

Daily Verses
February 2012

February 1

We grow in wisdom through relationship with Jesus

James 1:5 'If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally, and without reproach; and it shall be given him.'

We grow in wisdom through relationship with Jesus;
knowledge of the scriptures;
and by experience in our Christian life.
Wisdom is to rest in His care;
trust in His word;
and walk in His will.
The Holy Spirit equips us for every situation
by bringing scripture to our remembrance.
We become wise as we recognize the hand of the Lord upon our life.
The Lord does not reproach us when we lack wisdom.
He will build us up by His word and lead us by His Spirit.

February 2

Jesus died so that His law could be written on our heart.

Romans 7:22 'For I delight in the law of God after the inward man:'

Jesus took our evil desires on the cross.
They are crucified and buried with Him.
In Christ we are set free from every evil thing.
The law could never do this.
Legalism delights in outward appearances
but leaves the inward man depraved.
Jesus died so that His law could be written on our heart.
It is not a law that seeks to quench evil desires;
it is a law that delights to put on Christ;
to walk in the freedom of new life;
and to love others with the love He has given us.
It is the joy of new life in Christ.

February 3

Wickedness is not the lack of good works.

1 John 5:19 'And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lies in wickedness.'

The achievements of the world are amazing.
The advances of science are impressive.

The skill and bravery of professional people save many lives.
The good works of caring people are highly beneficial.
Wickedness is not the lack of good works.
It is a heart separated from God;
a heart that is led by the need to satisfy the appetites;
captivated by the desire for selfish pleasure;
and desiring self glory.
When Christ is our life then our desire will be to please Him;
to trust daily in His word;
and to know Him more.

February 4

The beauty of the Lord upon His people.

Psalm 90:17 'And let the beauty of the LORD our God be upon us: and establish the work of our hands upon us;'

The purpose of God for our life is that we will be like Jesus.
He gave Himself for us so that we can become like Him.
When Christ dwells in our heart
then the beauty of the Lord will be seen upon us.
It is the beauty of His righteousness keeping us;
and the beauty of His love motivating us.
We can do nothing without Him.
He will establish the work of our hands
when our heart seeks after Him.
His beauty will be seen in us
when we desire Him more than the things of the world.

February 5

The light of the gospel shines brightest in the worst places.

James 2:5 'Has not God chosen the poor of this world to be rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which He has promised to those who love Him?'

The light of the gospel shines brightest in the worst places.
No matter how bad our situation
there is power in the gospel to lift the lowest and the worst.
In Christ the prisoner is set free from the power of sin.
The poor receive great riches through new life in Christ.
The despised of the world are lifted to be children of the living God.
It is the poor, the weak, and those in need
who find freedom and riches in Jesus.

February 6

Answered prayer comes out of relationship.

Matthew 21:22 'And all things, whatsoever you shall ask in prayer, believing, you shall receive.'

Answered prayer comes out of relationship.
It is being united with the Holy Spirit
so He can lead and direct our prayer.
It is being united with the will of God and the word of God.
Prayer agrees with the plan and purpose of God
so our petitions and requests have this same central theme,
'Your kingdom come; Your will be done'.
It is union with Christ;
in His name we approach the throne in prayer.
We can therefore say
that it is not I but Christ who prays through me.
If we pray like this then our prayer will always be answered.

February 7

Keeping a right mind; alert; prayerful

1 Peter 4:7 'But the end of all things is at hand: therefore be of sound mind and sober unto prayer.'

If we love Christ,
we will understand the importance of the hour in which we live.
We will be careful to keep ourselves in the right mind.
Not acting foolishly; not doing things we later regret.
Keeping alert and not allowing the intoxication of the world
to rob us of our opportunity to serve Christ.
How essential prayer is in our life
will depend upon how much we rely upon the Lord.
If we trust in our own strength then prayer will be weak.
If we recognize our weakness and trust in His strength
then our prayer life will be urgent, vibrant, and continuous.

February 8

We do not debate salvation; we proclaim it.

