

Bible Teaching Program
Daily verses
December 2012

December 1

When we trust in Jesus, we must also trust in His ways.

Luke 1:49 'For He who is mighty has done to me great things; and holy is His name.'

The Lord chooses those who desire Him; He uses those who seek after Him.
When we trust in Jesus, we must also trust in His ways.
His wisdom is contrary to man's wisdom.
His love is beyond understanding.
His might is seen by the weak things; His greatness in humility.
He is holy but did not condemn the unrighteous;
He made a way for us to be righteous in Him.
He did not seek the acceptance of religious leaders;
He had no interest in the self-righteous;
He did not seek approval from the mighty and noble in the world.
He came for an insignificant people and has made us His own.

December 2

The mercy of the Lord is of more worth than great riches.

Luke 1:50 'And His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.'

The mercy of the Lord is of more worth than great riches.
It is more than a willingness to forgive.
In Christ all the promises of God are ours.
His presence is with all who trust in Him; He will never leave us;
He keeps us continuously in His care.
He surrounds His people with His love;
He guides us through His word; and leads us by His Spirit.
He will show compassion to all who call upon Him.
The fear of the Lord is a righteous fear; it is a fear that draws us to Christ;
It will guard our heart from temptation and
keep us from the destructive power of sin.

December 3

It was in weakness that His strength prevailed on our behalf.

Luke 1:51 'He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.'

When we trust in Christ alone, we will never be disappointed.

In weakness His strength prevailed on our behalf.
He turns our failure into His success;
and our inability is His opportunity to let His power be seen in us.
He gives the fragile Christian strength to be a fearless ambassador for Christ;
He makes the timid person bold to be a mighty witness for Him.
He replaces our insecurities with the assurance of His promises,
and makes us more than conquerors in Christ.
He removes the anxieties of our heart
and fills us with joy and peace in the Holy Spirit.
In Christ is all we need.

December 4

He lifts the lowly to royalty

Luke 1:52 'He has put down the mighty from their thrones, and exalted them of low degree.'

What God has promised He will fulfil.
His plan and purpose will be fulfilled in our life.
We can rest in Him even in troubled times.
His hand controls the nations.
Empires come and go.
The seats of power are soon vacated.
The rulers of this world do not retain their authority forever.
But in Christ the lowly are lifted to royalty.
His kingdom never ends.
It is established in truth bringing freedom and joy.
It is upheld by love that can be seen dwelling in His people.
He gives us peace that endures;
and in Him we have life that is eternal.

December 5

Jesus fills the emptiness of the needy.

Luke 1:53 'He has filled the hungry with good things; and the rich He has sent empty away.'

The riches of the world are temporal with no lasting value.
In Christ there is hope for the destitute and joy for the lonely.
He satisfies the emptiness of the needy with new life;
He produces the fruit of His Spirit in us so that we become like Him.
His love towards us keeps us; protects us; and fills our heart with His goodness.
He calls the lowest in society to be the heirs of His kingdom.
He makes outcasts into worshippers;
chooses prisoners to be mighty ambassadors of the gospel;
gives purpose to the weary;
and brings the poor into unsearchable riches.
His provision will never fail.

December 6

Mary had no claim to greatness in herself other than her faith in God.

Luke 1:46 'And Mary said, My soul does magnify the Lord,'

Mary was filled with love and appreciation because of the One conceived in her womb. She had no claim to greatness in herself other than her faith in God. She desired only to let His character be known among the people. Her soul was filled with exuberant joy not just for herself but because of what the Lord was going to do for His people. Her desire to magnify the Lord was because of His wisdom in designing the plan of salvation; His greatness in being able to bring salvation to mankind; and His love in being willing to give Himself for His people. She delighted not in herself but in the loving kindness of the Lord.

December 7

Mary knew that her need of a Saviour was met in Christ alone.

Luke 1:47 'And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Saviour.'

Mary recognised her need of a Saviour. She rejoiced because she trusted in Christ alone for salvation. Her joy was in the Lord. Her spirit rejoiced because the hope of her salvation had come. She was blessed because she carried the blessing of God in her womb. She was the one chosen to bring the gift of God into the world; Jesus is eternal life. She trusted in Him and all who trust Him find life. It is faith in Christ alone that brings the joy of salvation. Mary knew she was chosen to bring the Messiah into the world; she also knew that her need of a Saviour was met in Christ alone and none other.

December 8

What God had promised, He was able to perform.

Galatians 4:4 'But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth His Son, made of a woman, made under the law'.

