

Daily Verses

June 2012

June 1

Coals on the fire

Hebrews 10:25 'Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another:'

As coals on the fire, we need one another
to keep the fire of God burning in our heart and life.
Our fellowship is in Christ.
It is His life dwelling in us that unites us as one.
We are one body;
a people created in Christ Jesus to be united together.
Fellowship with one another
keeps our mind focused upon Christ and His word;
strengthens us when we are under pressure;
lifts us when we could easily become discouraged;
and is an opportunity to rejoice together
because Christ is our life.

June 2

Citizens of heaven

Philippians 3:20 'For our citizenship is in heaven; from which also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ:'

When Christ is our life then our citizenship is in heaven.
The things of earth are to be held lightly.
The way we live represents our King.
We belong to the Lord.
Our goal should always be
to do the things that are pleasing to Him.
We know that one day Jesus will return.
Our expectation and joy is that
on that day we shall be changed into His likeness.

June 3

True repentance

2 Corinthians 7:10 'For godly sorrow works repentance to salvation'

True repentance is always positive.
It means to change our thinking.
Godly sorrow is a heaviness of guilt

that comes by acknowledging
the hopelessness of our sinful condition.
It sees the futility of life centred upon self
and desires to be lifted from it.
Repentance looks to Christ and all He has done for us.
It trusts fully in Him.
He alone is able to lift us from the guilt and condemnation of sin.
He alone brings new life to all who will receive Him.
He then makes us ambassadors of His grace
so others can find new life in Christ through us.

June 4

Jesus Christ is King of kings.

Proverbs 21:1 'The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, as the rivers of water: He turns it whichever way He will.'

Jesus Christ is King of kings.
His authority is above all other.
We can rest in His care.
Our concern is to be faithful in everything we do;
to be diligent in doing all things to the best of our ability;
to do those things that please Him and to obey His word.
When we honour Him in everything we do
then He is able to open doors of opportunity for us;
He will make a way so His purpose will be fulfilled in our life;
and He will make us a blessing to many.

June 5

Crown of righteousness.

2 Timothy 4:8 'Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me on that day: and not to me only, but also to all who love His appearing.'

The crown that the Lord gives is not a crown worn as a decoration;
it is a crown of glory.
It is the glory of His righteousness that shines in us.
The righteousness of Christ
is the radiant glory of all who trust in Him.
He is the righteous judge and we are justified in Christ.
We are not condemned because Christ died for us;
we are righteous because Christ lives in us.
His righteousness is our crown and glory.

June 6

What we look for will determine how we live.

Hebrews 11:10 'For he looked for a city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.'

What we look for will determine how we live.
If we desire the pleasure that sin has to offer
then our heart will soon be turned away
from the desire to know and understand scripture.
If we covet the prosperity of the world
then it will rob us of our love for Christ.
If we desire the honours and privileges of the world
then we will soon become ashamed of the gospel of Christ.
If we desire Christ above all other
then nothing will ever turn our heart from Him;
and our one concern will be to do His will.

June 7

What we treasure will hold us captive.

Hebrews 11:26 'Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.'

What we treasure will hold us captive.
Moses was not held captive by the treasures of Egypt.
He had access to great riches
yet Christ alone was the treasure he sought after.
When Christ is our treasure
then He will hold our heart captive.
Our love for Christ will be known by our joy in serving Him;
our willingness to take the lowest place;
by our desire to do His will no matter what the cost;
and by our love for one another.
The reward we will seek after is Christ.

June 8

Our priorities reveal the extent of our love for Christ.

Hebrews 13:14 'For here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come.'

The things that have first place in our life are determined
by the kingdom that reigns in our heart.
It is our priorities that reveal the extent of our love for Christ.
When we seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness
then everything we do is an opportunity to represent Christ.
The kingdom we seek after will be seen by our honesty;
integrity; diligence; faithfulness;
and reliability in everyday things.

When we trust in the eternal riches that we have in Christ then we will not fear the loss of temporal possessions.

June 9

Praise and thanksgiving

Hebrews 13:15 'By Him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to His name.'

