

Bible Teaching Program

Daily verses

January 2013

January 1

Running for the prize.

Philippians 3:14 'I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.'

In Christ there is a prize to win.
The prize is won by faithfulness.
The race is not competitive.
The last place is the first place.
The great are those who become the least,
and love is the only acceptable motivation.
The prize is won by those who have a heart
that desires Christ more than the things of the world;
a mind set on knowing and obeying His word;
and eyes that watch for the day when Jesus will return.

January 2

Freedom beyond the possibility of human endeavours.

Galatians 5:5 'For we through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith.'

The gospel is the message of freedom
beyond the possibility of human endeavours.
It is the freedom of separation
from everything we are and everything we have done;
and the freedom of being united
with everything Jesus Christ is and all He has done for us.
The law condemns the unrighteous,
and without Christ the righteousness of God must stand in wrath
against all unrighteousness.
Faith in Christ alone reconciles us to God.
The Holy Spirit alone brings us into the freedom of new life.

January 3

Strengthened to encourage others.

2 Corinthians 1:4 'who comforts us in all our tribulation that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.'

The Holy Spirit comforts us by strengthening us.

He encourages us through His word and through His people.
There is nothing that can overcome us when Christ is our life.
He enables us to rise above our circumstances with wings like the eagle.
When we learn to trust Him in the trial then we can encourage others
so they too can live a victorious Christian life.

January 4

The love of God gives more than our need requires.

1 John 3:1 'Behold, what manner of love the Father has bestowed upon us, that we should be called the children of God:'

The love of God towards us is more than being forgiven.
He gives far more than our need requires.
In Christ we are lifted from the vileness of sin
to the position of sons and daughters in the family of God.
He saves us from death and judgment to unite us with His life;
Christ lives in us.
He removes our sin so His kingdom can dwell within us;
righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

January 5

Truth sets us apart from the world.

John 17:17 'Sanctify them through Your truth: Your word is truth.'

When His word is in our heart then truth sets us apart from the world.
Trust in the promises of God separates us from those
who seek the prosperity of the world.
The desire to know Christ through His word
makes us different from those who seek
the pleasures and excitement of the world.
Faith and obedience to His word
moves us away from the confusion and anxiety of the world.
Love for Christ and His word
will disunite us from those who love and desire the things of the world.

January 6

The power of God experienced in us through the power of the gospel.

2 Timothy 1:10 'our Saviour Jesus Christ, who has abolished death, and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel:'

This is more than doctrine; more than belief.
It is the power of God experienced in us through the power of the gospel.

The light of the gospel shines in the hearts of all who have experienced the power of the gospel through faith in Jesus Christ.
In Him the power of death is broken.
It is through His death and resurrection
that we pass from death into new life.
Christ is our life; our experience; and our everlasting joy.

January 7

It is by His power alone that we live the Christian life.

Ephesians 6:10 ‘Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might.’

The armour we put on is Christ.
Our strength is in Christ and not in ourselves.
It is by His power alone that we live the Christian life,
not by our own efforts.
His word works in us making us fervent for the Lord;
steadfast in the faith;
and unshakeable in the trial.
His righteousness covers us so our trust is in Him, not in our works.
His life dwells in us so the power of His love can work through us.

January 8

Worthy of the gospel.

Philippians 1:27 ‘Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ:’

We are who we are because of who Jesus is
and all He has done for us.
We do not seek to become worthy;
Jesus Christ alone is worthy.
We seek to live worthy of the gospel of Christ
because Christ has made us worthy.
We forgive because we are forgiven;
we love because Christ loved us;
we live righteously because we are righteous in Christ;
we love and obey His word because Christ lives in us.
We do not try to be a Christian;
we learn daily to walk in the new life He has given us.
Jesus Christ has done all for us.

January 9

Christ is our peace, our joy, our strength, our life.

John 16:33 ‘In the world you shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.’

In Christ we are a victorious people.
He is our peace, our joy, our strength, our life.
He has reconciled us to God,
made us inheritors of the promises,
and brought us into the family of God.
It is by trusting in Christ alone that we overcome.
He gives peace that overcomes fear;
joy that overcomes sorrow;
strength that overcomes weakness;
and life that overcomes as we grow in Christ through His word,
and put on Christ in our daily life.