1 Thessalonians 1:5 'For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Spirit, and in much assurance;'

There is power in the message of the gospel.
The Holy Spirit has power to bring new life in Christ
by the preaching of the gospel
and faith in the cleansing power of the blood of Jesus.
When we receive Christ; we receive His life.
All who truly believe in Jesus are made completely new in Him.
We do not debate salvation; we proclaim it.

We know with certainty Christ dwells in us.
The Holy Spirit gives us full assurance that we are one with Christ;
and He who made the heavens is our Abba Father.'

February 9

Submission to one another.

1 Peter 5:5 '...be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resists the proud, and gives grace to the humble.'

Submission to one another does not mean
always yielding to the most strongly opinionated
and dogmatic person in the group.
It means being willing to give way to one another;
serving one another;
and recognizing those who are able to lead
by their example;
their experience;
and their growth in the scripture.

The first garment we must always put on in Christian leadership is humility.
It will keep us from the destructive power of pride;
and prevent us from seeking to use the gospel for personal gain.

February 10

Needs present opportunities to draw others to Christ.

Galatians 6:10 'As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all, especially unto those who are of the household of faith.'

Businesses prosper by providing for the needs of others;
needs present opportunities.
A calling on our life means
to dedicate ourselves to a particular work for the benefit of others.
When times are difficult there are always opportunities to help others.
In the Christian life our love for Christ
will be seen most through our concern for the needs of others.
It is only the gospel of Christ that has power to save;
but it is the love of Christ expressed through His people
that will draw others to Christ.

February 11

Freedom in Christ is the freedom to be holy.

Romans 6:1 'What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?'

The freedom we have in Christ is the freedom to be holy.

It is the freedom to walk in new life.
There is no freedom outside of Christ.
The pleasures of sin will not bring life;
immense riches cannot make a person free;
and the things of the world can never satisfy the empty heart.
In Christ alone we have life; freedom; and fulfilment.
When we trust in Christ then the law cannot condemn us;
but sin can still rob us of our joy;
it can destroy our testimony for Christ;
and can even cause an early death.

February 12

He makes all things new.

Revelation 21:5 'And He that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And He said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.'

The Lord does not renovate the old; He makes completely new.
He takes the wreck of our life and makes us a new creation.
He puts a new heart within us that is filled with His righteousness.
He puts a new song in our mouth that rejoices in His love for us.
He lifts us out of condemnation and death
and brings us into newness of life.
His mercies towards us are new every morning.
He is the God of the new.
In Christ we are renewed daily.
He sets us free from the past;
we are new in Him.

February 13

We must learn to trust in Jesus to be able to lift others.

Hebrews 12:12 'Therefore lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees;'

When we look to our own strength;
and trust in our own resources;
or rely on favourable circumstances;
then we can easily be discouraged and become weary.
But when we look beyond the circumstances
and see who we are in Christ
then we can speak with boldness;
act with confidence;
and be fearless in the face of difficulty.
The Lord does not keep us from trials;
He leads us through the trial so we can be an encouragement to others.
It is only those who have truly learnt to trust in Jesus who are able to lift others.

February 14

The command is royal; the warning is urgent; the message is clear.

Titus 1:3 'But has in due times made known His word through preaching, which is committed to me according to the commandment of God our Saviour;'

Preaching is the proclamation of a message.

It is not a message of condemnation;

it is the good news of new life in Jesus.

The world is already condemned;

only time separates sin from judgment.

Salvation must be received.

If we trust in Jesus then we pass through judgment into new life;

if we reject His gift then we will face the judgment alone.

This is the message of the gospel.

The command is royal;

the warning is urgent;

the message is clear;

the time is now.

February 15

It is God who created us in His image.

Acts 17:29 '...as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and man's device.'

There is no image made by man that can portray the likeness of God.

All the icons and idols in the world are vain and useless.

It is God who created us in His image.

He made us creative; capable of true worship; and filled with potential.

