

AUGUST

2009

IMPORTANT ITEMS:

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7/26 Acts 26 ■ Matthew 5 ♦ Is. 1-3

1	Subject	2	Subject	3	Subject
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July 27

Acts 26 ■ Matt 5 ♦ Isaiah 1-3

Isaiah 29:15 (NIV) Woe to those who go to great depths to hide their plans from the LORD, who do their work in darkness and think, "Who sees us? Who will know?"

Who you are is what you do when nobody is looking. But then again there is never a time when nobody is looking. What things do you need to ask God to help you get rid of in your life?

July 28

Acts 27:1-26 ■ Matt 6 ♦ Isaiah 4-6

Psalms 30:11-12 (NIV) You turned my wailing into dancing; you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, that my heart may sing to you and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give you thanks forever.

What you thought was bad turned out good. What you thought was sad, through strange and unusual circumstances, made you glad. Give thanks for the turn-arounds in your life. What has turned for the good in your life lately?

July 29

Acts 27:27-44 ■ Matt 7 ♦ Isaiah 7-9

1 Peter 3:9 (NIV) Don't pay back evil with evil. Don't pay back unkind words with unkind words. Instead, pay them back with kind words. That's what you have been chosen to do. You can receive a blessing by doing it.

You have been chosen to receive a blessing from God today. How do you get this blessing? Be a blessing to those who curse you. Don't believe it will work? Try it. Perhaps you will be surprised. Who has been handing out unkind words to you lately? How will you respond?

July 30

Acts 28:1-15 ■ Matt 13 ♦ Isaiah 10-12

Jeremiah 9:23-24 (NIV) This is what the LORD says: "Let not the wise man boast of his wisdom or the strong man boast of his strength or the rich man boast of his riches, but let him who boasts boast about this: that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD, who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness on earth, for in these I delight," declares the LORD.

You are not somebody because of what you have or what you do. You are somebody because you have a relationship with God. How would you describe your relationship with God?

July 31

Acts 28:16-32 ■ Matt 17 ♦ Isaiah 13-15

Proverbs 16:24 (NIV) Pleasant words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones.

Today you have a chance to bring healing and hope to people in your life - some of whom may be dying inside. Text, email, or write some pleasant words to at least one person today. Who will that be and what sweet words can you use?

8/1 Rom 1 ■ Matt 21 ♦ Isa 16-18



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8/2 Rom 2 ■ Matt 24 ♦ Isa 19-21

1	Subject	2	Subject	3	Subject
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August 3

Romans 3 ■ Matthew 25 ♦ Isaiah 22-24

Deuteronomy 23:24 (NIV) If you enter your neighbor's vineyard, you may eat all the grapes you want, but do not put any in your basket.

There is a balance between what is mine and what is ours. But this balance has nothing to do with ownership. God owns it all. God has entrusted certain things to me and to you. This is where the balance lies. How does knowing that God owns all you have make a difference in how you share it with others?

August 4

Romans 4 ■ Matthew 26 ♦ Isaiah 25-27

1 Peter 5:10 (NLT) In his kindness God called you to share in his eternal glory by means of Christ Jesus. So after you have suffered a little while, he will restore, support, and strengthen you, and he will place you on a firm foundation.

Perhaps you became a Christian recently but you find yourself suffering – maybe because you are a Christian. Congratulations. You are worthy of the battle. And guess what? You will win in the end. How goes the battle?

August 5

Romans 5 ■ Matthew 27 ♦ Isaiah 28-30

Ezekiel 11:12 (NIV) And you will know that I am the LORD, for you have not followed my decrees or kept my laws but have conformed to the standards of the nations around you.

Fitting in. Being part of the crowd. Going with the flow. Getting along to get along. Conforming to the standards of those that happen to be around you. Who are you hanging around with and what is the source of the standards you are conforming to?

August 6

Romans 6 ■ Matthew 28 ♦ Isaiah 31-33

Romans 6:22 (NIV) But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves to God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life.

You are a slave to someone or something. Freedom is the choice you have as to what or to whom that someone or something is. So what are you a slave to? To whom are you a slave?

August 7

Romans 7 ■ Mark 6 ♦ Isaiah 34-36

Psalms 25:17 (NIV) The troubles of my heart have multiplied; free me from my anguish.

One thing goes wrong – then another. Oh, to be free of these troubles! What troubles are taking a toll on you these days?

8/8 Rom 8:1-18 ■ Mark 8 ♦ Is 37-39



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8/9 Rom 8:19-39 ■ Luk 1 ♦ Is 40-42

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August 10

Romans 9 ■ Luke 2 ♦ Isaiah 43-45

Genesis 1:27 (NIV) So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

The image of God is seen in relationship - two completely different and often opposite people, a man and a woman, mysteriously complement each other- sometimes in ways that can only be appreciated when looking back. Why do you think God created two different human beings to reflect His image?

August 11

Romans 10 ■ Luke 4 ♦ Isaiah 46-48

2 Peter 3:9 (CEV) The Lord isn't slow about keeping his promises, as some people think he is. In fact, God is patient, because he wants everyone to turn from sin and no one to be lost.

There is only one reason why the Lord has not returned, thus causing the end of the world as we know it. He wants those who have a relationship with Him to share that relationship with those who do not have one so that they might be saved. Who do you know that does not have an everyday, talking and listening relationship with the Lord?

August 12

Romans 11:1-24 ■ Luke 7 ♦ Isaiah 49-51

Psalms 46:1-2 (NIV) God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea.

No matter what disasters have happened to you, no matter what fearful events lay before you, God is near. When, in the midst of trouble, have you felt the presence of God?

August 13

Romans 11:25-36 ■ Luke 15 ♦ Isaiah 52-54

2 Timothy 2:23 (NIV) Don't have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels.

Buttons. You have them and the people in your life know how to push them. You know how to do it too. Why do we push each other's buttons? Why do you do it?

August 14

Romans 12 ■ Luke 16 ♦ Isaiah 55-57

Psalms 25:16 (NIV) Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted.

To say the words "I am lonely" is not easy. Truth is, most people are. Maybe you are. There is one who is always with you. No matter what. When have you felt lonely?

8/15 Rom 13 ■ Luk 18 ♦ Isaiah 58-60



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8/16 Rom 14 ■ Luk 19 ♦ Isa 61-63

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August 17

Romans 15:1-13 ■ Luke 20 ♦ Isaiah 64-66

2 Chronicles 20:17 (NIV) You will not have to fight this battle. Take up your positions; stand firm and see the deliverance the LORD will give you, O Judah and Jerusalem. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged. Go out to face them tomorrow, and the LORD will be with you.

You have a battle on your hands. Though God promises to fight your battles, He still calls you out. What battles have you had to fight lately?

August 18

Romans 15:14-33 ■ Luke 24 ♦ Jeremiah 1-3

Jeremiah 29:12 (NIV) Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you.

Perhaps no one listens to you — really listens. Perhaps no one understands you — truly understands. God will listen; God understands. What do you need to tell God today?

August 19

Romans 16 ■ John 1 ♦ Jeremiah 4-5

James 1:12 (NIV) Blessed is the man who keeps on going when times are hard. After he has come through them, he will receive a crown. The crown is life itself. God has promised it to those who love him.

Life can be good, but often it is just plain hard. Disappointments, failure, discouragement, betrayal, frustration — perhaps you have had your share of these things lately. Keep going. Not in your own strength, but in the strength of the Lord. Your dedication will be rewarded. What hard times have you been dealing with lately?

August 20

1 Corinthians 1 ■ John 3 ♦ Jeremiah 6-8

Job 30:26 (NIV) Yet when I hoped for good, evil came; when I looked for light, then came darkness.

You have been trying to be positive. You have been trying to hold onto faith and believe the best is possible. But bad news keep coming — negative things keep happening. Never give in to the darkness. Never! Who can you talk to if things are looking particularly dark?

August 21

1 Corinthians 2 ■ John 4 ♦ Jeremiah 9-12

1 Samuel 3:9 (NIV) So Eli told Samuel, "Go and lie down, and if he (God) calls you, say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

Have you ever had the sense that God was calling you? No? You will. Yes? What happened?

8/22 1 Cor 3 ■ John 6 ♦ Jer 13-16



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8/23 1Cor10:1-13 ■ John 20 ◆ Jer 40-42

1 Subject 2 Subject 3 Subject

August 24

1 Cor. 5 ■ John 10 ◆ Jeremiah 21-23

Isaiah 65:2 (NIV) All day long I have held out my hands to an obstinate people, who walk in ways not good, pursuing their own imaginations.

You know the good way you should go but often you choose to go another way. Today God's hand is held out to you. Take it. Follow where He leads. What is so appealing about the way that is not good?

August 25

1 Corinthians 6 ■ John 13 ◆ Jeremiah 24-26

Proverbs 31:8 (NIV) Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute.

There is someone you know; someone in your class, or on your team, or in your neighborhood; someone that isn't quite right, or is a bit different; someone picked on; someone not strong enough to stand up for themselves. What can you do today to speak up for this person?

August 26

1 Cor 7:1-24 ■ John 14 ◆ Jeremiah 27-29

Mark 10:9 (NIV) Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate.

Divorce. It hurts everyone. The husband and wife can no longer make their relationship work. The kids are now not sure what love and commitment mean. The extended family and friends must now figure out how they are going to relate to each party in this broken relationship. Man separates; God joins together. With God there is always hope. How does God help in these broken situations?

August 27

1 Cor 7:25-40 ■ John 15 ◆ Jeremiah 30-32

Psalms 18:2 (NIV) The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge. He is my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

Today, be bold. Be strong. Be all that God has called you to be. What would you do if you knew God was right beside you?

August 28

1 Corinthians 8 ■ John 16 ◆ Jeremiah 33-36

Psalms 88:13 (NIV) But I cry to you for help, O LORD; in the morning my prayer comes before you.

You need help today? You want help today? Ask for it. Do it now. In what area of your life do you need help?

8/29 1 Cor 9 ■ John 17 ◆ Jer 37-39



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8/30 1 Cor10:1-13 ■ John 20 ◆ Jer40-42

1 Subject 2 Subject 3 Subject

August 31

1 Cor. 10:14-33 ■ John 21 ◆ Jeremiah 43-46

Jeremiah 9:8b (NIV) With his mouth each speaks cordially to his neighbor, but in his heart he sets a trap for him.

Pretending to be nice to someone's face while dragging their name through the mud behind their back – you've done it. You will do it again. Why do we talk negatively about people when they are not present?

September 1

1 Cor. 11:1-16 ■ Acts 1 ◆ Jeremiah 47-49

Deuteronomy 11:19 (NirV) Teach them to your children. Talk about them when you are at home. Talk about them when you walk along the road. Speak about them when you go to bed. And speak about them when you get up.

Talk about the verses you read every day with your family. Create a habit of going for a walk with your parents. Pray with them; pray for them. Bless them at the breakfast table. Does this describe your family?

September 2

1 Cor. 11:17-34 ■ Acts 2 ◆ Jeremiah 50-52

John 8:7 (NIV) When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "If any one of you is without sin, let him be the first to throw a stone at her."

It is so easy to see the sin in others. Look at yourself before you condemn someone else. "If you live in a glass house, don't throw stones." Who have you condemned lately?

September 3

1 Corinthians 12 ■ Acts 7 ◆ Lamentations 1-5

Psalms 32:3 (NIV) When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

You've done something you shouldn't have. You said harsh words that hurt someone. You've let a friend down. You should make it right. But instead you have been silent. What do you need to confess today, and to whom?

September 4

1 Corinthians 13 ■ Acts 8 ◆ Ezekiel 1-3

Romans 12:11 (NIV) Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.

Lacking ambition lately? No enthusiasm? Sleepy in the middle of the day? Try serving the Lord. Find something that needs doing in God's Kingdom and do it! See what happens. What could you do?

9/5 1Cor 14:1-20 ■ Acts 9 ◆ Ezekiel 4-7

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9/6 1Cor14:21-40 ■ Acts10 ◆ Ez8-11

1 Subject 2 Subject 3 Subject

September 7

1 Cor. 15:1-32 ■ Acts 13 ◆ Ezekiel 12-14

Ecclesiastes 5:12 (NIV) The sleep of a laborer is sweet, whether he eats little or much, but the abundance of a rich man permits him no sleep.

Maybe you don't have everything you want in life yet. Thank God. Working towards something is often better than worrying about losing it once you have it. What are you striving after?

September 8

1 Cor. 15:33-58 ■ Acts 15 ◆ Ezekiel 15-18

Deuteronomy 29:14-15 (NIV) I am making this covenant, with its oath, not only with you who are standing here with us today in the presence of the LORD our God but also with those who are not here today.

Thousands of years ago God was making a plan to be in relationship with a people – hearing their cries for help, disciplining them when they went astray, and working out His ultimate plan of salvation through His Son Jesus. But even as He was doing all of this, you were in His thoughts. Is it easy or hard for you to accept this?

September 9

1 Corinthians 16 ■ Acts 16 ◆ Ezekiel 19-21

Mark 14:38 (NIV) Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak.

You have plans and goals for this day, for this month, for your life. You really want to be the best servant of God that you can be and you even know a little bit of what that might look like. But you fail at carrying it out. You want to, but you just don't do it. You need help. What plans and goals do you need to bring to Jesus today?