January 10

Privilege and responsibility.

2 Corinthians 6:18 'I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.'

In Christ we are given both privilege and responsibility.
We are privileged to be His children,
and responsible to live as His disciples.
We are sons and daughters of the living God.
His name is written upon our life
so everything we do and say represents the Lord.
We are privileged to trust in His provision;
and responsible to grow in Christ,
to walk in His ways,
and to learn daily to let His love control our actions.

January 11

Love and patience.

2 Thessalonians 3:5 'May the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God and into the patience of Christ.'

The love of God was willing to give all for us;
the patience of Christ was willing to endure all for us.
When Christ is our life then the love of Christ dwells within us.
As we grow in the Lord then His love will increase in us.
The more we love Christ;
the more our life will be controlled by His love.
The patience of Christ works in us,
strengthening us so we can stand steadfast in all circumstances.
The love of God will keep our hearts tender;
the patience of Christ will keep us steadfast.

January 12

His expertise will be seen in the final outcome.

Philippians 1:6 ‘Being confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ:’

The Lord prepares His people.
It is His work not ours.
His expertise will be seen in the final outcome.
Our failings are only stepping stones
that lead to His purpose being fulfilled in our life.
Our joy is that His work in us will be completed.
The life of Christ works in us changing us into His likeness.
His word brings growth and faith to trust His promises.
The tests we face move us from self-reliance
to reliance upon His strength alone.
His love works in us equipping us to do His will
and to serve one another.

January 13

Seated with Him; the place of authority, worship, and holiness.

Ephesians 2:6 ‘And has raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:’

He came down to our level to lift us to the heights of His glory.
Jesus died so that we can be more than forgiven; we are justified in Him.
He rose again so that we can have more than life; we are united with Him.
He ascended so that we can be more than justified and united in Him;
we are seated with Him.
It is the place of authority; we reign with Him.
It is the place of worship; we are priests unto God,
bringing glory to the Lord with our life.
It is the place of holiness; we are sons and daughters of the living God.

January 14

The fruit of His righteousness.

James 3:18 ‘And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by them that make peace.’

Peace is the soil in which the fruit of His righteousness
flourishes and grows in our life.
The fruit of a godly life can only be produced
after we enter into the peace of being in right relationship with God.
It can never be produced before.
Good works can never bring the peace of reconciliation with God.

Our faith must be in Jesus Christ alone.
He is our peace; our righteousness; our life.
When we know who we are in Christ;
and trust in all that He has done for us;
then His love can work through our life;
so that we become the ambassadors of His peace in the world.

January 15

True Christianity is the life of Christ in us.

1 John 5:12 'He that has the Son has life; and he that has not the Son of God has not life.'

Life is more than words.
If Christ is our possession
then new life in Christ will be our experience.
What we believe will be made evident by who we are.
True Christianity is the life of Christ in us.
As His life grows in us it cannot be hid.
The sweetness of His character will be seen to increase.
His word will be our food and drink.
The peace of God will guide us;
the grace of God will keep us;
the love of God will lead us;
and the power of God will work in us producing a living faith
that rests in His provision.

January 16

It is Christ we preach and not religion.

Mark 16:15 'And He said unto them, Go into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.'

The world needs to hear the message of the gospel.
It is Christ we preach and not religion.
The gospel is new life in Jesus.
It is more than words; it is the power of God unto salvation.
His kingdom dwells within the hearts and lives of His people.
There is freedom, peace, and joy in Jesus Christ.
It is the responsibility of all who have received Christ
to bring the gospel into the lives of others.
The power of the gospel must be demonstrated by our life;
the truth of the gospel heard through our words;
and the joy of the gospel shared by our love.

January 17

Salvation is entirely in Christ.

1 Corinthians 1:30 ‘But of Him are you in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:’

Salvation is entirely in Jesus Christ.