It was sin that destroyed His image in us and made us corrupt.

But Jesus came to regain more than was lost.

When we trust in Him, He unites us with Himself;

and makes us a people who love with His love;

and who worship God in spirit and in truth.

February 16

Christ in us is the gold.

Revelation 3:18 'I counsel you to buy of Me gold tried in the fire, that you may be rich;'

Gold is enduring and purified by fire.

Christ in us is the gold.

When His life dwells in us then we can endure hardship;

stand firm in the trial;

be strong in time of sorrow;

and unshakable in persecutions.

The fire cannot destroy it;
but reveals its worth and its quality.
The more we desire Christ, the more it will cost.
The price we pay differs according to who we are.
For some it can cost success;
for others their reputation;
it may cost the rejection of family and friends;
and some must pay with their life.
But no weapon can defeat it and no enemy can overcome it.

February 17

His promise is certain; He will draw near to us.

James 4:8 'Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you.'

His promise is certain.
He will draw near to us,
not because of who we are, or how good we are,
or what we have done, or what we have not done,
but simply because we draw near to Him.
In Christ is everything our heart truly desires.
Peace, joy, love, contentment, and life itself are not found in the world
but they are found in Jesus Christ.
There is no lasting value in worldly possessions;
the glittering appearance of worldly success is an illusion;
and the pleasure of a sinful life
can never remove the emptiness of a life lost and without hope.
There is nothing that can compare with the joy of a heart
that is filled with the presence of the living God.

February 18

All who trust in Him will never be disappointed.

Romans 10:11 'For the scripture says, Whoever believes on Him shall not be ashamed.'

Foundations can appear secure but when they are shaken they fall.
We build our life upon the things we love;
the things we trust in;
and the things we depend upon.
Faith in Christ is a complete shift.
It means a total dependence upon all that Jesus Christ has done for us.
When we trust fully in Him then our heart will be drawn to Him;
our love for His word will grow daily;
our desire will be to do His will;
His love in us will overflow to others;
and the joy He gives will make our heart rejoice.
All who trust in Him will never be disappointed.

February 19

When we receive Christ, His life dwells in us.

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

The life of Christ is not temporary its 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.
When we receive Christ, His life dwells in us.
It is the life of Christ in us that will draw others to Him.
Doctrine without life is empty.
The gospel of Jesus Christ is not words,
it is the power of God,
evidenced in us by new life in Jesus.

February 20

The marriage supper of the Lamb.

Revelation 19:9 'Blessed are they who are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb.'

Salvation in Jesus Christ is more than forgiveness.
It is a marriage.
We are united with Christ; one with Him.
The bridal gown is the righteousness of Christ; none other is accepted.
He gave Himself for us so that we can give ourselves to Him.
It is a supper because we feast upon Christ and His word.
He quenches our thirst with living water that is able to flow out to others.
He is the Lamb of God who loved us enough to lay down His life for us.
We are united with Christ;
washed through His blood;
cleansed by His word;
and filled with His Spirit.

February 21

The love of money.

1 Timothy 6:10 'For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith,'

The love of money is the idol of the poor;

and the master of the rich.
It will blind our eyes from the things that are worth most in our life;
turn our heart from truth;
and lead us in the way of selfish gain.
If we love money then we cannot serve Christ.
Contentment comes through knowing who we are in Christ
and not through the amount of money we possess.
In Christ we are stewards of the blessings that He gives us day by day.
He will supply all our needs so that we can be His people
in a world that needs to know Jesus.

February 22

Truth; reality; and moral responsibility.

Revelation 1:7 '...and every eye shall see Him,'

Truth remains constant even in a world that rejects its authority.
The world loves the soothing comfort of religion that will calm its fears;
the reasoning of philosophy that justifies its actions;
and the respect given by society to those who choose to remain politically correct
in a world devoid of moral responsibility.
When Jesus returns then religion will be confronted by truth;
myth will be consumed by reality;
and political correctness will not hide the filth of a degenerate society.
When we know that Jesus will soon return
then our only concern should be to obey His word; to walk in His will;
and to let the things we do and say
reflect the beauty of His character and the sweetness of His love.