September 10

2 Corinthians 1 ■ Acts 17 ◆ Ezekiel 22-24

Genesis 3:7 (NIV) Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

Naked, exposed, fearful, suspicious. Sin makes us experience all these feelings. And these feelings make us want to hide – from the people in our lives and even from God himself. Who are you hiding from these days? What do you not want to face?

September 11

2 Corinthians 2-3 ■ Acts 18 ◆ Ezekiel 25-27

Hebrews 6:19 (NIV) We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure.

Do you know what this hope is? It is the promise of God to Abraham that God would bless his descendants. We are his descendants because of our relationship to Jesus. At this time in your life do you feel anchored into something secure?

9/12 2 Cor 4 ■ Acts 21 ◆ Ez 28-30



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9/13 2 Cor 5 ■ Acts 22 ◆ Ez 31-33

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September 14

2 Corinthians 6 ■ Acts 23 ◆ Ezekiel 34-36

Haggai 1:6 (NIV) You have planted much, but have harvested little. You eat, but never have enough. You drink, but never have your fill. You put on clothes, but are not warm. You earn wages, only to put them in a purse with holes in it.

You want the latest things. You pursue them. You acquire them. But are you satisfied? There is always more to want, more to pursue, more to acquire. Why do we keep going after that which we already know will ultimately not satisfy?

September 15

2 Corinthians 7 ■ Acts 24 ◆ Ezekiel 37-39

Hebrews 12:14-15 (NIV) Make every effort to live in peace with all men and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. See to it that no one misses the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many.

Someone hurts you. Bitterness sets in as a small root. But the root must be fed. And it will be fed. Soon you are looking for negative things in this person or about this person to feed the bitter root. Guess what? You are missing the grace of God and hurting a lot of people. Against whom have you developed a bitter root?

September 16

2 Corinthians 8 ■ Acts 25 ◆ Ezekiel 40-42

Psalms 28:1 (NIV) To you I call, O LORD my Rock; do not turn a deaf ear to me. For if you remain silent, I will be like those who have gone down to the pit.

You are in trouble. You feel all alone. Your heart is broken. And the Lord, it seems, does not see it. He does not hear your pleas for help. Down you go — to the pit — the pit of despair. But God is there. In what areas of your life has God seemed silent?

September 17

2 Corinthians 9 ■ Acts 26 ◆ Ezekiel 43-45

2 Corinthians 4:17 (NIV) For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.

Sometimes being a Christian means you will encounter more trouble, not less. But suffering trouble for the sake of your relationship with God pays off dividends beyond your wildest dreams. What trouble have you experienced because of your faith?

September 18

2 Corinthians 10 ■ Acts 27 ◆ Ezekiel 46-48

Genesis 4:9 (NirV) Then the Lord said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?" "I don't know," he replied. "Am I supposed to look after my brother?"

Yes you are! Who are you supposed to be looking after?

9/19 2Cor 11:1-15 ■ Act 28 ◆ Dan 1-3



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9/20 2Cor11:16-33 ■ Rom 1 ◆ Dan 4-6

1 Subject 2 Subject 3 Subject

September 21

2 Corinthians 12 ■ Romans 2 ◆ Daniel 7-9

Ephesians 3:16-17a (NIV) I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith.

How do you feel deep inside? Confident? Bold? Strong? Fearful? Insignificant? Weak? God's Spirit is His gift to you today. A spirit of power and strength. What do you think it means to let Christ dwell in your heart through faith?

September 22

2 Corinthians 13 ■ Romans 3 ◆ Daniel 10-12

1 Kings 2:1-3 (NIV) When the time drew near for David to die, he gave a charge to Solomon his son. "I am about to go the way of all the earth," he said. "So be strong, show yourself a man, and observe what the LORD your God requires: Walk in his ways, and keep his decrees and commands, his laws and requirements, as written in the Law of Moses, so that you may prosper in all you do and wherever you go."

Perhaps you had a parent that said words like this to you. If so, praise God and carry on. If not, then these are God's special words for you today. Did your parents ever challenge you with words like this?

September 23

Galatians 1 ■ Romans 4 ◆ Hosea 1-4

Luke 12:25 (NIV) Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?

This day has hardly begun and perhaps you are already piling on the worry. People worry. School worry. Responsibility worry. Unidentified worry. Let it go or do something about it. Give it to God or ask God to help you with it. But don't just sit and worry. It's a waste of time. What things are on your worry list today?

September 24

Galatians 2 ■ Romans 5 ◆ Hosea 5-7

Proverbs 27:6 (NIV) Wounds from a friend can be trusted, but an enemy multiplies kisses.

Perhaps a friend has said some hard words to your face – words that spoke the truth but words that hurt. Be thankful. Your enemies speak kind words to your face but lies behind your back. How are you at receiving "words" from a friend?

September 25

Galatians 3 ■ Romans 6 ◆ Hosea 8-10

1 Corinthians 10:33 (NLT) I, too, try to please everyone in everything I do. I don't just do what is best for me; I do what is best for others so that many may be saved.

We live in a "what is in it for me" culture. But that philosophy only ends in brokenness and pain. What can you do for others today? How can what you do result/assist in their salvation?

9/26 Gal 4 ■ Rom 7 ◆ Hosea 11-14



OCTOBER

2009

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WED

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Columbus Day
Thanksgiving (Canada)

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OCTOBER 2009

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9/27 Gal 5 ■ Romans 8 ♦ Joel 1-3

1 Subject 2 Subject 3 Subject

September 28

Galatians 6 ■ Romans 12 ♦ Amos 1-3

Deuteronomy 11:18 (NIV) Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads.

The word of God cannot get to your mind and from your mind to your heart unless it is first in your hands and in front of your eyes. How is this planner helping you get God's Word into your everyday life?

September 29

Ephesians 1 ■ Romans 13 ♦ Amos 4-6

Mark 9:43 (NIV) If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life maimed than with two hands to go into hell, where the fire never goes out.

Perhaps you always end up doing things you shouldn't with a particular person or group. Maybe you need to avoid them today. Perhaps when you get on the internet in the privacy of your own room you end up on sites that embarrass you the next day. Maybe you should put your computer in the family room. What things do you have to do or avoid to keep you from getting burned?

September 30

Ephesians 2 ■ Romans 14 ♦ Amos 7-9

Proverbs 1:7 (NirV) If you really want to gain knowledge, you must begin by having respect for the Lord. But foolish people hate wisdom and training.

Life is not so much what you know but with whom you have a relationship. You can be the smartest person on the earth but if you don't know God, the creator of the earth, what do you really know? How is God the beginning of wisdom?

October 1

Ephesians 3 ■ Romans 15 ♦ Obadiah-Jonah

Colossians 3:2 (NIV) Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.

Bogged down in a sea of assignments and to-do lists? Stressed out from all kinds of activities and opportunities and responsibilities that have taken hold of your days? Stand above it all today. See things from a heavenly viewpoint.

October 2

Ephesians 4 ■ 1 Corinthians 1 ♦ Micah 1-4

1 Kings 18:37 (NIV) "Answer me, O LORD, answer me, so these people will know that you, O LORD, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back again."

Have you ever prayed this prayer – that God would show himself to your friends, to skeptical people you know, or maybe to yourself?

10/3 Eph 5 ■ 1 Cor 2 ♦ Micah 5-7



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10/4 Eph 6 ■ 1 Cor 3 ◆ Nahum 1-3

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October 5

Philippians 1 ■ 1 Cor. 6 ◆ Habakkuk 1-3

Philippians 1:20 (NLT) For I fully expect and hope that I will never be ashamed, but that I will continue to be bold for Christ, as I have been in the past. And I trust that my life will bring honor to Christ, whether I live or die.

To be bold for something that is worth dying for — that is true living. How can you be bold for Christ today? Or, what would it take for you to be bold for Christ today?

October 6

Philippians 2 ■ 1 Cor. 7 ◆ Zephaniah 1-3

2 Chronicles 21:20 (NIV) Jehoram was thirty-two years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem eight years. He passed away, to no one's regret, and was buried in the City of David, but not in the tombs of the kings.

We are here to praise God and help others. What can you do today so that you do not "pass away to no one's regret"?

October 7

Philippians 3 ■ 1 Cor. 8 ◆ Haggai 1-3

1 John 3:16 (NIV) This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.

Sacrifice. That is what love is. Not loving something because that something does something for you. Sacrifice. Have you accepted Jesus' sacrificial love? Are you giving it away?

October 8

Philippians 4 ■ 1 Cor. 9 ◆ Zechariah 1-2

Leviticus 26:10 (NIV) You will still be eating last year's harvest when you will have to move it out to make room for the new.

God desires more for you than you would ever want for yourself. When has this been true in your life? When did God deliver more than you asked for?

October 9

Colossians 1 ■ 1 Cor. 13 ◆ Zechariah 3-6

Revelation 3:17 (NLT) You say, "I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing." But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked.

Have you ever noticed that some people can have everything and yet they are still not happy? You are rich when you can help people who are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked.

10/10 Col 2 ■ 1 Cor 15 ◆ Zech 7-10



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10/11 Col 3 ■ 2 Cor 1 ♦ Zech 11-14

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October 12

Colossians 4 ■ 2 Corinthians 4 ♦ Malachi 1-4

Exodus 23:16 (NIV) Celebrate the Feast of Harvest with the firstfruits of the crops you sow in your field. Celebrate the Feast of Ingathering at the end of the year, when you gather in your crops from the field.

Today is Thanksgiving Day in Canada. It began as a harvest celebration thanking God for His provision of food. How has God blessed you with all that you need?

October 13

1 Thess. 1 ■ 2 Corinthians 5 ♦ Matthew 1-4

Psalms 24:1 (NIV) The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it

Don't spend your whole childhood dreaming of being wealthy. You never will be. At best, you will just be responsible for more of God's stuff than most. Why do you sometimes daydream about being wealthy?

October 14

1 Thess. 2 ■ 2 Corinthians 8 ♦ Matthew 5-7

Ephesians 4:32 (NIV) Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

What if you don't feel kind and compassionate today? It is hard to forgive someone who just lied about you, mistreated you, or took something from you. It is hard, but try this: think about how poorly you have treated God lately and then realize He has forgiven you. How does knowing God has forgiven you help you to forgive others?

October 15

1 Thess. 3 ■ 2 Corinthians 9 ♦ Matthew 8-11

Proverbs 18:13 (NIV) He who answers before listening—that is his folly and his shame.

People ask you a question but they are often not ready to hear your answer. So when they ask their question, instead of answering right away, ask them what they think. Try it. Can you think of a time you should have done this?

October 16

1 Thess. 4 ■ 2 Corinthians 12 ♦ Matthew 12-15

Matthew 13:45-46 (NIV) Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.

That is what the Kingdom will cost you—everything you have. But it is worth it. How sold out are you for the Kingdom of God?

10/17 1Thess 5 ■ Gal 5 ♦ Matt 16-19

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10/18 2Thess 1 ■ Gal 6 ♦ Matt 20-22

1	2	3
Subject	Subject	Subject

October 19

2 Thess. 2 ■ Ephesians 1 ♦ Matthew 23-25

Jeremiah 29:13 (NIV) You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.

Perhaps you have tried to seek God but still you are not sure you have found Him. Keep seeking. Verse 14 says: "I will be found by you." In the future, near or distant, you will find God. What has your search for God been like?

October 20

2 Thess. 3 ■ Ephesians 2 ♦ Matthew 26-28

2 Peter 3:8 (NIV) But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day.

You are so busy. Important things to do. Today. Tomorrow. This week. This month. This year. Your life can be so consuming - as if the world and its history revolve around you. But your time on earth is but a brief moment in a bigger picture. Why is it important to see your life in the proper perspective?

October 21

1 Timothy 1 ■ Ephesians 3 ♦ Mark 1-3

Proverbs 30:15 (NIV) The leech has two daughters. "Give! Give!" they cry.

We live in a "someone should do it for me" culture where we have rights to health, wealth, and happiness. Instead of waiting for or demanding a handout, why not put some of your own effort into the task at hand. Where in your life do you need to be more industrious?

October 22

1 Timothy 2 ■ Ephesians 4 ♦ Mark 4-6

James 1:19 (NLT) Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry.

Are you angry at someone right now? Maybe something happened a week ago and you are quietly stewing, thinking about how wrong that other person is and what you might like to say if given the chance. Maybe you need to hear the other side before you close the book on this case. Why is it so hard to listen first before speaking your mind?

October 23

1 Timothy 3 ■ Ephesians 5 ♦ Mark 7-10

Lamentations 3:44 (NIV) You have covered yourself with a cloud so that no prayer can get through.

You pray to God but lately it seems like you are just talking to yourself. "Are you there, God?" you ask. He is. Keep praying. He hears you. Just wait. Why is it hard to wait?

10/24 1Tim 4 ■ Eph 6 ♦ Mark 11-13

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10/25 1Tim 5 ■ Phil 1 ♦ Mark 14-16

1 Subject 2 Subject 3 Subject

October 26

1 Tim. 6 ■ Philippians 2 ♦ Luke 1-3

Matthew 24:36 (NIV) No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.

When will this world end? Some think they know. The Bible says no one knows but God. But you do know that the world will end for you when you die. So time is short no matter what. How then should you live?

October 27

2 Tim. 1 ■ Philippians 3 ♦ Luke 4-6

1 Kings 4:20 (NIV) The people of Judah and Israel were as numerous as the sand on the seashore; they ate, they drank and they were happy.