What God had promised, He was able to perform. Jesus, the Son of God, was born at exactly the right time and in exactly the right place. Evil men may hold the reins of power

but God steers the course of history.
The rulers of the earth were powerless to stand against the will of the Lord.
Those who opposed Him were unable to stop Him.
Even death could not hold Him.
His purpose will always be fulfilled.
His way for our life is perfect.
The Lord will keep His promises.
We need fear no enemy when Jesus Christ is Lord of our life.

December 9

There is nothing more God could have done for His people.

Galatians 4:5 'To redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.'

Jesus, the Son of God had to become like us
so that we in Him could be sons and daughters of the living God.
The love of God had to give everything for us
so that He could give everything to us.
He not only gives us new life in Christ; eternal life;
but He lifts us into the position of sons.
We are joint heirs with Christ.
All that is His is our inheritance in Him.
There is nothing more God could have done for His people.
If He loved us this much then we should also love one another
and realise just how precious we are to Him.

December 10

The gift of God is beyond words.

2 Corinthians 9:15 'Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift.'

We know God's gift through the scripture.
We receive His gift through faith in Jesus Christ alone.
We experience His gift through the power of the Holy Spirit.
The gift of God is beyond words because God did what seemed impossible
when He separated us from sin and reconciled us to Himself.
It is beyond words because in Jesus Christ
we have been given far more than was lost through sin.
It is beyond words because the new life we have in Jesus Christ
fills us with love, joy, and peace that must be experienced to be known.
It is not enough to know about His gift, we must receive Christ,
and come into this wonderful experience of new life.

December 11

In Him we have forgiveness; freedom; and new life.

John 14:6 'Jesus said to Him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no one comes to the Father, but by Me.'

Jesus did not come to condemn; it is our sin that condemns us.
Jesus came to make a way for us.
In Him we have forgiveness; freedom; and new life.
It is only when we trust in Christ alone that we experience full assurance of faith.
It is through His sacrifice alone we are reconciled to God.
Our boldness is in Christ.
He puts His word within us so His kingdom is established in our heart.
He makes us unshakeable in our faith.
We know we have passed from death to life
because His life dwells within us.
All that we are is in Christ.

December 12

It is our responsibility to let the Holy Spirit fill us on a daily basis.

Ephesians 5:18 'And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;'

We need to keep being filled with the Holy Spirit.
His presence dwells within all who have received new life in Christ.
It is our responsibility to let the Holy Spirit fill us on a daily basis.
We need to keep His word upon our heart and obey it;
to thank and praise Him for all He has done for us; and
to let His love control all our actions.
The wine of the world destroys many lives
but the Holy Spirit brings reconciliation;
He gives joy that overflows within us;
He gives wisdom to say what is right; and
He gives peace to trust Him even in the hardest times.

December 13

The place where Christ dwells is in the hearts and lives of His people.

Acts 7:48 'Howbeit the Most High does not dwell in temples made with hands;'

The place where Christ dwells is in the hearts and lives of His people.
Jesus came to give us life not religion.
True worship must be seen in our daily life.
It is by our attitude, our words, and our actions
that we express our love for Christ.
We are His temple; the place where His Spirit dwells;
there is no greater calling than this.
His peace in us is the evidence of salvation;
His presence in us is the evidence of new life;

His joy in us is the evidence of forgiveness;
His love in us is the evidence of discipleship.
If we love Christ then we will love and obey His word.

December 14

The foundation of the church is Jesus Christ.

Matthew 16:18 '...and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.'

The foundation of the church is Jesus Christ.
All other foundations will fail.
Christ alone is able to save; to keep;
and He is able to strengthen us in every circumstance of life.
When our life is built upon Christ and His word
there is nothing that can overcome us.
He alone is the rock on which His church is built.
He died for us; He rose again for us;
and He ascended far above all powers for us.
When we trust in Christ alone then no sin can condemn us;
no evil can destroy us; and no enemy can defeat us.
He is our unshakeable foundation.

December 15

Jesus Christ is the Word of God made flesh.

John 1:14 'And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us'.

God and His word cannot be separated.
Jesus Christ is the Word of God made flesh.
His life is seen us when we love and desire His word.
We grow in Christ as we grow in His word.
Love for Christ means choosing to obey His commands regardless of the cost.
As we mature in Christ, we become more confident to trust in His promises.
Faith in His word will make us strong so we can lead others in difficult times.
The more His word fills our heart and mind;
the more His love will increase in our life.
When we love Christ then we will be willing to suffer persecution
rather than deny His word.

