of the Universe. Continue to work in me to the glory of your Holy name. Amen.**

**1 Samuel 12:22**

**For the LORD will not forsake his people for his great name's sake: because it hath pleased the LORD to make you his people.**

June 29 , 2015

**Without You we are nothing**

I'm something of a perfectionist. It's a quality that's helped me in my schooling, but it's also been less than constructive at the same time. For instance, I recently got a good grade on a paper that I'd worked pretty hard on. Amidst several positive comments, my prof also mentioned that I'd forgotten to include words in several places throughout the paper, which made for some pretty fractured sentences. When I read this, pretty quickly I forgot about the positive marks and good grades, and wondered how I could have missed something as obvious as that. It makes me wonder why exactly we as Christians struggle so hard with making mistakes, sometimes to the point where we refuse to take a leap of faith because of fear. I suppose for me, it comes down to a problem with my beliefs. When I hold back from serving God because of fear, I often find that it's not really the mistake I'm afraid of, but God himself. If I am afraid of making mistakes, it's usually because I fear that I'll somehow be punished for them, which shows that I'm not really comprehending the gravity of what Jesus has done for me, and the freedom that comes along with it. I recently read an excellent biography on Dietrich Bonhoeffer, which at one point described his attitude towards taking risks for God. He believed that a part of Christian freedom is the ability to act upon one's convictions without irrational fear of consequences. Obviously it doesn't mean that we can get away with anything if we slap Jesus' name on the front of it, but I do believe that if we have placed a decision in God's hands, prayed fervently, consulted with our fellow Christians, and basically done everything we can to discern God's will, then we can act on our convictions and do what we believe to be right without fear that we will make a mistake. We might. There might be consequences. But if we remember what Jesus has done, then we remember that God's love for us is unchanging, and therefore the mistakes we make in his service are opportunities for growth and learning. In short, holding back for fear of making mistakes is being afraid to take hold of our freedom in Christ.

Thank you God for giving us freedom to call upon you, to discern your will, and to step out in faith and obedience to serve you. Please teach us to trust more fully in Christ's perfect sacrifice and the love you have for us, so that we may fearlessly pursue you.

Brendan DePhillippeaux

**Romans 8:15, ESV**

**“For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry ‘abba! Father!’”**

Ken Johnston, Katharine Jennings, Thorna Jackson

June 30 , 2015

### Where does our faith lie?

I've been thinking a lot about change lately. I suppose this only makes sense considering that I just finished four years of school and am currently thinking about the next chapter of my life. I must say, it's been an interesting experience to spend that many years in one place where I could basically expect a similar experience all the way through. Although this came to feel normal over time, I'm now starting to see that changelessness is a bit unnatural. Change just seems to be a part of life. Even so, I think most people, myself included, generally have a lot of apprehension about change, especially when we're coming from a place we'd rather not leave. Bible College has been a great experience for me, and a part of me wishes I could just stay here and not venture out into the unknown. A line from Bruce Cockburn (my favorite songwriter) comes to my mind as I reflect on this, "I believe it's a sin to try and make things last forever, everything that exists in time runs out of time someday. Got to let go of the things that keep you tethered, take your place with grace and then be on your way." I've always liked that line, but never been quite sure why. I think it's mainly because he says "take your place with grace." It's a concept that's only meaningful if you have a relationship with God. Without him, taking your place is just giving up hope of achieving anything else. But with God, it's trusting that he knows where you are in life and how you can serve him in your context. Taking our place with grace conveys two things: not striving to escape your current situation, but also not being afraid of change. It's the idea of constantly turning our lives over to his care. If we are called to stay in the same city or job or whatever, then we can do so with God in mind, trusting that he has something meaningful for us to do in this situation. But if he is calling us to make a drastic change, then we can trust him that he has great purpose for leading us elsewhere. I think that change is a great opportunity for us to consciously rededicate our lives to God and reaffirm that we trust him because he is good and fully capable of guiding us no matter where we are. So whether we must change or simply wait for change to come, we can trust fully that he is present in our lives.

Thank you Father that you have expressed your deep love for us by taking us as we are, but also promising us life and growth that exceeds our wildest imaginations. I pray that you give us hearts of faith to discern your leadership and rely upon your provision wherever you lead us. Amen.

Brendan DePhillippeaux

### John 10:10, NIV

**"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."**

Ken Johnston, Katharine Jennings, Thorna Jackson

# 1 year Bible Reading Plan

Adapted From Biblegateway.com

Day 154 Job 40-42	Day 170 Psalms 76-80
Day 155 Psalms 1-5	Day 171 Psalms 81-85
Day 156 Psalms 6-10	Day 172 Psalms 86-90
Day 157 Psalms 11-15	Day 173 Psalms 91-95
Day 158 Psalms 16-20	Day 174 Psalms 96-100
Day 159 Psalms 21-25	Day 175 Psalms 101-105
Day 160 Psalms 26-30	Day 176 Psalms 106-110
Day 161 Psalms 31-35	Day 177 Psalms 111-115
Day 162 Psalms 36-40	Day 178 Psalms 116-120
Day 163 Psalms 41-45	Day 179 Psalms 121-125
Day 164 Psalms 46-50	Day 180 Psalms 126-130
Day 165 Psalms 51-55	Day 181 Psalms 131-135
Day 166 Psalms 56-60	Day 182 Psalms 136-140
Day 167 Psalms 61-65	Day 183 Psalms 141-145
Day 168 Psalms 66-70	
Day 169 Psalms 71-75	

**Ready for the incredible privilege and adventure of reading the Bible through cover to cover? We hope so! It takes only about fifteen minutes a day. Enjoy! As you read, ask the Lord to help you see the redemptive story of the Bible. It's the heartbeat of every book from Genesis to Revelation.**









**Take the helmet of salvation  
and the sword of the Spirit,  
which is the Word of God and  
pray in the spirit on all  
occasions with all kinds of  
prayers and requests. With this  
in mind, be alert and always  
keep on praying for all the  
saints.**

**Ephesians 6:17-18**



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