Happiness. Sounds like a fantasy doesn't it? But that is God's plan for us – to be a people, to eat, drink, and be happy. When was the last time you were really happy?

October 28

2 Tim. 2 ■ Philippians 4 ♦ Luke 7-9

Deuteronomy 8:17-18 (NIV) You may say to yourself, "My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me." But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your forefathers, as it is today.

You have done well at school, at home, at work. You have worked hard. And quite frankly, you are talented. Thank God for His power and strength at work in your hands. What God given abilities do you need to be thankful for today?

October 29

2 Tim. 3 ■ Colossians 1 ♦ Luke 10-13

Revelation 22:20 (NLT) He who is the faithful witness to all these things says, "Yes, I am coming soon!" Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!

These are the last words of Jesus recorded in the Bible. He is coming. When? We don't know. But whether He comes in your life time or not, He is coming. How does knowing this make a difference in how you live your life?

October 30

2 Tim. 4 ■ Colossians 2 ♦ Luke 14-17

Proverbs 31:29 (NIV) Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all.

If you have a mother, say these words to her. How do you think she will react?

10/31 Titus 1 ■ Col 4 ♦ Luke 18-21



NOVEMBER

2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED
1 Daylight Savings Time Ends	2	3	4
8 International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church	9	10	11 Veteran's Day Remembrance Day (Canada)
15	16	17	18
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29	30 1st Sunday of Advent		

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11/1 Titus 2 ■ Col 4 ◆ Luke 22-24

1 Subject 2 Subject 3 Subject

November 2

Titus 3 ■ 1 Thessalonians 1 ◆ John 1-3

1 Peter 4:19 (NLT) So if you are suffering in a manner that pleases God, keep on doing what is right, and trust your lives to the God who created you, for he will never fail you.

Perhaps today you will face a choice: do the easy thing or do the right thing. Choosing the right thing may bring some suffering into your life in the short term. But doing the right thing and trusting the God who will never fail you will bring joy in the long term. Make sense?

November 3

Philemon ■ 1 Thessalonians 2 ◆ John 4-6

Colossians 1:16 (NIV) For by him (Christ) all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him.

Elected rulers do not rule by the people's choice alone but by the will of the Lord. What public officials impress you as leaders of people and followers of the Lord?

November 4

Hebrews 1 ■ 1 Thessalonians 3 ◆ John 7-10

Isaiah 46:4 (NIV) Even to your old age and gray hairs I am he, I am he who will sustain you. I have made you and I will carry you; I will sustain you and I will rescue you.

When you are weary and feel like giving up, when you can't muster the energy to go forward – He, the one who made you, will carry you. What things are you going through right now that are bringing you down?

November 5

Hebrews 2 ■ 1 Thessalonians 4 ◆ John 11-13

Isaiah 6:8 (NIV) Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"

So you have not heard the voice of God calling you to do something. Perhaps He is waiting for you to volunteer before He tells you what He wants you to do. What is keeping you from praying this prayer: "Hear I am, send me!"?

November 6

Hebrews 3 ■ 1 Thessalonians 5 ◆ John 14-17

Psalms 31:5 (NIV) Into your hands I commit my spirit; redeem me, O LORD, the God of truth.

Even Jesus committed His spirit to His father while suffering for your sins on the cross. So why are you trying to go it all alone? Have you committed your life to the Lord? Why or why not?

11/7 Heb 4 ■ 2 Thes 1 ◆ John 18-21



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11/8 Hebrews 5 ■ 2 Thes 2 ◆ Acts 1-2

1 Subject

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November 9

Hebrews 6 ■ 2 Thessalonians 3 ◆ Acts 3-5

Psalm 18:16 (NIV) He reached down from on high and took hold of me; he drew me out of deep waters.

You were alone and you didn't know what to do or where to turn. All was lost. You just wanted to give up. But then something happened. It was a miracle. A "hand" of some sort lifted you up and changed everything. When has this happened to you?

November 10

Hebrews 7 ■ 1 Timothy 1 ◆ Acts 6-9

1 Chronicles 16:43 (NIV) Then all the people left, each for his own home, and David returned home to bless his family.

Sounds good doesn't it? Sounds right. Returning home and blessing your family. How might you do that?

November 11

Hebrews 8 ■ 1 Timothy 2 ◆ Acts 10-12

John 15:13 (NIV) Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.

On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918 World War I officially ended. Many countries around the world remember on this day the lives laid down on behalf of freedom. Jesus laid down His life for our ultimate freedom – from death. For what would you be willing to lay down your life?

November 12

Hebrews 9 ■ 1 Timothy 3 ◆ Acts 13-14

Job 34:21 (NIV) His eyes are on the ways of men; he sees their every step.

He sees you when you are weary. He sees you when you are down. He sees you when you talk behind someone's back. He sees you when you listen to a friend in need. He sees every step. The good AND the bad. Oh, and He also walks with you. What do you think of when you read a verse like this?

November 13

Hebrews 10:1-23 ■ 1 Timothy 4 ◆ Acts 15-16

1 Peter 4:9 (NIV) Welcome others into your homes without complaining.

There is nothing that says I care about you, I appreciate you, I want to be friends with you, I want you in my life, more than the simple act of inviting someone into your home. Do it. No excuse. Who do you think would appreciate an invite this week?

11/14 Heb 10:24-39 ■ 1Tim 5 ◆ Act17-18

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11/15 Heb 11:1-19 ■ 1Tim 6 ♦ Acts 19-21

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November 16

Hebrews 11 ■ 2 Timothy 1 ♦ Acts 22-24

Deuteronomy 30:11-14 (NIV) Now what I am commanding you today is not too difficult for you or beyond your reach. It is not up in heaven, so that you have to ask, "Who will ascend into heaven to get it and proclaim it to us so we may obey it?" ... No, the word is very near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart so you may obey it.

God has been asking something of you lately. You know what it is. Just "do it". What do you think God is specifically asking of you at this time?

November 17

Hebrews 12 ■ 2 Timothy 2 ♦ Acts 25-26

Psalms 78:5b-6 (NLT) He commanded our ancestors to teach them (God's laws) to their children, so the next generation might know them—even the children not yet born—and they in turn will teach their own children.

If one day you have two children and they get married and have two children and this pattern continues, in 400 years, you would have one million members in your family tree. What legacy would you like to leave them?

November 18

Hebrews 13 ■ 2 Timothy 3 ♦ Acts 27-28

2 Timothy 2:14 (NirV) While God is watching, warn them not to argue about words. That doesn't have any value. It only destroys those who listen.

Maybe you like to argue for the sake of arguing - probably because you are good at it; it makes you feel good. Maybe you don't like to argue about anything - probably because you are not good at it; it makes you feel bad. Should we ever argue? If so, when?

November 19

James 1 ■ 2 Timothy 4 ♦ Romans 1-4

Proverbs 15:18 (NirV) A man who burns with anger stirs up fights. But a person who is patient calms things down.

Today as you enter the world of relationships, you carry a container of water and a container of gas. When people start gossiping and complaining about the teacher, the boss, the pastor, the wife, the husband, the friend - which container will you use?

November 20

James 2 ■ Titus 1 ♦ Romans 5-8

Luke 10:21 (NIV) At that time Jesus, full of joy through the Holy Spirit, said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children."

Walking with God is not about how smart you are. He speaks and reveals His will and gives insight and revelations to whom He pleases. Has He revealed hidden things to you?

11/21 Jas 3 ■ Titus 2 ♦ Romans 9-11

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11/22 Jas 4 ■ Titus 3 ◆ Rom 12-16

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November 23

James 5 ■ Philemon ◆ 1 Corinthians 1-4

1 Peter 4:16 (NIV) However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name.

Being a Christian is not as easy as it used to be in our culture. But sometimes being the thing that is not easy is the more honorable thing. Take delight in the name "Christian" and praise God you bear His name.

November 24

1 Peter 1 ■ Hebrews 1 ◆ 1 Corinthians 5-8

Jeremiah 10:23 (NIV) I know, O LORD, that a man's life is not his own; it is not for man to direct his steps.

My money. My stuff. My family. My friends. My time. My life. My way. Why is it so easy to fall into this great illusion?

November 25

1 Peter 2 ■ Hebrews 2 ◆ 1 Corinthians 9-12

Joshua 1:8 (NIV) Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.

Day and night? How? Take your planner with you everywhere you go. Read the verse of the day and ask yourself what God might be trying to tell you in each situation. How prosperous and successful do you consider yourself?

November 26

1 Peter 3 ■ Hebrews 4 ◆ 2 Corinthians 13-16

Psalms 100:4 (NIV) Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

In 1789, George Washington was to "recommend to the People of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many signal favors of Almighty God." What "signal favors" of Almighty God can you acknowledge today?

November 27

1 Peter 4 ■ Hebrews 8 ◆ 2 Corinthians 1-3

Philippians 2:3 (NLT) Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves.

Do I fit in with this group or with that? Do I fit in at all with any group? Do people like me? What do they think of me? Me, me, me. Who can you be a friend to today? What do you have to offer?

11/28 1 Peter 5 ■ Heb 9 ◆ 2 Cor 4-6



GOD CONNECTED TO ME THIS WEEK THROUGH:

Scripture verses: _____ Situation/event: _____

Words spoken by: _____ Prayer answered: _____

I shared this connection with _____ this week.

4	5	6	7
Subject	Subject	Subject	Subject

DECEMBER

2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED
		1	2
6 Second Sunday of Advent	7	8	9
13 Third Sunday of Advent	14	15	16
20 Fourth Sunday of Advent	21 First Day of Winter	22	23
27	28	29	30

DECEMBER 2009

DECEMBER	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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11/29 2 Peter 1 ■ Heb 11 ◆ 2 Cor 7-9

1	Subject	2	Subject	3	Subject
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November 30

2 Peter 2 ■ Hebrews 12 ◆ 2 Corinthians 10-13

Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) For to us a child is born, to us a son is given ... and he will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

The birth of Christ brings the master of the Universe into your life. He was born so that you can have everlasting life in heaven. Have you ever wondered whether or not Christmas was intended for you?

December 1

2 Peter 3 ■ Hebrews 13 ◆ Galatians 1-3

Isaiah 11:1 (NIV) A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.

Jesse was the father of King David to whom God promised an heir that would sit on the throne forever. But the people waited hundreds of years during which time this promise seemed impossible ... until Jesus was born. How has Jesus brought life out of something that was all but dead in your life?

December 2

1 John 1 ■ James 1 ◆ Galatians 4-6

Numbers 24:17 (CEV) What I saw in my vision hasn't happened yet. But someday, a king of Israel will appear like a star.

Maybe your vision for a bright future seems blurred these days. This Christmas season, look to the Star of Bethlehem — the secret to clear vision. What areas of your life seem unclear?

December 3

1 John 2 ■ James 2 ◆ Ephesians 1-3

1 John 4:9 (NirV) How did God show his love for us? He sent his one and only Son into the world. He sent him so we could receive life through him.

Why did He do it? Why did God send His one and only Son to become one of us? That is the Christmas question. Why do you think He did it?

December 4

1 John 3 ■ James 3 ◆ Ephesians 4-6

Matthew 1:23 (NIV) The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel—which means, "God with us."

This is the Christmas story — God with us. God with us when we are alone, when we are afraid, when we are discouraged, when we are feeling helpless, when we need a friend, when we need saving. How has God been with you this Christmas season?

12/5 1 John 4 ■ James 4 ◆ Phil 1-4

DECEMBER 2009

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12/6 1 John 5 ■ James 5 ◆ Col 1-4

1 Subject	2 Subject	3 Subject
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December 7

2 John ■ 1 Peter 1 ◆ 1 Thessalonians 1-5

Luke 1:32-33 (KJV) "And the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end."

You may be great in your own kingdom. But how long will it last? Give God His due this season and give your energies to the eternal kingdom. What are some of your "kingdom" goals?

December 8

3 John ■ 1 Peter 2 ◆ 2 Thessalonians 1-3

Luke 1:34 (NIV) "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

Have you ever been told that you will one day do great things for the Lord? No? Well, you will. What excuse for not believing what God is calling you to do would you be most likely to use? Fill in the blank: "How will this be, since I am _____?"

December 9

Jude ■ 1 Peter 3 ◆ 1 Timothy 1-3

Luke 1:37 (NIV) For nothing is impossible with God.

Not your problems. Not your pain. Not your past, present or future. "Nothing will be impossible with God." What sorts of "impossible" things has God made possible in your life?

December 10

Revelation 1 ■ 1 Peter 4 ◆ 1 Timothy 4-6

Luke 1:38 (NIV) "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her.

Perhaps God is calling you to something great this Christmas. What is keeping you from responding, "I am the Lord's servant!"?

December 11

Revelation 2 ■ 1 Peter 5 ◆ 2 Timothy 1-4

Luke 1:45 (NIV) Blessed is she (Mary) who has believed that what the Lord has said to her will be accomplished!

Believing brings the blessing of God. For Mary it was a child. God's Word is evidence that God is working in you. How has the Lord blessed your faith?

12/12 Rev 3 ■ 2 Peter 1 ◆ Titus 1-3

DECEMBER 2009

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12/13 Rev 4 ■ 2 Peter 2 ◆ Philemon

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Subject	Subject	Subject

December 14

Revelation 5 ■ 2 Peter 3 ◆ Hebrews 1-4

Luke 2:11 (NLT) The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David!

Take time right now to adore God for sending Jesus to you. May you be filled with joy as you celebrate the birth of Jesus. What does Christmas mean to you?