December 16

The world cannot know this peace.

2 Thessalonians 3:16 'Now the Lord of peace Himself give you peace always by all means. The Lord be with you all.'

Jesus came for this purpose to bring peace to all who trust in Him.
The world cannot know this peace.
It is peace that will fill our innermost being
even in times of hardship; heartache; and sorrow.
It is the peace of being in right relationship with God through Jesus Christ;
the peace of being justified through faith in Jesus Christ alone;
the peace of knowing our sins are forgiven and nothing can condemn us;
the peace of knowing Christ lives in us and we are one in Him.
It is the peace of knowing He is always with us and we need fear no evil.

December 17

Love put on humility; kindness stood in our place.

Philippians 2:7 'But made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:'

His power was revealed in weakness;
love put on humility; kindness stood in our place.
Jesus Christ alone was able to take us through judgment;
conquer death; unite us with His life;
raise us up to be seated with Him in heavenly places;
and make us joint heirs with Him.
The Son of God became like us so we can be free from the bondage of self
and brought into the freedom of new life in Christ.
He became a servant and died for us
so that we in Him could be lifted
from the depths of sin to the heights of holiness.

December 18

When we look for His appearing, we will live for His glory.

Hebrews 9:28 '...to those who look for Him shall He appear the second time without sin unto salvation.'

He came the first time in weakness;
the eternal Son of God became like us to take away our sin.
He shall return a second time;
no longer the babe in a manger but King of kings and Lord of lords.
On that day His glory will be fully seen.
All who belong to Him will be changed into His likeness.
When we look for His appearing, we will live for His glory.
We will put on His armour so sin cannot harm us;
we will walk in His Spirit so His love controls our actions;
we will reach out to others with the message of new life in Jesus.

December 19

We need never be ashamed of the gospel.

2 Timothy 1:8 'Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord,'

We need never be ashamed of the gospel.
It is able to save the worst of sinners;
to break the power of sinful habits;
and to fill the empty with abundant life.
The Holy Spirit is our Helper.
He fills us with righteousness; peace; and joy so we can live for Him.
He is able to make the feeble into mighty ambassadors for Christ.
He gives assurance to stand on His word,
and power so we can boldly declare our faith in Christ.
There is no other gospel that brings eternal life;
no other Saviour who can take away our sin;
and no other gift that can compare with the joy of His salvation.

December 20

Good news; great joy; the gift of salvation.

Luke 2:10 'And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people'.

The good news is that when we could do nothing,
Jesus, the Son of God did everything for us.
He became like us so we can be united with Him forever.
There is great joy because in Him we are set free from condemnation
and brought into the freedom of new life.
The gospel is to all people
because salvation does not depend upon who we are or what we have done;
it depends upon who Jesus is and all He has done for us.
We experience great joy by believing the good news
and by receiving the gift of eternal life.

December 21

When we trust in Jesus our sin is completely wiped away.

Colossians 2:14 'Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to His cross;'

When we trust in Jesus our sin is completely wiped away.
There is no record of our sin in heaven.
Jesus took it on the cross;
it is crucified and buried with Him.
No further sacrifice is necessary to take away our sin.

He has removed it as far as the east is from the west.
There is nothing that can condemn us because Jesus died for us.
We are lifted from guilt; separated from sin; united with His righteousness;
and set free to be the people He created us to be.
A holy people; filled with His love.

December 22

There is no greater gift than Jesus.

John 3:16 'For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.'

The Father could not give any greater gift than Jesus.
He could not love us more.
There are no barriers to His love.
He not only knows our sins;
He became sin for us so we can be righteous in Him.
He not only knows our weaknesses;
Jesus became weak for us so we can rely upon His strength.
He not only knows our failings;
He loved us when we were lost and without hope,
not regarding our inability, but drawing us to Himself through faith in Him.
He gave His life for us so we can give ourselves to Him.

December 23

His kingdom will never end.

Luke 1:33 'And He shall reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of His kingdom there shall be no end.'

Jesus came to earth to be our Saviour;
He ascended to be our Lord; He will return again as King.
The kingdoms of the earth will pass away but His kingdom will never end.
He reigns in the hearts and lives of His people,
and all who belong to Him will reign with Him forever.
There is no one else like Jesus.
He is able to save because He overcame sin and death for us;
He is able to keep because He defeated every power that would have destroyed us;
He is able to lead because His throne is everlasting and He will reign forever and ever.

December 24

The life of Christ in us.

John 1:4 'In Him was life; and the life was the light of men.'