We will never realise the wisdom of God in bringing salvation
until we recognise the depravity of our sin and the hopelessness of our condition.
We will never appreciate the priceless gift of His righteousness
until we see the worthlessness of our own righteousness.
We will never know what it is to be sanctified by the life of Christ dwelling in us
until we see the futility of trying to live the Christian life by our own efforts.
We will never understand the certain hope of our redemption
until we trust in Christ alone for our salvation.

January 18

When we preach the word, we preach Christ.

2 Timothy 4:2 ‘Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.’

When we preach the word, we preach Christ.

It is the truth of Christ; the gospel of Christ; and the word of Christ.

His word is seed.

The Holy Spirit is able to produce new life when the gospel of Christ
is implanted in the hearts and minds of those
who will receive Jesus Christ as their Saviour and Lord.

We cannot change the gospel of Christ;
neither can we water down its message.

Truth cannot be adapted to suit our lifestyle.

The gospel of Christ is the power of Christ.

The evidence of new life is love for Christ
and the desire to obey His word.

January 19

Free to serve in righteousness.

Romans 6:18 ‘Being then set free from sin, you became servants of righteousness.’

Sin enslaves but freedom is found in righteousness.

It is not our righteousness but His.

It is the life of Christ dwelling in us.

Christ died to set us free from the condemnation of sin.

He rose again to set us free from the power of sin.

The old is gone; crucified with Christ.

Freedom is our inheritance in Christ; we are a new creation.

We are set free to serve in righteousness;

united with the life of Christ; and filled with His love.

Sinful habits cannot hold us when the love of Christ leads us.
Freedom is found in Jesus; in seeking after His righteousness;
and by His power working through us.

January 20

We must walk in the new life we have received.

Colossians 2:6 'As you have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him:'

In Christ we have everything we need to live the Christian life.
We are not under law; we have new life.
We need to put on Christ so that others will see His life in us.
We must walk in the new life we have received.
He gives a new heart so we can feel what He feels.
He puts His life within us so we can love as He loves.
He has given us His word so we can know His will.
He gives us His Spirit so we can be sons and daughters of the living God.
When we walk in Him then others will be drawn to Christ through us.

January 21

It is faith in Christ alone that brings us into His rest.

Matthew 11:28 'Come unto Me, all you that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.'

All who come to Jesus must turn away from
seeking to earn God's favour by self-effort.
The burden we carry should only draw us to Christ and His word.
It is faith in Christ alone that brings us into His rest.
The sacrifice Jesus made on our behalf is enough.
Entering into His rest will make us effective co-workers with Christ.
We do not cease from works,
we cease from our works and enter into His plan and purpose.
We will never know peace till we cast our care upon Jesus.
We can never be worthy of God's favour.
It is Christ alone who has made us righteous.

January 22

Think as children of the King.

Romans 12:2 'And be not conformed to this world: but be transformed by the renewing of your mind,'

When Christ is our life then we need always to think as children of the King;
trusting in His promises and not in the prosperity of the world;
desiring to serve Christ and not seeking after the pleasures of the world;

having the goal to see His will fulfilled in our life
without regard for worldly ambitions;
being tender hearted so we are drawn into closer union with Christ
even when it means we lose the friendship of the world;
and being renewed daily in our mind by His word
so we are not led by the philosophy of a world
that is opposed to the gospel of Christ.

January 23

The harvest is ready.

John 4:35 'Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.'

A harvest will be lost if we do not reap at the right time.
The harvest is ready.
The need is for workers who will help to bring in the harvest.
It is with the love of Christ that we find motivation to reap the harvest.
It is with the fire of God in our hearts
that we find expression to tell others of all that Jesus Christ has done for us.
It is by the power of the gospel that we are able to bring in the harvest.
It is with the joy of the Holy Spirit
that we gather the harvest knowing we are united together in Christ.

January 24

Freedom and joy in forgiveness.

1 Thessalonians 5:15 'See that no one renders evil for evil to anyone; but always follow that which is good, both for yourselves, and for all.'

The desire for revenge stands in contrast to the new life we have in Christ.
When Christ is our life then we have the power to forgive.
The freedom and joy of forgiveness is able to overcome evil.
The Lord knows the trials we face. He will not allow sin to go unpunished.
We can trust in His judgments.
We should always pray for those who wrong us or speak evil against us.
If we follow after the good then Christ will be glorified through us.
He will judge the sinner but those who trust in Jesus can rest in His provision.