December 15

Revelation 6 ■ 1 John 1 ◆ Hebrews 5-7

Luke 2:13-14 (KJV) And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

The night began quietly; then an explosion of joy broke the stillness. Maybe this year the opposite will happen to you — you'll be lost in a swirl of activity; then a whisper will speak to your heart. How is your joy this Christmas season?

December 16

Revelation 7 ■ 1 John 2 ◆ Hebrews 8-10

Luke 2:15 (NIV) When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

The shepherds eagerly went to Bethlehem to meet and know Jesus Christ. You can get to know Him too, through Bible reading and prayer. What would it have been like to be one of the shepherds that night?

December 17

Revelation 8 ■ 1 John 3 ◆ Hebrews 11-13

Luke 2:17-18 (NIV) When [the shepherds] had seen [Jesus], they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them.

When something good happens to you, you tell others. You don't need to memorize an evangelistic presentation. You don't need all the answers. You just share what God has done. Whom are you sharing with?

December 18

Revelation 9 ■ 1 John 4 ◆ James 1-2

Luke 2:18-19 (NIV) And all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart.

Sometimes we need to share God's good news out loud. Sometimes we need to ponder it quietly in our hearts. Are you in a "sharing" or a "pondering" phase right now?

12/19 Rev 10 ■ 1 John 5 ◆ James 3-5

DECEMBER 2009

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12/20 Rev 11 ■ 2 John ◆ 1 Peter 1-2

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December 21

Revelation 12 ■ 3 John ◆ 2 Peter 3-5

Luke 2:7 (KJV) And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

“No room.” Ever feel that way at school? In your family? In God’s house? “No room for you.” Jesus knows just how you feel. When have you felt left out?

December 22

Revelation 13 ■ Jude ◆ 2 Peter 1-3

Luke 2:9 (KJV) And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

Fear of death? Of people? Of pain? Of things seen and unseen? Of things near and far? Of being left out or missing out? Of God? Don't let your fears keep you from hearing the good news. What fears are holding you back?

December 23

Revelation 14 ■ Revelation 1 ◆ 1 John 1-2

1 Timothy 3:16 (NIV) Beyond all question, the mystery of godliness is great: He appeared in a body, was vindicated by the Spirit, was seen by angels, was preached among the nations, was believed on in the world, was taken up in glory.

Since the first Christmas, more people have put their trust in Jesus than in any other person on the earth. How about you?

December 24

Revelation 15 ■ Revelation 2 ◆ 1 John 3-5

1 John 4:9 (NIV) This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him.

This little verse says more about what Christmas is truly all about than all the gift buying, decoration displaying, party going, carol singing, and food eating we typically fill the holidays with. Have you accepted the gift of God’s Son into your life?

December 25

Revelation 16 ■ Revelation 3 ◆ 2 John-Jude

John 1:14 (NIV) The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

The Word is Jesus. He is God’s Word of Love, like no other. Living our pain. Living our life. Showing us the way. How has Jesus lived with you?

12/26 Rev 17 ■ Rev 4 ◆ Rev 1-2

DECEMBER 2009

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12/27 Rev 18 ■ Rev 5 ♦ Rev 4-8

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December 28

Rev. 19 ■ Revelation 19 ♦ Revelation 9-12

Matthew 2:1-2 (NIV) After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him."

So many are looking for something - something to worship, something that is worth worshipping, something that is worth serving, something that is worth following. What are you looking for? Are you following the star?

December 29

Rev. 20 ■ Revelation 20 ♦ Revelation 13-15

Matthew 2:9,10 (NIV) The star they (the wisemen) had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed.

How does one find one's way in this world? Perhaps you need a sign. "Lord give me a sign that I may follow You." Who or what has been the "star" in your life pointing you to a relationship with Jesus?

December 30

Rev. 21 ■ Revelation 21 ♦ Revelation 16-18

Matthew 2:11 (NLT) They entered the house and saw the child with his mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasure chests and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Gold for a king, Myrrh, which was used by a priest — one who interceded on our behalf before the throne of God. Frankincense, a spice used on the dead body of a loved one. All three gifts pointed to who Jesus is and what He came to do. How do these gifts relate to our gift giving at Christmas?

December 31

Rev. 22 ■ Revelation 22 ♦ Revelation 19-22

Hebrews 12:1 (NLT) Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us.

Tonight we leave the year 2009 and enter 2010. Why not leave behind the things that weighed you down or tripped you up this past year? What would some of those things be?

January 1

Matthew 1 ■ Genesis 1 ♦ Genesis 1-2

Revelation 21:1-3 (NIV) Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away.... And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them."

The first day of a new year of a new decade. Congratulations! One day, perhaps soon, it will be a new world that you wake up to. What do you think the new earth will be like?

1/2 Matt 2 ■ Gen 3 ♦ Gen 3-5

JANUARY 2010

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JANUARY 2010

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1/3 Matt. 3 ■ Gen. 4 ♦ Gen. 6-9

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January 4

Matthew 4 ■ Genesis 6 ♦ Genesis 10-11

Luke 16:12 (NIV) And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own?

Being responsible for things is incredibly fulfilling. People are counting on you and you deliver. No matter what you are in charge of today, do it to the best of your ability. The reward? You get to be in charge of even cooler stuff. What are you responsible for today?

January 5

Matthew 5:1-26 ■ Genesis 7 ♦ Genesis 12-15

Proverbs 10:12 (CEV) Hatred stirs up trouble; love overlooks the wrongs that others do.

They let you down. They betrayed you. They were insensitive to your needs. They didn't follow through with their part. They said hurtful, untrue words about you. You have every right to be angry at them. You could go with that anger and make some trouble. Or, by the grace of God, you could let it go. Which are you going with today?

January 6

Matt. 5:27-48 ■ Genesis 8 ♦ Genesis 16-19

2 Thessalonians 1:11-12 (NIV) So we keep on praying for you, asking our God to enable you to live a life worthy of his call. May he give you the power to accomplish all the good things your faith prompts you to do. Then the name of our Lord Jesus will be honored because of the way you live, and you will be honored along with him. This is all made possible because of the grace of our God and Lord, Jesus Christ.

This is our prayer for you. Who can you pray this for today?

January 7

Matthew 6 ■ Genesis 9 ♦ Genesis 20-22

Genesis 4:7 (NIV) If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must master it.

Today you will have many chances to do right or do wrong. The problem with choosing wrong is that wrong moves into your home and sits right at your door. It owns you. What is crouching at your door?

January 8

Matthew 7 ■ Genesis 11 ♦ Genesis 23-26

Acts 8:30-31 (NIV) Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. "Do you understand what you are reading?" Philip asked. "How can I," he said, "unless someone explains it to me?" So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

Philip helped the man in the chariot understand what he was reading in the Bible. Most people need help reading the Bible. God perhaps set it up that way. Who has helped you in the past? Who can you

1/9 Matt 8 ■ Gen 12 ♦ Gen 27-29

JANUARY 2010

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1/10 Matt9:1-17 ■ Gen15 ♦ Gen30-32

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January 11

Matthew 9:18-38 ■ Genesis 18 ♦ Gen. 33-36

Philippians 2:4 (NLT) Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too.

Today find someone to listen to. Let them tell their story. Ask someone about what they are excited about. You may just learn something. It may just get you out of a self-obsessed rut. Who can you listen to today?

January 12

Matthew 10:1-23 ■ Genesis 21 ♦ Gen. 37-39

Ephesians 2:4-5 (NIV) But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.

Are you worth saving? Why would God bother with you? Answer: His love. His great love. His mercy. His rich mercy. Have you received God's love and mercy?

January 13

Matthew 10:24-42 ■ Genesis 22 ♦ Gen. 40-42

Ezekiel 11:19 (NIV) I will give them an undivided heart and put a new spirit in them; I will remove from them their heart of stone and give them a heart of flesh.

You want with all your heart to be fully devoted to God, but you also want to go your own way. Or perhaps you want a life full of purpose and meaning but you seem to have no passion for anything. You need something new. Do you think this promise in Ezekiel is for you?

January 14

Matthew 11 ■ Genesis 24 ♦ Gen. 43-46

2 Thessalonians 1:6 (NIV) God is fair. He will pay back trouble to those who give you trouble.

There are people in your life - people who have mistreated you, passed you by, talked negatively behind your back or maybe even to your face. And they are getting away with it. You are suffering; they are doing well. You want so badly for them to pay for their troublemaking. They will. Who is giving you trouble these days?

January 15

Matthew 12:1-21 ■ Genesis 27 ♦ Gen. 47-50

Luke 15:20 (NIV) So he got up and went to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

Reconciliation between two people is one of the sweetest uses of God's grace. What relationships in your life could use some reconciliation grace?

1/16 Matt 12:22-50 ■ Gen 28 ♦ Ex 1-4

JANUARY 2010

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1/17 Matt 13:1-32 ■ Gen 37 ♦ Ex 5-7

1 Subject 2 Subject 3 Subject

January 18

Matthew 13:33-58 ■ Gen. 39 ♦ Exodus 8-10

Isaiah 40:3-5 (NIV) Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain: And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together

Go to youtube.com and listen to Dr. Martin Luther King's "I have a dream" speech. At its highest, most dramatic point he quotes the book of Isaiah: "I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted" What is your experience with people of other races?

January 19

Matthew 14:1-21 ■ Gen. 40 ♦ Exodus 11-13

2 Peter 1:21 (NIV) For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

The Bible was written by more than 40 authors over thousands of years and yet has one single message. Why? The Holy Spirit inspired the words. The same Holy Spirit promises to inspire you as you read them. When have you felt God was speaking to you from the Bible?

January 20

Matthew 14:22-36 ■ Gen. 41 ♦ Exodus 14-17

Joshua 1:7 (NIV) Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go.

Not feeling strong today? Not very courageous? Perfect. This verse is for you. Of course there is a catch. You must do things God's way. Then you will be a success. What things are you facing today that will require strength and courage?

January 21

Matthew 15:1-20 ■ Gen. 42 ♦ Exodus 18-20

Luke 9:62 (NIV) Jesus replied, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God."

Service in the kingdom of God is a full time job. But it is the greatest job in the world. Just do all that you do for God's glory – your fun, your work, your relationships, and your everyday "do this/do that" life. The pay? It is out of this world! What do you enjoy most about serving in God's kingdom?

January 22

Matthew 15:21-39 ■ Gen. 43 ♦ Exodus 21-24

Habakkuk 1:3 (NLT) Must I forever see these evil deeds? Why must I watch all this misery? Wherever I look, I see destruction and violence. I am surrounded by people who love to argue and fight.

Ever wonder why people can't get along? Nations are at war. Neighbors fight. Those who once were your good friends, now never talk to you. Church members purposely sit on the opposite side of the church from each other. People in your life will not look you in the eye. Families communicate through shouting matches. We need a Savior don't we?

1/23 Matt 16 ■ Gens 44 ♦ Ex 25-27

JANUARY 2010

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1/24 Matt 17 ■ Gen 45 ♦ Exo 28-31

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January 25

Matthew 18:1-20 ■ Gen. 50 ♦ Exodus 32-34

Jude 1:24,25 (NIV) To him (The Lord) who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy—to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen.

The great prize - the great reward that will be presented to the great King of all the earth - is it not you? Do you get a sense of how important you are to God?

January 26

Matthew 18:21-35 ■ Ex. 1 ♦ Exodus 35-37

Leviticus 19:9-10 (NIV) When you reap the harvest of your land do not reap to the very edges of your field or gather the gleanings of your harvest. Do not go over your vineyard a second time or pick up the grapes that have fallen. Leave them for the poor and the alien. I am the LORD your God.

Helping someone help themselves not only feels good for you, it also helps the "someone" you're helping feel good too. How can you help someone today in such a way that the one you help feels like they also helped you?

January 27

Matthew 19:1-15 ■ Ex. 2 ♦ Exodus 38-40

Galatians 2:21 (NLT) I do not treat the grace of God as meaningless. For if keeping the law could make us right with God, then there was no need for Christ to die.

Jesus either paid the full price for our sins to make us right with God or He didn't. There is no in between. If you believe He died on the cross for your sins then His grace is sufficient to make you right with God. So where do you think "keeping the law" fits into this picture?

January 28

Matthew 19:16-30 ■ Ex. 3 ♦ Leviticus 1-4

Nahum 1:7 (NLT) The Lord is good, a strong refuge when trouble comes. He is close to those who trust in him.

Life is hard and full of trouble. But imagine the God of all creation walking side by side with you through all of it. Face your trouble head on trusting God to get you through. How have you trusted God in the past?

January 29

Matthew 20:1-16 ■ Ex. 4 ♦ Leviticus 5-7

Philippians 2:14-16a (NIV) Do everything without complaining or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe as you hold out the word of life.

Perhaps you have always dreamed of being a star. Guess what? You can be. Choose to bring light - not darkness - into people's lives. Choose to bring God's positive words - not complaints - into people's lives. How can you be a star today?

1/30 Matt 20:17-34 ■ Ex 5 ♦ Lev 8-10

FEBRUARY 2010

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1/31 Matt. 21:1-22 ■ Ex 6 ♦ Lev 11-13

1 Subject 2 Subject 3 Subject

February 1

Matthew 21:23-46 ■ Ex. 7 ♦ Leviticus 14-16

John 14:27 (KJV) Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

In the face of fear and trouble, peace is the answer. The peace the world gives is at best a distraction from your fear and trouble - i.e. keep you busy with many things. The peace Jesus gives is the real thing. Why do you sometimes go after worldly peace?