February 23

The goodness of God has provided all for us.

Psalms 33:5 '...the earth is full of the goodness of the LORD.'

The earth is filled with His resources.
The goodness of the Lord is seen in His provision.
He gives all things freely.
The advances of the modern age are made possible
by the resources given to us by the goodness of God.
In every area of life there are new worlds to discover.
For every problem there is a solution to be found;
and for every sickness a cure can be sought.
He provides the means to produce food so that none need go hungry,
and water to satisfy our thirst.
He even saw the destructive, evil, and sinful nature of mankind
and took our sin upon Himself
so that we can receive new life through faith in Jesus Christ.
The goodness of God has provided all for us.

February 24

Partakers of His nature

2 Peter 1:4 'Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these you might be partakers of the divine nature,'

The Christian life is not a standard we must follow;
it is a banqueting table where we feed upon Christ and His word.
The Christian is in fellowship with Christ;
united with Christ; one with Him;
and from Him every resource
that we need to live the Christian life can be drawn.
We become partakers of His nature by feeding upon His promises.
We become like Him as we trust in His provision and not in ourselves.
There is nothing that can overcome us because Christ dwells in us;
there is nothing that we cannot overcome
because His promises are our possession.

February 25

Call and He will answer.

Psalms 50:15 'And call upon Me in the day of trouble: I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me.'

Trouble should never cause us to despair; it should draw us to Christ.
He stands closest when we need Him most.
The prayer that is answered is not a polished recitation of words;
it is the heartfelt cry of an aching heart to a merciful God.
If we need forgiveness; Jesus died for us.
If we need help; He has promised He will never leave us.
If we need provision; He has given everything for us.
There is nothing the Lord will not do for the good of His people.
If we trust in Jesus and call on His name then He will answer;
It is with praise and thanksgiving that we can glorify Him.

February 26

Separated from sin; a new creation

Psalms 103:12 'As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us.'

Sin with its condemnation is completely removed from us
through faith in Jesus Christ alone.
There is no other sacrifice for sin.
Works cannot add one thing to the finished work of Jesus Christ for us.
The wonderful gift of God is complete freedom from sin.

When we receive Jesus Christ then we are a new creation.
We are separated from sin through the death of Christ
and raised to new life through His resurrected life dwelling in us.
Jesus paid in full the penalty for our sin;
we are His people; bought with His blood;
set free to be holy.

February 27

Exalted in our praise; glorified in our life.

Psalm 57:11 'Be exalted, O God, above the heavens: let Your glory be over all the earth.'

The Lord is exalted through the praises of His people.
He is glorified through the lives of His people.
There is none like our God.
There is no greater purpose than to glorify Him.
When we receive new life in Jesus then His name is written upon our life.
Everything we do and say represents the King.
Every moment we can exalt the Lord in our heart;
giving thanks for all He has done for us.
Every day we can glorify Him with our life;
letting His light shine through us.

February 28

The impartation of life

Romans 8:11 'He who raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by His Spirit who dwells in you.'

Christianity is more than faith.
It is the impartation of life.
Jesus died for us;
faith in Christ alone unites us with all He has done for us;
the Holy Spirit causes the seed of the gospel to produce new life in us;
and we grow daily in this new life.
It is our guarantee that the same Spirit who dwells in us,
changing us daily into the likeness of Jesus,
will one day change our mortal body into a glorified body,
free from sickness, sin, and sorrow.

February 29

Christ formed in us

Galatians 4:19 'My little children, of whom I travail in birth again until Christ be formed in you,'

Christianity is described as a new birth.
It cannot be produced by works or sacraments;
it is faith alone that produces new life in Christ.
It is not what we do that makes us a Christian;
it is who we are in Christ.
If we try to live the Christian life by our own efforts we will fail.
But when Christ is formed in us
then we are brought into the freedom of new life.