

April 2011

Daily Verses

April 1

Love; peace; faith.

1 Timothy 1:5 'Now the end of the commandment is love out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith without hypocrisy.'

The purpose of God for our life is
that the love of Christ will flow through us to others;
that the peace of God will rest upon us
as we trust in His righteousness;
and faith will control every area of our life.

April 2

The Holy Spirit guides; teaches; and bears witness within us.

Romans 8:14 'For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.'

The Spirit of God guides us
and the word of God teaches us
so that we grow daily into the likeness of Jesus.
The Holy Spirit bears witness within us that we are the family of God
and we know we can trust in His word because we are His children.

April 3

Jesus Christ is God's treasury of riches to man.

Colossians 2:3 'In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.'

Jesus Christ is God's treasury of riches to man.
His riches purchased our freedom from a sinful life;
brought us into the family of God;
and made us joint heirs with Christ.
Now all things that are His by right have been given to us
by the riches of His grace.

April 4

The law cannot produce holiness.

Galatians 4:31 'So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman, but of the free.'

The law cannot produce holiness.
The freedom we have is the freedom of new life in Christ; a new creation.
We have a new nature; free from the law; united with Christ.
We live a holy life when we grow in His word
and yield to His righteousness.

April 5

Messengers of His peace.

Matthew 5:9 'Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.'

We have peace with God through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.
We carry the message of peace with the good news of the gospel.
His peace gives freedom from anger, hate, and worry.
In Him we are citizens of heaven and children of the King.

April 6

Strangers and pilgrims.

1 Peter 2:11 'Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;'

In Christ we have been made new.
We are His people.
Our heart desires righteousness;
we find joy by walking in His ways;
we have peace by trusting in His promises;
we have love that sacrifices itself for others.

April 7

Christ, who is our life.

Colossians 3:4 'When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall you also appear with Him in glory.'

The life of Christ dwells in His people.
We know we have His life because the power of His life works through us;
His love fills our heart with joy even in hard times;
and His word gives strength to us as we learn to trust in His promises.

April 8

A new purpose.

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

Our life has a new purpose in Christ.
We live in this world to serve the Lord with joy;
to praise Him with thankfulness;
to let people see in us that Jesus is alive;
to spread His love by caring for one another;
and to tell others of what Jesus has done for us.

April 9

The Holy Spirit will lead us in righteousness.

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

The Holy Spirit will lead us in righteousness
so Christ is seen in us.
The love of Christ will keep us pure,
removing the desire for sinful pleasures.
The light of the gospel will shine
when we are united together by the life of Christ.

April 10

No place for division.

1 Peter 3:8 'Finally, all of you be of one mind, be sympathetic, love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous.'

There is no place for division in the body of Christ.
We must walk carefully;
united in Christ and His word;
concerned for the well being of others;
loving one another as family;
having compassion;
always showing kindness.

April 11

The hand of the Lord is upon us because we are His children.

Revelation 3:19 'As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.'

It is because we are His children that the hand of the Lord is upon us.
We can trust Him because we belong to Him.
His love will never let us go.
His care will never let us down.
He corrects us to teach us to walk in His ways and obey His word.

April 12

The belt of truth.

Ephesians 6:14 'Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth,'

Truth is more than doctrine.
Jesus Christ is the truth.
We put on truth as a belt when Christ is our life,
and His word is in our heart and mind.
It is to trust fully in what Christ has done for us;
to walk in the new life He gives;
to obey His word;
and follow Him.

April 13

Live for Christ.

Romans 13:11 '...for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed.'

Today we have the opportunity to live for Christ.
Joy, love, and faith will testify of our love for Christ.
Joy shows we love Christ more than the world.
Love shows His word is more precious than selfish gain.
Faith shows His promises remove the worry of the world.

April 14

Love will always go beyond duty.