February 2

Matthew 22:1-22 ■ Ex. 8 ♦ Leviticus 17-19

Proverbs 14:15 (NIV) A simple man believes anything, but a prudent man gives thought to his steps.

Today you will be bombarded with many sales pitches: buy this, do that, join us, go that way, try this out. Before you buy, check out who is doing the selling. What sales pitches are you most vulnerable to?

February 3

Matthew 22:23-46 ■ Ex. 9 ♦ Leviticus 20-23

1 Peter 3:10 (NIV) Scripture says, "Do you want to love life and see good days? Then keep your tongues from speaking evil. Keep your lips from telling lies."

Gossip, slander, talking negatively behind someone's back – these are all different words for "lies". You may think you are hurting someone else but you are really hurting your own love of life and good days. Why do we do it?

February 4

Matthew 23:1-22 ■ Ex. 10 ♦ Leviticus 24-27

Judges 6:15 (NIV) "But Lord, " Gideon asked, "how can I save Israel? My clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my family."

Manasseh was the smallest of the 12 tribes. So Gideon was saying he was the worst person in all of Israel to be chosen for the task of saving Israel. How did the Lord respond to Gideon's excuse? Read it in verse 16. How do you think the Lord will respond to your excuses when He calls you to do something?

February 5

Matthew 23:23-39 ■ Ex. 11 ♦ Numbers 1-3

1 Corinthians 12:27 (NIV) Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

Paul, the author of these words, is talking about the church. He says that each person is a part of it and that all the parts together become Christ's body – which is the church. How are you a part of the Church?

2/6 Matt 24:1-22 ■ Ex 12 ♦ Num 4-6

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2/7 Matt 24:23-51 ■ Ex 13 ♦ Num 7-10

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February 8

Matthew 25:1-30 ■ Ex. 14 ♦ Numbers 11-14

Daniel 3:17-18 (NIV) "If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to save us from it, and he will rescue us from your hand, O king. But even if he does not, we want you to know, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up."

Young men trusting in God no matter what! Can you imagine how brave you could be if you had this attitude?

February 9

Matt. 25:31-46 ■ Ex. 19 ♦ Num. 15-17

Psalms 42:3 (NIV) My tears have been my food day and night, while men say to me all day long, "Where is your God?"

Perhaps things have not been going well for you lately. Perhaps others are wondering why God is allowing these things to happen to you. You have wondered this as well. Why does God sometimes seem distant?

February 10

Matt. 26:1-19 ■ Ex. 20 ♦ Num. 18-20

Matthew 6:19 (NIV) Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal.

"Things" do not last. People do. "Things" are temporary. People are eternal. Use your "things" to make an eternal difference in the lives of the people around you. What can you do today as an investment into someone who will live forever?

February 11

Matt. 26:20-54 ■ Ex. 32 ♦ Num. 21-24

Haggai 2:6 (NIV) This is what the LORD Almighty says: "In a little while I will once more shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land."

God loves you too much to see you waste your life in a sea of complacency. He not only will shake up the nations, he will shake up your life too. How has your life been shaken up lately? What happened because of it?

February 12

I Matt. 26:55-75 ■ Lev. 16 ♦ Num. 25-27

Psalms 119:81 (NIV) My soul faints with longing for your salvation, but I have put my hope in your word.

Abraham Lincoln once said: "I believe the Bible is the best gift God has ever given to man. All the good from The Savior of the world is communicated to us through this Book." Have you discovered this in your own reading of the Bible?

2/13 Matt 27:1-21 ■ Num 12 ♦ Num 28-30

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2/14 Matt 27:32-66 ■ Num14 ♦ Num31-33

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February 15

Matt. 28: 1-20 ■ Deut. 1 ♦ Numbers 34-36

Psalm 67:1-2 (NIV) May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine upon us, that your ways may be known on earth, your salvation among all nations.

George Washington believed this verse when he said: "It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and the Bible." How often do you read the Bible?

February 16

Mark 1:1-22 ■ Deuteronomy 2 ♦ Deut. 1-3

1 Peter 4:8 (NIV) Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.

You are not perfect. Your friends are not perfect. Your family is not perfect. And no matter what we do we end up hurting one another; sometimes unintentionally, sometimes intentionally. But love – the love we give to one another – can help us get along with each other anyway. How has love overcome sin in your relationships?

February 17

Mark 1:23-45 ■ Deuteronomy 3 ♦ Deut. 4-6

Genesis 3:19b (KJV) Dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

Today is Ash Wednesday – the beginning of Lent which is 40 days before Easter. Tradition has it that the palm branches of the Palm Sunday one year before are to be burned and the ashes are to be placed on each one's forehead in the shape of the cross while the words of Genesis 3:19b are said. Why would this verse be a good reminder at the beginning of Lent?

February 18

Mark 2 ■ Deuteronomy 4 ♦ Deut. 7-9

James 5:13 (NIV) Is any one of you in trouble? He should pray. Is anyone happy? Let him sing songs of praise.

Have you noticed that no matter how you feel, the proper response is to bring it to God? He wants to be a part of your life – the good and the bad. What do you need to do today - pray or sing?

February 19

Mark 3:1-21 ■ Deuteronomy 5 ♦ Deut. 10-12

Psalm 53:2 (NIV) God looks down from heaven on the sons of men to see if there are any who understand, any who seek God.

We are born seekers looking for something. Looking for friends. Looking for happiness. Looking for purpose and meaning. Looking for security. Looking for peace. It is really all a search for God isn't it? How goes your search?

2/20 Mark 3:22-35 ■ Deut 6 ♦ Deut 13-16

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2/21 Mark 4:1-20 ■ Deut 7 ♦ Deut 17-19

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February 22

Mark 4:21-41 ■ Deut. 8 ♦ Deut. 20-22

Psalm 68:19 (NIV) Praise be to the Lord, to God our Savior, who daily bears our burdens.

The burden inventory for today: work, school, family, friends, sickness, questions, worry, fear, schedules, to-do lists, demands, responsibilities. Try this. Let God in on your burdens today and see what happens. What burdens can you share with God today?

February 23

Mark 5:1-20 ■ Deut. 27 ♦ Deut. 23-25

1 Thessalonians 5:14 (NIV) And we urge you, brothers, warn those who are idle, encourage the timid, help the weak, be patient with everyone.

You get the idea from this verse that we are supposed to take a real interest in the lives of the people around us – that we should even take a chance and give them what they need - which is not always what they want. Who in your life needs a warning, an encouragement, or some help?

February 24

Mark 5:21-43 ■ Deut. 28 ♦ Deut. 26-28

Proverbs 18:2 (NIV) A fool finds no pleasure in understanding but delights in airing his own opinions.

Today when you enter a relationship where there is a difference of opinion, try to understand before being understood. Try listening first before speaking. If you do, you may just keep or make a friend. Why is it so hard to try to understand someone who doesn't think like you do?

February 25

Mark 6:1-32 ■ Deut. 29 ♦ Deut. 29-31

1 John 3:1 (NIV) How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!

Have you ever day-dreamed of being the son or the daughter of Royalty? You know, like maybe there was a mix up at the hospital but now the truth has come out: You are a prince. You are a princess. Guess what? It is not a dream. What does it mean that you are a child of God?

February 26

Mark 6:33-58 ■ Deut. 30 ♦ Deut. 32-34

2 Kings 17:41 (NIV) Even while these people were worshiping the LORD, they were serving their idols. To this day their children and grandchildren continue to do as their fathers did.

You want to be a servant of the King but perhaps you at times also want to live like one. You want God to be in control of your life but too often you act like you are in charge. You want to live for God but you find yourself spending time on things that take you away from Him. What possible idols do you have in your life?

2/27 Mark 7:1-13 ■ Deut 32 ♦ Iosh 1-3

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Palm Sunday		Passover	

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2/28 Mark 7:14-37 ■ Deut 34 ♦ Josh 4-6

1 Subject 2 Subject 3 Subject

March 1

Mark 8:1-21 ■ Joshua 1 ♦ Joshua 7-9

Matthew 9:12 (NIV) On hearing this, Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick.

If you have it all together, if you have no hurts or problems, if you can take care of yourself, maybe you don't need Jesus in your life. Oh, but you will have to raise yourself up from the dead if you want to live forever. Maybe you do need Him. In what areas of your life do you need Jesus?

March 2

Mark 8:22-38 ■ Joshua 2 ♦ Joshua 10-12

Psalms 102:1-2 (NIV) Hear my prayer, O LORD; let my cry for help come to you. Do not hide your face from me when I am in distress. Turn your ear to me; when I call, answer me quickly.

Sometimes life hurts so much that all you want to do is cry – but to whom do you cry out to? Who will listen? Who will understand? God will and does. In what area of your life do you really, really need an answer from God?

March 3

Mark 9:1-29 ■ Joshua 3 ♦ Joshua 13-15

Matthew 5:23-24 (NIV) Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift.

Someone thinks you said or did this or that and they are offended. They should come to you directly but instead they go to others. Maybe you need to go to them. Clear the air. Why is it that people when offended often talk, not with the person they think caused the offence, but with others who know nothing about it?

March 4

Mark 9:30-50 ■ Joshua 4 ♦ Joshua 16-18

Deuteronomy 5:33 (NIV) Walk in all the way that the LORD your God has commanded you, so that you may live and prosper and prolong your days in the land that you will possess.

You have to walk one way or another today, so why not choose to walk in the way of life and prosperity? What is that way? The way that the Lord your God has commanded you. What do you think that will mean for the day ahead of you?

March 5

Mark 10:1-31 ■ Joshua 6 ♦ Joshua 19-21

2 Peter 2:19 (NLT) They promise freedom, but they themselves are slaves of sin and corruption. For you are a slave to whatever controls you.

Is it money? Is it food? Is it your "to do" list? Is it your need to be liked? Is it your desire to be the center of attention? Is it your fear? Is it your insecurity? Is it the internet? Is it your hobby? Is it your doubt? What controls you? What takes your time? What takes your energy? Whatever it is, you have become its slave. What things seek to control your life?

3/6 Mark 10:32-52 ■ Ios 23 ♦ Ios 22-24

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3/7 Mark 11:1-19 ■ Jos 24 ♦ Jud 1-4

1 Subject 2 Subject 3 Subject

March 8

Mark 11:20-33 ■ Judges 2 ♦ Judges 5-8

Isaiah 59:2 (NIV) But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.

Sin brings guilt. Guilt brings shame. Shame causes us to hide – from God and the people we have sinned against. How are you avoiding time with God these days? What people in your life are you steering clear of?

March 9

Mark 12:1-27 ■ Judges 6 ♦ Judges 9-12

1 Peter 4:10 (NLT) God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another.

You are a gifted person. No, you don't think so? Well, it doesn't matter what you think. God says you are. What do you think your spiritual gift might be? How are you using it to bless others?

March 10

Mark 12:28-44 ■ Judges 7 ♦ Judges 13-15

Psalms 10:1 (NIV) Why, O LORD, do you stand far off? Why do you hide yourself in times of trouble?

Trouble in your work. Trouble with people in your life. Trouble with your health. Where is God when there is trouble? Not only is He with you, He has been there. When have you felt abandoned by God?

March 11

Mark 13:1-13 ■ Judges 14 ♦ Judges 16-18

2 Corinthians 4:16 (NIV) Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day.

Maybe you have felt like giving up lately. Your heart is just not in it any more. The passion is gone. And everything in your life is falling apart. Let God renew you . . . from the inside. What is stopping you from inviting Jesus into your life?

March 12

Mark 13:14-37 ■ Judges 15 ♦ Judges 19-21

Genesis 3:8 (NIV) Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

There are many different ways to hide from God: just don't think about him; busy yourself with many other things; put burning questions about God on the back burner. How are you hiding from God today?

3/13 Mark 14:1-25 ■ Iud16 ♦ Ruth1-4

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3/14 Mark 14:26-50 ■ Ruth 1 ♦ 1Sam 1-3

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March 15

Mark 14:51-72 ■ Ruth 2 ♦ 1 Samuel 4-7

2 Corinthians 4:8 (NIV) We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair

Hard pressed on every side – at work, at home, from family, from friends, from strangers. Perplexed – expectations not met, promises made and broken, friendships inexplicably ended. But strangely you are not crushed and not in despair. It must be God's grace. How does this describe your circumstances lately?

March 16

Mark 15:1-26 ■ Ruth 3 ♦ 1 Samuel 8-10

Leviticus 26:12 (NIV) I will walk among you and be your God, and you will be my people.

A God that walks with you; that cares about what you do and where you go today; a personal God who wants you to be in His family – What a blessing! How are you walking with God every day?

March 17

Mark 15:27-47 ■ Ruth 4 ♦ 1 Samuel 11-13

Acts 26:19 (NIV) "So then, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the vision from heaven."

God gave Paul a vision – a bold vision of sharing his love with those that did not know it. Despite hardships and setbacks, he followed it. What vision has God given to you and how well are you following through with it?

March 18

Mark 16 ■ 1 Samuel 1 ♦ 1 Samuel 14-16

2 Chronicles 20:12-13 (NIV) O our God, will you not judge them? For we have no power to face this vast army that is attacking us. We do not know what to do, but our eyes are upon you." All the men of Judah, with their wives and children and little ones, stood there before the LORD.