Praise is more than singing.

It is the expression of the heart rejoicing in who Jesus is and all He has done for us. Praise takes our eyes away from ourselves and glories in the Lord.

It looks not at our unworthiness but at His provision for us.

Thankfulness is more than words.

It is joyful appreciation because of the goodness of Jesus and His great love towards us.

It is with our heart; our mind; our life; and with the words of our mouth that we offer praise and thanksgiving.

June 10

Worship is a lifestyle

Hebrews 13:16 'But to do good and to fellowship forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.'

Worship is a lifestyle.

The sacrifices we offer in worship to the Lord are the things we do in our daily life.

It is the love of Christ in us that enables us to worship with the works that are pleasing in His sight.

The opportunities we have to do good for others are opportunities of worship.

We can show the Lord how much we love Him by caring for one another, by helping one another, and by being considerate towards one another.

Fellowship is more than meeting together.

It is the love of Christ flowing through His body enabling us to worship in spirit and in truth.

June 11

Meekness seeks to lift others up.

Galatians 6:1 'Brethren, if a person is overtaken in a fault, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in the spirit of meekness; considering yourself, lest you also be tempted.'

The Christian life is never legalistic; it is Christ who lives in us.
We have nothing to boast about in ourselves.
Self righteousness is worthless in the sight of God;
it is crucified with Christ.
We have no right to condemn others;
grace alone lifted us and His grace now works in us.
Our boast is in Christ;
His righteousness is our possession.
We do not pull others down.
Meekness seeks to lift others up;
it is able to see the potential in others;
and will always encourage others to live for Christ.

June 12

Carrying the burdens of others.

Galatians 6:2 'Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.'

We are one family in Christ.
The law of Christ is that we love one another as Christ loved us.
A burden is a weight that can become too heavy to bear.
Carrying the burdens of others means
being there when we are needed;
always ready to encourage;
and being a support in difficult times.
It means lifting each other up
when pressure and discouragement could bring us down.
It may involve the need for practical help
but there are burdens that must be carried in prayer.
We need to pray fervently for one another
and to strengthen one another by building each other up in the scriptures.

June 13

We can do nothing without Christ.

Galatians 6:3 'For if anyone thinks himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself.'

We will be more understanding of others
when we realise that we can do nothing without Christ.
If we think we can live the Christian life
in our own strength; by our own abilities; or by our own efforts
then we will be defeated.
We are what we are by the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ.
When we know our own weakness then we can rely upon

His strength; His power; His life that works in us.
We can encourage and restore those who fall
by helping them to rely upon His strength and not their own.

June 14

Evaluating our works

Galatians 6:4 'But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another.'

We can evaluate our work by considering whether
we are producing the fruit of the Spirit in our life;
or if self is in control
so that our good deeds are only works of the flesh.
When the love of Christ is our motivation
then our rejoicing is not in ourselves; or in our works;
our rejoicing is in Christ.
It is His life; His love; and His power that works in us.
We know we are born of the Spirit of God
when our heart is filled with compassion for those who Jesus died to save;
and His joy and peace fill our innermost being.

June 15

Our burden is to let the world know that Christ is alive in us.

Galatians 6:5 'For every man shall bear his own burden.'

The burden we must be ready to bear is to love others
with the love that Christ has given us.
It is not a heavy burden.
When Christ is our life
then it is our responsibility to put on Christ in our daily life.
We do not bear burdens to gratify a feeling of self righteousness.
We take up Christ so that His love; His joy; His peace
can be brought into the lives of others.
We are to shine as lights in the world
by presenting Christ to the world through our life;
through our works;
and through the message of the gospel.
Our burden is to let the world know that Christ is alive in us.

June 16

Reaping an eternal harvest in the lives of others.

Galatians 6:8 'For he that sows to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that sows to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.'

The kind of seeds we plant will determine what we reap.
Without Christ the destructive nature of sin will reap a deadly harvest.
But when we put on the Lord Jesus Christ
then we are able to sow the seeds of reconciliation,
freedom, and new life in Him.
If we sow aggression then we will reap hostility.
If we sow the message of the gospel with the fruit of the Spirit
then we will reap an eternal harvest in the lives of others.