January 25

His glory will be seen in us.

Romans 8:18 'For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.'

Our reckoning is based on fact.

We know because Christ lives in us;
His word is our experience;
and the Holy Spirit confirms His word within us.
Faith in Christ looks beyond the difficulties we face
to the reward that awaits all who serve Christ faithfully.
Love for Christ endures hardship
knowing that everything we do and say
is an opportunity to represent our King.
Joy in serving Jesus gives strength to go through the trial
knowing that the Holy Spirit is changing us into His image.
We know the glory of His presence will one day be seen in us.

January 26

Living for His glory.

1 Peter 2:9 ‘But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; that you should show forth the praises of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvellous light:’

We are chosen in Christ so He will be glorified through us.
The offering we bring in worship is a heart filled with the love of Christ.
We are holy because Christ lives in us.
It is with His life dwelling in us that we worship in spirit and in truth.
His purpose is for our life to be the reflection of His glory.
His calling is that we will walk in obedience to His will.
His praise should be the goal; the desire; and the passion of our life.

January 27

His will is that we will be like Him.

1 Thessalonians 4:3 ‘For this is the will of God, even your sanctification,’

The will of God is that all who belong to Jesus
will also be like Him in character.
Holiness is the fruit of His Spirit growing within us.
It is the life of Christ in us producing works of righteousness.
It is not by our efforts we are holy
but new life in Christ must be cultivated through discipleship.
Holiness requires us to be obedient; diligent; faithful; determined;
and sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit in our life.
We love with His love;
we stand upon His word;
we walk in His righteousness;
we live by the power of His might;
we depend upon His strength;
we are united together by His life.

January 28

Prayer in the Holy Spirit.

Ephesians 6:18 ‘Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit,’

The Holy Spirit helps us so we know what to pray;
empowers us so we are able to pray;
and gives us the faith to see prayer answered.
Effective prayer stands firm on the promises of God;
is moved by the love of Christ;
and directed at all times by the Holy Spirit.
Prayer brings us into the throne room of God;
unites us with the plan and purpose of God;
and through prayer we have both privilege and responsibility
because God has chosen to limit Himself
according to the extent of the prayers of His people.
We pray because Christ is our life;
scripture our authority;
love our motivation;
and the Holy Spirit our Helper.

January 29

Eyes focused on Christ.

1 Corinthians 16:13-14 ‘Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong. Let all you do be done with love.’

The Christian must be watchful at all times.
Christ is our life.
We remain focused by putting on the armour of God.
We stand fast in the faith when we love and obey His word,
and by keeping our heart fixed upon the new life we have in Christ.
We need courage so we will never be ashamed of the gospel of Christ,
and strength to live for Christ regardless of the consequences,
not seeking an easier route but letting His purpose be fulfilled in our life.
The love of Christ in us will shine as a light
testifying to the world that we are His disciples.

January 30

One with Christ.

Colossians 1:27 ‘To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:’

God’s plan of salvation was a mystery

that even the angels could not understand.
Not only did God do the impossible to justify His people,
but He also did the amazing and brought us into union with Himself.
Christ lives in us.
We are made one with Him.
He was condemned for us so we can be righteous in Him.
He was accursed for us so we can be blessed in Him.
He gave His life for us so His life can be in us.
He left His glory in heaven so we can be glorified with Him.

January 31

Jesus calls us His friends.

John 15:14 'You are My friends, if you do whatsoever I command you.'

Jesus called His disciples His friends.
A true friend is known by love; loyalty; faithfulness; sincerity;
and by sacrificial giving.
Friendship with Christ will be evident in everything we do and say;
it will be seen by our desire for fellowship with one another;
by our love for the gospel of Christ;
and by an ever increasing love for Christ and His word.
Jesus laid down His life for His friends.
The same standard of love is passed on to His friends.
We must also be willing to lay down our life for one another.
He forgave us so we also must forgive one another.
We are His friends; we are to be like Him.

Stephen Dulwich