What a picture! Families standing; waiting on the Lord. I hope this describes your family. What is the spiritual temperature of your family?

March 19

Luke 1:1-23 ■ 1 Samuel 2 ♦ 1 Samuel 17-20

Mark 10:17 (NIV) As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him. "Good teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

If you have never asked this question, it is a good one but the wrong one. There is nothing you can do to inherit eternal life. Jesus did it for you. You need to accept it. I guess that is the one thing you could do. Oh, and God is willing to help you do that as well. Have you accepted God's gift of eternal life through what Jesus did for us on the cross?

3/20 Luke 1:24-56 ■ 1Sam 3 ♦ 1Sam 21-24

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3/21 Lk 1:57-80 ■ 1 Sam 8 ◆ 1 Sam 25-28

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March 22

Luke 2:1-24 ■ 1 Samuel 9 ◆ 1 Samuel 29-31

2 Samuel 6:14 (NIV) David, wearing a linen ephod, danced before the LORD with all his might.

Dancing? Working? Worshipping? Studying? Singing? Playing? What are you doing before the LORD with all your might?

March 23

Luke 2:25-52 ■ 1 Samuel 10 ◆ 2 Samuel 1-4

Luke 12:3 (NIV) What you have said in the dark will be heard in the daylight, and what you have whispered in the ear in the inner rooms will be proclaimed from the roofs.

Talking about people behind their backs is very tempting because talking about them with a bunch of friends makes you feel like you are part of the group. And what is the harm; the person being talked about will never know, right? Really? Read this verse again. Perhaps read it a few times. Why do we gossip?

March 24

Luke 3 ■ 1 Samuel 15 ◆ 2 Samuel 5-8

Isaiah 64:8 (NIV) Yet, O LORD, you are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand.

When you woke up this morning and looked at the mirror you probably didn't realize that you are a priceless, incredible creation of the greatest artist that there ever was. How might knowing that you are the direct work of God's hand influence how you do things today?

March 25

Luke 4:1-32 ■ 1 Samuel 16 ◆ 2 Samuel 9-12

Revelation 3:20 (NIV) Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me.

Jesus, the one through whom the world was created, wants to sit down with you, face to face, friend to friend and eat with you. He is just waiting for an invite. How has God knocked on your door lately?

March 26

Luke 4:33-44 ■ 1 Samuel 17 ◆ 2 Samuel 13-15

Luke 23:33-34 (NIV) When they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified him, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."

Jesus spoke only seven words or phrases during the most important event in history and the first word was about forgiveness. Have you received it? Who do you need to give it to?

3/27 Lk 5:1-16 ■ 2 Sam 5 ◆ 2 Sam 16-18

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3/28 Lk 5:17-39 ■ 2 Sam 7 ♦ 2 Sam 19-21

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March 29

Luke 6:1-26 ■ 2 Samuel 11 ♦ 2 Samuel 22-24

John 19:26-27 (NIV) When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Dear woman, here is your son," and to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

Jesus' third word from the cross was about His concern for His mother — His earthly family. How important is family to you?

March 30

Luke 6:27-49 ■ 2 Samuel 12 ♦ 1 Kings 1-4

John 13:1 (NIV) It was just before the Passover Feast. Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father.

Thousands had come to Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover which is all about the blood of a lamb — a sign that a Messiah would one day come shedding His own blood. These thousands were so busy with the sign (Passover) that they missed the real thing (Jesus, the Lamb of God). How have you sometimes gotten so caught up with ritual that you missed reality?

March 31

Luke 7:1-30 ■ 1 Kings 1 ♦ 1 Kings 5-7

Mark 15:34 (NIV) And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?"—which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

Jesus' fourth word on the cross was perhaps His most painful. He was rejected by His own Father. But it had to happen. He was rejected in our place so that we will be forever accepted. When have you felt the sting of rejection?

April 1

Luke 7:31-50 ■ 1 Kings 2 ♦ 1 Kings 8-10

John 19:28-29 (NIV) Later, knowing that all was now completed, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty." A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips.

Jesus' fifth word on the cross has an Old Testament connection. Look it up. Exodus 12:22. What do you think the connection means?

April 2

Luke 8:1-21 ■ 1 Kings 3 ♦ 1 Kings 11-13

John 19:30 (NIV) When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished."

Notice Jesus did not say that He was finished. It was finished. The Devil was finished. The payment for sin was finished. The reign of death was finished. The reign of sin in your life is finished. What has Jesus finished in your life?

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4/4 Luke 9:1-36 ■ 1 Kings 9 ◆ 1 Kings 17-19

1 Subject 2 Subject 3 Subject

April 5

Luke 9:37-62 ■ 1 Kings 10 ◆ 1 Kings 20-22

Psalm 1:1 (NirV) Blessed is the one who obeys the law of the Lord. He doesn't follow the advice of evil people. He doesn't make a habit of doing what sinners do. He doesn't join those who make fun of the Lord and his law.

Your friends, the people you hang out with most, will have more influence over your thoughts and ways than you realize. Choose your friends wisely. Who are your best friends? Do they help you in your walk with God or do they more often cause you to stumble?

April 6

Luke 10:1-24 ■ 1 Kings 11 ◆ 2 Kings 1-3

1 Thessalonians 5:15 (NIV) Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always try to be kind to each other and to everyone else.

Hurt people, hurt people. If someone pokes you, you poke them back. Someone talks negatively behind your back, you talk negatively behind their back. Someone takes advantage of you, you ... (I think you get the pattern). Two wrongs don't make a right. Why is it so easy to give people what they have dished out?

April 7

Luke 10:25-42 ■ 1 Kings 12 ◆ 2 Kings 4-6

Proverbs 1:10 (NIV) My son, if sinners entice you, do not give in to them.

You know it is not right. But they tempted you, they attracted you, they persuaded you, they lured you in, and they enticed you. So what if they did? You don't have to fall for it. Whom do you need to resist?

April 8

Luke 11:1-28 ■ 1 Kings 17 ◆ 2 Kings 7-10

Hebrews 2:18 (NLT) Since he himself has gone through suffering and testing, he is able to help us when we are being tested.

Oh, if only someone truly understood your situation – the pressures, the deadlines, the compromises, the choices, the grief, the anxiety, the stress. There is one who truly does understand your situation better than you. He has already been there – Jesus. What do you need to bring to Him in prayer today?

April 9

Luke 11:29-54 ■ 1 Kings 18 ◆ 2 Kings 11-14

Job 17:11 (NIV) My days have passed, my plans are shattered, and so are the desires of my heart.

Plans give you energy and keep you going forward. When plans get shattered, so does your heart. The Lord can renew your plans or give you new plans. And when that happens, your heart will be restored. Wait and see. What plans of yours have been shattered lately?

4/10 Lk 12:1-34 ■ 1 Ki 19 ◆ 2 Ki 15-17

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4/11 Luke 12:35-59 ■ 2 Ki 1 ♦ 2 Ki 18-20

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April 12

Luke 13:1-21 ■ 2 Kings 2 ♦ 2 Kings 21-22

1 Peter 3:3-4 (NirV) Braiding your hair doesn't make you beautiful. Wearing gold jewelry or fine clothes doesn't make you beautiful. Instead, your beauty comes from inside you. It is the beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit. Beauty like that doesn't fade away. God places great value on it.

Today as you look in the mirror to get ready for the day, look past the reflection which may or may not look good to you, and see the person God made you to be. What kind of person do you think God has created you to be?

April 13

Luke 13:22-35 ■ 2 Kings 4 ♦ 2 Kings 23-25

Zephaniah 3:17 (NIV) The LORD your God is with you, he is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, he will quiet you with his love, he will rejoice over you with singing.

God delights in you! God sings songs about you! Hard to imagine? Maybe, but it is so. Why is it sometimes hard to believe God thinks this highly of you?

April 14

Luke 14:1-24 ■ 2 Kings 5 ♦ 1 Chron. 1-3

1 John 2:9 (NLT) If anyone claims, "I am living in the light," but hates a Christian brother or sister, that person is still living in darkness.

It is easy to do, isn't it? Hating. But often the hated one deserves it. They have hurt you, betrayed you, slandered you, sabotaged you. But when you hate someone, who gets hurt more – you or the one you hate?

April 15

Luke 14:25-35 ■ 2 Kings 6 ♦ 1 Chron. 4-6

Romans 13:7 (NirV) Give to everyone what you owe. Do you owe taxes? Then pay them. Do you owe anything else to the government? Then pay it. Do you owe respect? Then give it. Do you owe honor? Then show it.

This list of things you might owe is really a list of blessings: a country full of opportunities that deserves your support; quality people in your life that are worthy of your respect and honor. Is this true?

April 16

Luke 15:1-10 ■ 2 Kings 7 ♦ 1 Chron. 7-9

Proverbs 13:20 (NIV) He who walks with the wise grows wise, but a companion of fools suffers harm.

Wisdom is more about who you hang out with than how much you know. So how wise are you? How is your wisdom evidenced in the friends you have?

4/17 Lk 15:11-32 ■ 2 Kinqs 8 ♦ 1Chron. 14-16

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4/18 Lk 16:1-18 ■ 2 Kings 18 ◆ 1 Chr 14-16

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April 19

Luke 16:19-31 ■ 2 Ki. 19 ◆ 1 Chron. 17-19

1 Corinthians 9:24 (NLT) Don't you realize that in a race everyone runs, but only one person gets the prize? So run to win!

Having something in your life to which you can really give your "all" is truly a blessing. We were made to want to win. The trick is finding the right game. What are you working hard to win?

April 20

Luke 17:1-19 ■ 2 Ki. 20 ◆ 1 Chron. 20-23

1 Kings 8:23 (NIV) O LORD, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth below—you who keep your covenant of love with your servants who continue wholeheartedly in your way.

Today, wholeheartedly walk in God's ways. Here's why. He has loved you through all your ups and downs with Him. How much of your heart have you been giving Him lately? None? Some? Half? Most? All?

April 21

Luke 17:20-37 ■ 2 Ki. 25 ◆ 1 Chron. 24-26

2 Peter 3:18 (NIV) But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.

It is all about a growing relationship with Jesus. Letting Him save you. Allowing Him to be Lord of your life. How? Get to know Him (knowledge) and over time experience his love (grace). How would you describe your relationship with Jesus?

April 22

Luke 18:1-17 ■ 1 Chr. 17 ◆ 1 Chron. 27-29

Proverbs 24:27 (NIV) Finish your outdoor work and get your fields ready; after that, build your house.

If you have food but no house, at least you don't starve to death. It's about priorities. Do what is most important first. If you made a list of your priorities for this day, what would that list look like?

April 23

Luke 18:18-43 ■ 1 Chr. 29 ◆ 2 Chron. 1-3

Matthew 18:15,16b (NirV) If your brother sins against you, go to him. Tell him what he did wrong. Keep it between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won him back. But what if he won't listen to you?

If he doesn't listen, the next verse says, then and only then are you allowed to discuss this "wrong" with someone else. And whoever you share the "wrong" with you must bring to the one you think sinned against you so the problem can be settled between the three of you. Why does this way of handling grievances make sense?

4/24 Lk 19:1-28 ■ 2 Chr 34 ◆ 2 Chr 4-6

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4/25 Lk 19:1-28 ■ 2 Chr 34 ◆ 2 Chr. 7-9

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April 26

Luke 20:1-26 ■ Ezra 1 ◆ 2 Chronicles 10-13

Proverbs 25:16 (KJV) Hast thou found honey? Eat so much as is sufficient for thee, lest thou be filled therewith, and vomit it.

Today you will probably have opportunities to get more than you actually need. Why hurt yourself? Take only what you need. Hint: What you need is probably less than what you could get. Why is it so hard to set limits? Why is less sometimes more?

April 27

Luke 20:27-47 ■ Ezra 3 ◆ 2 Chronicles 14-16

Revelation 22:5 (NIV) There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign forever and ever.

After a week of clouds in your life, isn't it great when the sun comes out? Heaven will be like that. What do you think heaven will be like?

April 28

Luke 21:1-19 ■ Ezra 4 ◆ 2 Chron. 17-19

Isaiah 7:9b (NIV) If you do not stand firm in your faith, you will not stand at all.

Be a child of God today. Your faith in Him will give you the strength to stand when the influences around you seek to push you over. So what will it be today – pushover or a firm stand-er?

April 29

Luke 21:20-36 ■ Ezra 5 ◆ 2 Chron. 20-22

1 Peter 3:8 (NIV) Finally, I want all of you to live together in peace. Be understanding. Love one another like members of the same family. Be kind and tender. Don't be proud.

So much of life is trying to get along with the people around us. The key is kindness, tenderness, and humility. Try these three things out on the people in your life and see how it goes. To whom in your life could you try to be a bit more understanding?

April 30

Luke 22:1-30 ■ Ezra 6 ◆ 2 Chron. 23-25

Psalms 18:2 (NIV) The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge. He is my shield.

Who knows what tough stuff you will face today? Whatever it may be, you don't have to face it alone. Let God be your protection. When in your life have you felt God's protecting force?