June 17

Provision has been made for us through the cross.

Galatians 6:14 'But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world.'

The message of the gospel is new life in Christ.
His death sets us free from condemnation.
His resurrected life brings us into the freedom of new life.
Religion can never produce new life.
Sacraments cannot take away sin.
Good works can never change a sinful heart.
It is only through the cross of the Lord Jesus Christ
that provision has been made for us.
If we trust in anything else then we will die in our sin.
It is Christ and Christ alone who saves.

June 18

The character of God in us.

Ephesians 5:9 '(For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth;)'

The fruit of the Spirit is the expression of the character of God in us.
It will never sacrifice the goodness of God for the benefits of man.
It upholds what is right and just;
and only acts in accordance with truth.
It reaches out with love and mercy but never at the expense of godliness.
It shows compassion towards those who need Christ
but only for the glory of God.
It is transparent in its purity and has no defect whatsoever.
It is beautiful to behold and sweet in its taste.
The fruit of the Spirit is never deceitful.
It is firmly established upon truth.

June 19

The things that are well pleasing to the Lord.

Ephesians 5:10 'Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord.'

The fruit of the Spirit must be produced through growth.
It is the life of Christ in us.
It stands in contrast to the works of the flesh.
The fruit of the Spirit welcomes examination.
Its purity is seen clearest in the light.
The works of the flesh entice and seduce;
they corrupt and destroy;
they elevate selfish pride;
and bring hostility and division.
They cover themselves with a hypocritical mask
that hides their true character.
They are like the insects that despise the light
and crawl under the dark places.
If we keep our heart from the works of the flesh
then the fruit of the Spirit will produce in us
the things that are well pleasing to the Lord.

June 20

The unfruitful works of darkness

Ephesians 5:11 'And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.'

Fellowship with the works of darkness
will put us in danger of being drawn into them.
Familiarity breaks down the defences a godly life.
The more acceptable they appear,
the less able we are to stand against them.
They are called works of darkness
because the light exposes them
but the darkness hides them.
They are unfruitful because they are destructive by nature.
We know there is forgiveness in Christ; He is able to restore us;
but He has lifted us above the shame of sin and its pleasures.
We should never allow ourselves to be drawn towards them.
We should be as lights in the world exposing their true character.

June 21

Being diligent to walk by the straightest path.

Ephesians 5:15 'See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise,'

Circumspectly means being diligent to walk by the straightest path.
This is not legalism.
It means to put on Christ in our daily life;

to let His love control all our actions;
to stand firm in the armour He provides;
to fill our hearts and minds with His word
so that we know His will and walk in His ways.
It means to take care that we are not swayed by the standards of the world
or deceived by its words.
Wisdom acts in accordance with the mind of Christ
but foolishness has no regard for the will of God,
seeking only to fulfil the desires of self.

June 22

Redeeming the time

Ephesians 5:16 'Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.'

Time comes with no guarantee;
it waits for no one.
Opportunities are quickly lost.
Right now we can fully surrender our life to Christ;
we can choose to obey His word;
and keep ourselves pure
so we do not fall victim to the deceitful standards of the world.
Regrets result from wrong values;
wrong decisions;
wrong actions;
and missed opportunities.
If we run with the world; we will perish with the world.
When we serve Christ everything we do counts for eternity.
The opportunity to live for Christ is a precious gift
that must be taken immediately or it will soon be lost.

June 23

The battle of the mind

Ephesians 5:17 'Therefore be not unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.'

The battle of the mind is the greatest battle we face.
The intoxication of the world will cloud our minds;
weaken our defences;
and cause us to accept its standards.
It will then be able to open our lives to its corrupting and destructive influence.
The clear light of the gospel of Christ will keep our minds
from the foolishness of following the sensual pleasures of the world
and having to suffer their devastating consequences.
If we are wise then we will keep His word in our heart.
As we grow in the Lord His will becomes our desire.