When we receive Christ, His life dwells in us.
It is the life of Christ in us that draws others to Him.
The life of Christ is not temporary, it is eternal;
it cannot be pulled down by sin or destroyed by death;
it cannot be produced by religion;
it needs no law to keep its ways straight;
it is always controlled by love;
it can never be condemned;
it has no power above it;
it is clothed in righteousness and truth;
and its works shine as lights in a dark world.
The gospel of Jesus Christ is not words,
it is the power of God, evidenced in us by new life in Jesus.

December 25

Salvation is the wisdom, grace, love, power, and gift of God.

Ephesians 2: 8 'For by grace are you saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:'

Salvation is all of God.
Salvation took the wisdom of God to plan it;
the grace of God to give it;
the love of God to provide it;
and the power of God to fulfil it.
Jesus Christ is the greatest gift ever given.
There is no sin the blood of Jesus cannot cleanse;
no person who the grace of God cannot save;
nobody His love does not desire to reach;
no person, good or bad, His power does not seek to make anew.
Jesus Christ alone was worthy to achieve salvation;
faith in Jesus Christ alone is the only way we can receive His salvation.

December 26

The light of the gospel; the glory of His presence.

Luke 2:32 'A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel.'

When the glory of the presence of Jesus fills His people
then the light of the gospel will shine out to the world.
The more we are filled with Jesus;
the more we will shine as lights in the world.
The message of the gospel is told to others by our words;
the reality of the gospel must be seen in the lives of His people.
The truth of the gospel will be made known to hearts that are open;
the power of the gospel must be experienced through new life in Christ.
We are the light of the world and the presence of Christ is the glory in His people.

December 27

In Christ we are always victorious.

1 Corinthians 15:57 'But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.'

In Christ we are always victorious.

We need never be afraid because Christ is our life;

the Holy Spirit is our Helper;

and all the promises of God are ours in Christ.

Our riches are in Christ; our status is in Christ;

our joy is in Christ; our freedom is in Christ.

We are sons and daughters of the living God; loved with an everlasting love.

We are His disciples; set free to serve others with the love He has given us.

We know we have eternal life because His Spirit dwells in us.

He gives strength to stand in hard times and the faith to depend upon His word.

December 28

A faithful person is reliable at all times.

Luke 16:10 'He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much: and he who is unjust in the least is unjust also in much.'

A faithful person is reliable at all times.

In Christ we are one body; a team working together.

If we seek our own interest, we will be a hindrance to others.

When we are faithful in what is least, we achieve great things together.

If we are faithful to obey His will, we will see His will fulfilled together.

A faithful person is diligent, truthful, trustworthy, and responsible at all times.

Diligence keeps us from missed opportunities;

truthfulness guards us from pretence and hypocrisy;

trustworthiness keeps us from dishonesty and self-seeking desire;

responsibility guards us from foolish and immature behaviour.

December 29

True Christianity is the power of God working in us.

2 Corinthians 13:11 'Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you.'

True Christianity is the power of God working in us.

Our perfection is the perfection of the life of Christ in us.

Our Comforter is the Holy Spirit who helps and empowers us.

It is not our opinions and thoughts that make us of one mind;

it is the mind of Christ that unites us as we grow in His word.

Our peace is more than agreement;
our peace is in Christ who has made us one through the new covenant.
When we trust in His care and walk in His ways
then His love and peace will always surround us.

December 30

It is not our works but His life that will be glorified in us.

Revelation 16:5 'Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he who watches, and keeps his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame.'

Man makes religions but God made the universe.
When Jesus returns it will not be as a religious icon.
His glory is greater than the beauty of creation.
We shall behold Him in all of His glory.
It is not our works but His life that will be glorified in us.
If we watch for His return
then we will love His word and desire to know Him more.
We will seek daily to grow in Him so His love controls all our actions,
we will put on Christ as our armour
so His righteousness fills our heart and keeps us pure.

December 31

In Christ we are brought into immense riches.

Ephesians 3:8 'To me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ;'

In Christ we are brought into immense riches.
Our riches are in Him; our hope is in Him; our joy is in Him.
His kingdom dwells within us;
His righteousness covers us;
His name is over us;
His peace is guarding us;
His love surrounds us;
His promises protect us;
His word strengthens us;
His Spirit leads us.
We have need of nothing when Christ is our possession.
He is our message; our salvation is in Him.
He is our life and everything we are is because of Him.
We need fear no evil because Jesus Christ is Lord.

Stephen Dulwich