5/1 Lk 22:31-53 ■ Nehem 1 ◆ 2 Chr 26-29

MAY 2010

SUN	MON	TUE	WED
30	31 Memorial Day		
2	3	4	5 Cinco de Mayo
9 Mother's Day	10	11	12
16	17	18	19
23 Pentecost	24 Victoria Day (Canada)	25	26

MAY 2010

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5/2 Lk 22:54-71 ■ Nehem 2 ♦ Chron 33-32

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May 3

Luke 23:1-26 ■ Neh. 4 ♦ 2 Chronicles 33-36

James 3:9 (NirV) With our tongues we praise our Lord and Father. With our tongues we call down curses on people. We do it even though they have been created to be like God.

The things we sometimes say are about people that God has created in His own image - people that matter so much to Him that He gave His one and only Son that whoever believes in Him should have eternal life. How is it we can praise God one minute and with the same tongue gossip about people that the same God has created?

May 4

Luke 23: 27-38 ■ Nehemiah 5 ♦ Ezra 1-4

Psalm 10:4 (NIV) In his pride the wicked does not seek him; in all his thoughts there is no room for God.

You are busy aren't you? Busy at home. Busy at school. Busy at work. Busy at play. Busy at church. Busy with friends. In all your busy-ness is there any room for God?

May 5

Lk. 23:39-56 ■ Nehemiah 6 ♦ Ezra 5-7

Galatians 3:28 (NIV) There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

The 5th of May is known as Cinco de Mayo among those of Mexican descent. Its origin is a famous victory over invaders to the Mexican homeland in 1862. Today it is really a celebration of Mexican Heritage. How do we celebrate both our individual differences and yet live out our oneness in Christ?

May 6

Lk. 24:1-35 ■ Nehemiah 8 ♦ Ezra 8-10

Proverbs 15:17 (NIV) Better a meal of vegetables where there is love than a fattened calf with hatred.

The good life is less about getting and enjoying good things, and more about getting and enjoying good people. How has this been reflected in how you spend your time lately?

May 7

Lk. 24:36-53 ■ Nehemiah 9 ♦ Nehemiah 1-3

Ephesians 2:8-9 (NIV) For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.

What can you do today to make God love you? Nothing! What can you do today to get God to save you? Nothing! Oh, but you must have faith. Yes. But even faith is a gift. Have you accepted the gift of faith from God?

5/8 John 1:1-28 ■ Esther 1 ♦ Nehemiah 4-6

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5/9 John 1:29-51 ■ Esther 2 ◆ Neh 7-9

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May 10

John 2 ■ Esther 3 ◆ Nehemiah 10-13

1 John 5:13 (NIV) I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.

You believe in the name of the Son of God but sometimes you have doubts about eternal life. Read the Bible. God through His Spirit will speak to you reassuring you not only of His presence but also of His promise — of eternal life. When in your life did you really know that eternal life was yours?

May 11

John 3:1-21 ■ Esther 4 ◆ Esther 1-3

Psalms 133:1 (NIV) How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity!

As you go about your relationships today you will undoubtedly have a chance to move these relationships toward unity or disunity. You can, by your words and actions, help bring people together or be a catalyst for tearing them apart. Which is it going to be today?

May 12

John 3:22-36 ■ Esther 5 ◆ Esther 4-7

Proverbs 3:9-10 (NLT) Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the best part of everything you produce. Then he will fill your barns with grain, and your vats will overflow with good wine.

The key word here is "honor." Success in life is really about honor and respect. These two qualities require humility. Humility comes when you realize all you have ultimately comes from God and is His. How are you honoring God with the best of all you have?

May 13

John 4:1-26 ■ Esther 6 ◆ Esther 8-10

Acts 1:10,11a (NIV) They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky?"

This was the first Ascension Day. Jesus' work on earth was finished. But ours had just begun. Why do you sometimes hang back when there are things to be done in the church?

May 14

John 4:27-54 ■ Esther 7 ◆ Job 1-4

Ecclesiastes 1:11 (NIV) There is no remembrance of men of old, and even those who are yet to come will not be remembered by those who follow.

You are here today but one day you will be gone. Soon after that even the memory of you in those that follow you will be gone. But God will never forget you. How long do you think you will be remembered after you die?

5/15 John 5:1-24 ■ Esther 8 ◆ Job 5-7

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5/16 John 5:25-47 ■ Esther 9 ♦ Job 8-10

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May 17

John 6:1-21 ■ Job 1 ♦ Job 11-13

Joshua 1:8 (NIV) Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.

Victoria Day is celebrated every May in honor of the first sovereign ruler of Canada who died in 1901. One of her quotes: "That book (the Bible) accounts for the supremacy of England." What do you think the relationship is between a nation's success and its people's habit of reading the Bible?

May 18

John 6:22-44 ■ Job 2 ♦ Job 14-17

Romans 12:4-5 (NLT) Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other.

Look around at the people in your life. They are different from you. You are different from them. That is the way it is supposed to be. Where have you experienced a sense of team?

May 19

John 6:45-71 ■ Job 38 ♦ Job 18-20

Proverbs 29:11 (NIV) A fool gives full vent to his anger, but a wise man keeps himself under control.

Anger is caused by this thought: "This is not fair." It probably isn't. But then again it isn't fair that God loves you and sent His Son to die on a cross for you. In what situations do you tend to lose control with your anger?

May 20

John 7:1-24 ■ Job 39 ♦ Job 21-24

Romans 12:13 (NirV) Share with God's people who are in need. Welcome others into your homes.

Often the greatest thing that you can share with someone is not material goods or money. It is your home. There are programs to feed the poor, but who is going to invite them into their home?

May 21

John 7:25-53 ■ Job 40 ♦ Job 25-27

Micah 7:8 (NIV) Do not gloat over me, my enemy! Though I have fallen, I will rise. Though I sit in darkness, the LORD will be my light.

You may have fallen. Darkness may be filling your soul. And people in your life may be laughing at you behind your back or maybe to your face. But you may just get the last laugh. When has this happened in your life?

5/22 John 8:1-20 ■ Job 41 ♦ Job 28-31

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5/23 John 8:21-36 ■ Job 42 ◆ Job 32-34

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May 24

John 8:37-59 ■ Psalm 1 ◆ Job 35-37

Jeremiah 33:3 (KJV) Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.

You believe in God but you have never seen Him. You believe in miracles but you are not sure you have ever experienced one. You believe but it would be nice to know. Call out to God. He promises to show you great and mighty things. What have you experienced in your life that has helped you in your faith?

May 25

John 9:1-23 ■ Psalm 19 ◆ Job 38-42

Genesis 2:15 (NIV) The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.

Today you go to work – it is part of what God created you to do. No matter what you do, find something today that is good – good for you and perhaps good for others. How does what you do contribute to the “care” of this world that God calls us to?

May 26

John 9:24-41 ■ Psalm 23 ◆ Psalms 1-4

Colossians 4:5 (NLT) Live wisely among those who are not believers, and make the most of every opportunity.

What you do today and how you do it will make an impression on someone – positively or negatively. That means what you do today and how you do it is important. That means you are important. What opportunities have you had lately to communicate your faith?

May 27

John 10:1-21 ■ Psalm 37 ◆ Psalms 5-8

Psalms 118:24 (NIV) This is the day the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Today, with all its possibilities, lies open before you. Perhaps you will meet someone new. Perhaps something you have been hoping and praying for will happen. Maybe something will happen that will be beyond your wildest expectations. Or maybe it will be just another day. God made it just for you. How does an attitude of joy affect one's outlook on the day?

May 28

John 10:22-42 ■ Psalm 90 ◆ Psalms 9-12

Mark 13:32-33 (NIV) No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time will come.

If you knew Jesus was coming and the world was ending in one month, what things would you want to do? If you knew Jesus was coming in a year? 10 years? Why would it make any difference when He is coming again?

5/29 John 11:1-17 ■ Ps 100 ◆ Ps 13-15

JUNE 2010

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Father's Day	First Day of Summer		
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JUNE 2010

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5/30 John 11:18-46 ■ Ps 103 ◆ Ps 16-18

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May 31

John 11:47-57 ■ Psalm 104 ◆ Psalms 19-21

1 Samuel 7:12 (NIV) Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen. He named it Ebenezer, saying, "Thus far has the LORD helped us."

On this day grave stones were decorated in honor of those who died in the Civil War between the States. It was called Decoration Day. Today many families spend part of the day visiting cemeteries to remember family and friends that are no longer with us. What do you do to remember loved ones?

June 2

John 12:1-19 ■ Psalm 105 ◆ Psalms 22-24

1 Peter 5:8 (NIV) Control yourselves. Be on your guard. Your enemy the devil is like a roaring lion. He prowls around looking for someone to chew up and swallow.

You know the difference between right and wrong. But right often seems so hard with little reward; whereas wrong often seems so easy with a great reward. But know that the ultimate goal of wrong- the goal of evil, the goal of the devil - is to chew you up and swallow you. In which areas of your life do you need to be on your guard?

June 2

John 12:20-50 ■ Ps. 106 ◆ Psalms 25-27

Psalm 90:1 (NIV) Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations.

Your walk with the Lord is not just about you. You are part of a people – a people of God, with a history, with a faith that has been passed down from generation to generation – from one tribe to another – from one language to another. You are not alone. How will knowing you are part of a "people of God" embolden you as you go about your living today?

June 3

John 13:1-17 ■ Ps. 107 ◆ Psalms 28-30

1 Corinthians 1:10 (NIV) I appeal to you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another so that there may be no divisions among you and that you may be perfectly united in mind and thought.

Ever wonder why people can't get along? Divisions. Disagreements. Fights. Gossip. Slander. Brokenness. It is all a part of the Devil's plan to bring you pain. Agreement. Being united. Brothers. Sisters. This is God's plan to bring you peace. How can you bring peace to your relationships today?

June 4

John 13:18-38 ■ Ps. 145 ◆ Psalms 31-33

Proverbs 17:17 (NIV) A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

You find out who your friends are when things are not going well. Your friends are the ones who are still by your side. Do you have friends like that? Are you a friend like that?

6/5 | John 15 ■ Proverbs 2 ◆ Ps. 37-

JUNE 2010

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6/6 John 15 ■ Prov 2 ♦ Ps 37-39

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Subject	Subject	Subject

June 7

John 16:1-15 ■ Proverbs 3 ♦ Psalms 40-42

Luke 12:15 (NIV) Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions."

Greed is wanting more than you need. Greed is wanting more even when you haven't made use of the possessions you already have. Greed is like a drug that soon makes demands of you simply for the sake of demanding more. Greed allows your possessions to possess you. "Watch out," Jesus says. What are you doing to watch out?

June 8

John 16:16-33 ■ Proverbs 4 ♦ Psalms 43-45

Deuteronomy 32:7 (NLT) Remember the days of long ago; think about the generations past. Ask your father, and he will inform you. Inquire of your elders, and they will tell you.

The tendency with a planner is to always be looking forward. "What am I going to do today? What should I be doing tomorrow?" Sometimes you need to look back before going forward. How did a desire to seek after God come into your life? Who helped you?

June 9

John 17 ■ Proverbs 5 ♦ Psalms 46-48

2 Timothy 4:3 (NIV) For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear.

It is nice to be surrounded by people who think you are right, isn't it? But just because the people around you think you are right doesn't make it so. Right is something God decides. He wrote a whole book about right stuff. It's called the Bible. How much time do you spend in His Word every day?

June 10

John 18:1-23 ■ Proverbs 6 ♦ Psalms 49-51

1 Samuel 17:4 (NIV) A champion named Goliath, who was from Gath, came out of the Philistine camp. He was over nine feet tall.

Perhaps there are some threatening giants in your life — giants that make you and your faith feel small, helpless, and vulnerable. Pick up your slingshot, a couple of stones, and what faith you have in God, and face them. What giants threaten your life and faith?

June 11

John 18:24-40 ■ Proverbs 7 ♦ Psalms 52-54

1 Chronicles 20:6 (NIV) In still another battle, which took place at Gath, there was a huge man with six fingers on each hand and six toes on each foot—twenty-four in all.

You have heard of Goliath the giant David defeated with a slingshot. This is another Giant. There are always more giants that seek to bring fear and doubt into your life. What is causing fear and doubt in your life?

6/12 John 19:1-22 ■ Prov 8 ♦ Ps 55-57

JUNE 2010

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6/13 John 19:23-42 ■ Prov 9 ◆ Ps 58-60

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June 14

John 20 ■ Proverbs 31 ◆ Psalms 61-63

James 3:5 (NirV) The tongue is a small part of the body. But it brags a lot. Think about how a small spark can set a big forest on fire.

Most of the pain in our lives comes from our tongues and all the nasty things we say about each other. Most of it is to make ourselves feel better — for a short time. Stop it. “If you don’t have something good to say about someone . . .” What forest fire that you started should you put out?

June 15

John 21 ■ Ecclesiastes 3 ◆ Psalms 64-66

Deuteronomy 7:26 Do not bring a detestable thing into your house or you, like it, will be set apart for destruction. Utterly abhor and detest it, for it is set apart for destruction.

Your home is where the people you care about most in all the world live. What negative things are you bringing into your home that promise to do more harm than good? What are you going to do about it today?

June 16

Acts 1 ■ Eccl. 12 ◆ Psalms 67-69

2 Corinthians 4:18 (NIV) So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

You see it. You want it. You go after it. But soon, so very soon, it is gone. Sometimes what is not seen — faith, hope, love, God, eternity — is where we would be better off looking. What are your eyes fixed on today?

June 17

Acts 2:1-13 ■ Song of Songs 1 ◆ Psalms 70-72

Proverbs 10:9 (NIV) The man of integrity walks securely, but he who takes crooked paths will be found out.