June 24

The Holy Spirit is able to fill empty vessels.

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

The Holy Spirit is able to fill empty vessels.
If our heart and mind are filled with the things of the world
then we will never be filled with the Holy Spirit.
The more we desire Christ;
the more His Spirit will fill us to overflowing.
The more our heart thirsts for righteousness;
the more He will satisfy our thirst with His presence.
Drunkenness makes a person foolish;
it loosens the tongue;
and brings shame through wrong actions.
The Holy Spirit brings joy;
He fills our mind with peace;
He puts a song of praise in our mouth;
and He gives us the character of royalty.

June 25

The impulsive and sensual desires of the flesh.

Galatians 5:24 'And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.'

The flesh refers to the impulsive and sensual desires
that cause us to behave like an animal without thought or reason.
It takes the beautiful and makes it vile;
seeks to spread its filth in the mind;
covets wealth;
and obtains worship for the idols of self glory.
It defends the rights of self exaltation;
and justifies the thoughtless actions of a society addicted to pleasure.
When Christ is our life
we can put off the impulsive and sensual desires of the flesh.
We are able to consider them as dead;
crucified and buried with Christ.
We are set free to be holy;
free to walk in new life.

June 26

Walking in new life is our responsibility.

Galatians 5: 25 'If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.'

New life in Christ is our possession.

Walking in new life is our responsibility.
We do not try to live a good life; it is Christ who lives in us.
It is not by our efforts that we walk in the Spirit; it is His power working in us.
When we have new life in Christ; we must put it on.
In Christ we have overcome the works of the flesh;
we must be willing to put them off.
Jesus gave Himself for us so that we can have a new heart;
new desires; and a completely new life.
It is His life in us that produces the fruit of righteousness.

June 27

In Christ we have an eternal reward.

Galatians 5:26 'Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another.'

If we seek honour for ourselves
then we will block the moving of the Holy Spirit in our lives
and in the lives of others.
If we allow self interest to motivate our actions
then the work will be hindered.
If we provoke one another;
criticise one another;
and pull each other down
the love of Christ cannot move through us.
If we have wrong thoughts towards one another
then envy will destroy the work of the Lord.
The glory we should seek is His glory.
The honour we should run after is the honour of serving Jesus.
We should rejoice when others are used of the Lord.
In Christ we have an eternal reward.

June 28

We do not obtain life by works, rituals, or by keeping the law.

Galatians 5:13 'For, brethren, you have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another.'

The liberty we have in Christ is the liberty of new life.
We do not obtain life by works, rituals, or by keeping the law.
Life is a gift; we must enter into it.
If we try to obtain holiness through the law;
life through rituals; or salvation by works
then we are not trusting in Christ but in ourselves.
When we have new life in Christ
then we must begin to walk in it.
The love of Christ in us sets us free to serve others;
the works of the flesh will bring us into the bondage of serving self.

June 29

Blessed are the poor in spirit

Matthew 5:3 'Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.'

The poor in spirit are all who realizing they have no resources of their own to depend upon put all their faith and trust in Christ alone for salvation. The kingdom of heaven is the inheritance of all who love and obey His word. We are blessed because out of our poverty we have access to the vast ocean of the unsearchable riches of Christ. Humility does not bathe in the glory of a self denying life; humility looks to Christ and boasts in His glory. Our weakness is overcome by His strength; our poverty is removed by the riches of His grace; and our inability is made irrelevant by His power that works in us.

June 30

Blessed are they that mourn

Matthew 5:4 'Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.'

We mourn because in ourselves we can do nothing; but we are not alone. In Christ we have been given every provision. He is our Comforter who has turned our mourning into rejoicing. He has removed sin far from us; He has brought us into the family of God; and made us inheritors of the promises of God. He is our representative before the Father; and in Him we have become the righteousness of God. The Holy Spirit stands by us in our daily life. He comforts us by His power that works in us. He overcomes our weaknesses so that we can live in the Spirit; pray in the Spirit; and walk in the Spirit.