Today you will be faced with a decision — do the right thing or do the thing that would be best for you in the short run. When in the past did you choose the easy way only to get burned by that decision later on?

June 18

Acts 2:14-47 ■ Isaiah 6 ◆ Psalms 73-75

2 Timothy 1:12 (NLT) That is why I am suffering here in prison. But I am not ashamed of it, for I know the one in whom I trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him until the day of his return.

What do you want God to guard, to keep safe, to protect until the end of time? Your time? Your money? Your talents? Your opportunities?

6/19 Acts 3 ■ Isaiah 40 ◆ Ps 76-78

JUNE 2010

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6/20 Acts 4:1-22 ■ Is 53 ♦ Ps 79-81

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June 21

Acts 4:23-37 ■ Isaiah 55 ♦ Psalms 82-84

Deuteronomy 4:29 (NIV) But if from there you seek the LORD your God, you will find him if you look for him with all your heart and with all your soul.

God wants to speak to you today- through Hjs word and through the people and events of the day. Seek Him. Look for Him. How has God showed up in your life lately?

June 22

Acts 5:1-16 ■ Isaiah 61 ♦ Psalms 85-87

1 Peter 5:6 (NirV) So don't be proud. Put yourselves under God's mighty hand. Then he will honor you at the right time.

You want honor? You want respect? It will come to you. Maybe not as quickly as you would like. Wait for it. Follow God's ways. Trust in Him. It will come. Why is respect and honor so important?

June 23

Acts 5:17-42 ■ Jer. 18 ♦ Psalms 88-90

Isaiah 48:17 (NIV) This is what the LORD says— your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: "I am the LORD your God, who teaches you what is best for you, who directs you in the way you should go."

You thought you knew what was best for you, but things didn't turn out so good. Why not follow a different way – the way you should go. When in your life did you think you knew what was best when you really didn't?

June 24

Acts 6 ■ Jer. 19 ♦ Psalms 91-93

Psalms 51:10 (NIV) Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

"Lord, I want to be open to what you want to do with me today. I want to be strong for you. I want your spirit to influence all I do and say today to the praise and honor of your name." How do you think God will honor this prayer of yours today?

June 25

Acts 7:1-19 ■ Jer. 31 ♦ Psalms 94-96

1 Peter 1:24-25 (NirV) It is written, "All people are like grass. All of their glory is like the flowers in the field. The grass dries up. The flowers fall to the ground. But the word of the Lord stands forever." — And that word was preached to you.

Your body, strong though it may be, is like flower that will fall to the ground. But as you take the Word of God into your life you have something in you that will stand forever. How do you think the Word of God in you will last forever?

6/26 Acts 7:20-43 ■ Lam 3 ♦ Ps 97-99

JULY 2010

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JULY 2010

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6/27 Acts 7:44-60 ■ Ez 1 ♦ Ps 100-102

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June 28

Acts 8:1-25 ■ Ezekiel 37 ♦ Psalms 103-105

1 Peter 2:24 (NirV) He himself carried our sins in his body on the cross. He did it so that we would die as far as sins are concerned. Then we would lead godly lives. His wounds have made you whole.

Sin is a debt. Debts must be paid. Even if the one to whom the debt is owed decides to forgive the debt, the debt must still be paid. In this case it was paid by the one who forgave the debt. That is what Jesus did for us. What sins do you want Jesus to forgive for you?

June 29

Acts 8:26-40 ■ Daniel 1 ♦ Psalms 106-108

1 Samuel 2:3 (NIV) Do not keep talking so proudly or let your mouth speak such arrogance, for the LORD is a God who knows, and by him deeds are weighed.

Speak less about what you do and do more. No one likes a braggart. Let your deeds speak for themselves. When are you tempted to speak proudly?

June 30

Acts 9:1-22 ■ Daniel 2 ♦ Psalm 109-111

Psalm 32:5 (NIV) Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD"— and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

To admit you are not perfect — that you talked negatively about someone behind their back; to admit to selfish ambition or vanity or jealousy or anger — this is the first step to the sweet release of forgiveness. What are you ready to admit today?

July 1

Acts 9:23-43 ■ Daniel 3 ♦ Psalm 112-114

2 Corinthians 3:17 (NIV) Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

On July 1, 1867, Canada became a united Dominion of four provinces. But it wasn't until 1982 that Canada became fully free. Of course there is no freedom without God. Why do you think there is this great drive towards independence?

July 2

Acts 10:1-23 ■ Daniel 4 ♦ Psalm 115-118

Psalm 39:6 (NIV) Man is a mere phantom as he goes to and fro: He bustles about, but only in vain; he heaps up wealth, not knowing who will get it.

No one at the end of life wishes they had acquired more "stuff". What do you think most people wish for at the end of life?

7/3 Acts 10:24-48 ■ Dan 5 ♦ Ps 119

JULY 2010

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7/4 Acts 11 ■ Dan 6 ♦ Psalms 120-123

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July 5

Acts 12 ■ Daniel 9 ♦ Psalms 124-128

Proverbs 10:8 (CEV) If you have good sense, you will listen and obey; if all you do is talk, you will destroy yourself.

Usually the one doing all the talking thinks he or she is the smart one. Perhaps it is just the other way around. When, lately, should you have just listened and obeyed rather than talked?

July 6

Acts 13:1-23 ■ Hosea 4 ♦ Psalms 129-132

1 Peter 1:13 (NIV) Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled; set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed.

Oh, to be a person of action. Not a loose cannon but one so confident of the hope that comes with a relationship with Jesus Christ that nothing can stop you from fulfilling God's mission in you. What action is God calling you to?

July 7

Acts 13:24-52 ■ Hosea 14 ♦ Psalms 133-136

Obadiah 1:3-4 (NIV) "The pride of your heart has deceived you, you who live in the clefts of the rocks and make your home on the heights, you who say to yourself, 'Who can bring me down to the ground?' Though you soar like the eagle and make your nest among the stars, from there I will bring you down," declares the LORD.

Pride goes before a fall. When did your pride bring you down?

July 8

Acts 14 ■ Joel 2 ♦ Psalms 137-139

Jeremiah 2:27 (NIV) They say to wood, "You are my father," and to stone, "You gave me birth." They have turned their backs to me and not their faces; yet when they are in trouble, they say, "Come and save us!"

Perhaps today you will pursue many things that promise to make you happy. When you find these things and they bring you pain instead, you will then turn to God for help. Why do you sometimes not pursue God in the first place?

July 9

Acts 15:1-21 ■ Amos 1 ♦ Psalms 140-144

1 Timothy 2:8 (CEV) I want everyone everywhere to lift innocent hands toward heaven and pray, without being angry or arguing with each other.

It is really hard to be angry at someone with God in the room. Try it. Invite God to sit in the room and then try to get angry at someone. If you get angry, it is because you forgot that God was in the room. Maybe that is why we are supposed to lift our hands to heaven when we pray. Do you think you dare try this?

7/10 Acts 15:22-41 ■ Amos 2 ♦ Ps 145-147

JULY 2010

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7/11 Acts 16:1-15 ■ Amos 9 ♦ Ps 148-150

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July 12

Acts 16:16-40 ■ Obadiah ♦ Proverbs 1-3

Acts 20:32 (NIV) Now I commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

God's word and His grace go together. And together they build people up for now and give them an incredible dividend for later. Who can you commit to this double blessing?

July 13

Acts 17:1-15 ■ Jonah 1 ♦ Proverbs 4-7

Isaiah 42:20 (NIV) You have seen many things, but have paid no attention; your ears are open, but you hear nothing.

Today God speaks to you in His Word. Today He will speak to you through some of the people you meet and the things that will fill up your day. But will you hear His voice? Why is it sometimes so hard to hear God in your life?

July 14

Acts 17:16-34 ■ Jonah 2 ♦ Proverbs 8-11

Psalms 49:16-17 (NIV) Do not be overawed when a man grows rich, when the splendor of his house increases; for he will take nothing with him when he dies, his splendor will not descend with him.

Every human being understands the truth of these verses and yet we all spend so much of our lives working on things that don't last. What, out of all the things that take your time and your concern, will last beyond your life?

July 15

Acts 18 ■ Jonah 3 ♦ Proverbs 12-14

1 Peter 3:18 (NLT) Christ suffered for our sins once for all time. He never sinned, but he died for sinners to bring you safely home to God. He suffered physical death, but he was raised to life in the Spirit.

The Christian message is very simple: Jesus paid the price for our sin so we do not have to. He died and was raised to life so that we too will be raised to life. Does this make sense to you?

July 16

Acts 19:1-20 ■ Jonah 4 ♦ Proverbs 15-18

Habakkuk 3:17-18 (NIV) Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will be joyful in God my Savior.

It is easy to rejoice in the Lord in the good times. But it is the hard times that often bring us closer to God. Why is that?

7/17 Acts 19:21-41 ■ Micah 5 ♦ Prov 19-21

JULY 2010

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7/18 Acts 20:1-16 ■ Micah 7 ♦ Prov 22-24

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July 19

Acts 20:17-38 ■ Nahum 1 ♦ Proverbs 25-28

Matthew 7:1-2 (NIV) Do not judge, or you too will be judged. For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

You think negatively about the people around you; they will think negatively of you. You say this person is self-absorbed; others will say you are self-absorbed. However you measure out things they will come back to you. So why not measure out good things? What positive things can you measure out?

July 20

Acts 21:1-14 ■ Habakkuk 3 ♦ Proverbs 29-31

Psalm 130:3-4 (NIV) If you, O LORD, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness; therefore you are feared.

Can you imagine a record book filled with your every misspoken word, your every misdeed, your every evil thought, and your every missed opportunity for doing good? God's forgiveness is like the delete button on a computer. Have you taken advantage of the delete button lately?

July 21

Acts 21:15-40 ■ Zaph. 3 ♦ Eccl. 1-3

Proverbs 11:13 (CEV) A gossip tells everything, but a true friend will keep a secret.

Why do we do it? Why do we talk about someone negatively when they are not there to defend themselves? When we engage in gossip, aren't we just trying to make friends? Of course that doesn't speak well of our loyalty to the person we are talking about. If you talk about someone behind their back, are you a true friend?

July 22

Acts 22 ■ Haggai 1 ♦ Eccl. 4-6

Mark 10:6-8 (NIV) But at the beginning of creation God made them male and female. For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh. So they are no longer two, but one.

The oneness of God is reflected in the oneness of marriage. So God's image is reflected in a wedding ceremony. What do you think of weddings? What do you think of marriage? What have you seen or experienced?

July 23

Acts 23:1-11 ■ Haggai 2 ♦ Ecclesiastes 7-9

Ezekiel 33:11 (NIV) Say to them, "As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, O house of Israel?"

When you are out and about today you will see many people. God's wish is that they all would seek a relationship with Him. If that is the case, what can you do about it? Who do you know that needs a relationship with God? What can you do to help them get one?

7/24 Acts 23:12-35 ■ Zech 14 ♦ Ecc. 10-12

JULY 2010

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2	3
JULY	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2	3
JUNE	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	29	30	

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
AUGUST	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30	31				

7/25 Acts 24 ■ Malachi 3 ◆ Song of Songs 1-4

1	Subject	2	Subject	3	Subject
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July 26

Acts 25 ■ Malachi 4 ◆ Song of Songs 5-8

1 Timothy 6:17 (NLT) Teach those who are rich in this world not to be proud and not to trust in their money, which is so unreliable. Their trust should be in God, who richly gives us all we need for our enjoyment.

Enjoy the things God gives you but don't put your trust in these things. Can you think of examples of things in your life you should enjoy but not entrust your life to?

July 27

Acts 26 ■ Matthew 5 ◆ Isaiah 1-3

Isaiah 29:15 (NIV) Woe to those who go to great depths to hide their plans from the LORD, who do their work in darkness and think, "Who sees us? Who will know?"

Who you are is what you do when nobody is looking. But then again there is never a time when nobody is looking. What things do you need to ask God to help you get rid of in your life?

July 28

Acts 27:1-26 ■ Matthew 6 ◆ Isaiah 4-6

Psalms 30:11-12 (NIV) You turned my wailing into dancing; you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, that my heart may sing to you and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give you thanks forever.

What you thought was bad turned out good. What you thought was sad, through strange and unusual circumstances, made you glad. Give thanks for the turn-arounds in your life. What has turned for the good in your life lately?

July 29

Acts 27:27-44 ■ Matthew 7 ◆ Isaiah 7-9

1 Peter 3:9 (NIV) Don't pay back evil with evil. Don't pay back unkind words with unkind words. Instead, pay them back with kind words. That's what you have been chosen to do. You can receive a blessing by doing it.

You have been chosen to receive a blessing from God today. How do you get this blessing? Be a blessing to those who curse you. Don't believe it will work? Try it. Perhaps you will be surprised. Who has been handing out unkind words to you lately? How will you respond?

July 30

Acts 28:1-15 ■ Matthew 13 ◆ Isaiah 10-12

Jeremiah 9:23-24 (NIV) This is what the LORD says: "Let not the wise man boast of his wisdom or the strong man boast of his strength or the rich man boast of his riches, but let him who boasts boast about this: that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD, who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness on earth, for in these I delight," declares the LORD.

You are not somebody because of what you have or what you do. You are somebody because you have a relationship with God. How would you describe your relationship with God?

7/31 Acts 28:16-32 ■ Matt 17 ◆ Isa 13-15