1 Thessalonians 3:8 'For now we live, if you stand fast in the Lord.'

Love for Christ is known by the extent we love His people.
If we love the Lord then we will desire
to lead others to new life in Jesus
and to see them built up in Him.
Love will always go beyond duty.
We serve the Lord when we love others with the love He has given us.

April 15

Free from the need of recognition.

Matthew 23:11 'But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant.'

The need for recognition will fade when we realize who Jesus is,
and what He has done for us.
In Christ we have been made sons and daughters of the living God.
We are free to take the lowest place;
free to serve one another;
and free to be both last and least.

April 16

The fragrance of Jesus poured out through us.

John 12:3 'And the house was filled with the fragrance of the ointment.'

When the love of Christ motivates us
then the beautiful fragrance of Jesus can be poured out through us.
It is only those who love the Lord more than wealth or riches
who will know the importance of the hour in which we live
and the opportunity that we have.

April 17

Peace in heaven.

Luke 19:38 'Saying, Blessed be the King that comes in the name of the Lord: peace in heaven, and glory in the highest.'

Peace in heaven came when God was seen to be just in forgiving His people.
The love of God sought to show mercy;
His love could not deny His justice;
the cross where Jesus died declares God is just to show mercy.

April 18

Present our life as an offering of love.

John 15:13 'Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.'

Jesus gave His life for us so that His life can be in us.
When Christ is our life
then we can present our life as an offering of love to the Father.
We lay down our life when we love one another with His love;
walk in His life;
and trust in His word.

April 19

Love, the evidence of discipleship.

John 13:35 'By this shall all men know that you are My disciples, if you have love one to another.'

The evidence of discipleship is our love for one another.
When our words; our attitude; and our actions
are motivated by the love of Christ
then others will be attracted to Christ.

As we grow in Christ, His love will be seen working in us.

April 20

The King calls for His people.

John 18:37 'Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice.'

Jesus is our King yet He died for us.
His kingdom is established in truth and united by love.
One by one He draws His people out of the world.
They are cleansed by His blood;
filled with His life;
kept by His word;
led by His Spirit;
and known by their love in serving the King.

April 21

Purchased; separated; united.

Hebrews 10:14 'For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are sanctified.'

The same sacrifice that paid our punishment for sin has bought us;
we belong to the Lord.
The same Spirit that gives power over sin
sets us apart from the world;
called to be separate.
The same life that gives freedom
unites us in Christ;
called to be one.

April 22

It is finished.

John 19:30 'He said, It is finished:'

The price was paid; the victory was won.
Jesus died to wipe away our sin.
The way into the presence of God was opened for us.
We are justified in Him;
made righteous in Him;
a new creation in Him.
It is Christ alone who saves; Christ alone who justifies.
It is by faith in Christ alone we are righteous.

April 23

Buried with Christ; risen with Christ.

Romans 6:5 'For if we have been planted together in the likeness of His death, we shall be also in the likeness of His resurrection:'

Our sin is crucified with Christ.
Our guilt and condemnation is buried with Christ.
We are made completely new in Him;
His life is within us;
His love fills us with joy;
when He returns we shall be like Him.

April 24

Did not dare to believe for joy.

Luke 24:41 '...while they still did not believe for joy, and wondered'.

The presence of the risen Jesus filled the disciples with ecstatic joy.
They did not dare to believe because His resurrection brought
victory out of defeat;
meaning out of confusion;
purpose from despair;
and life out of death.
It is by our joy people see He lives in us.

April 25

The life of Christ in us.

John 20:22 'And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said unto them, Receive the Holy Spirit:'

Jesus breathed His resurrected life into His people.
New life in Christ is spread through the message of the gospel.
His love, joy and forgiveness must be seen in our life
so others can come to know and experience new life in Him.

April 26

Faith and works.

James 2:24 'You see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only.'

Genuine faith is always active.
Our faith will be seen to be living; real; and effective
by the way we act; and the words we speak.
Our love for one another will show we are His disciples.
Our desire to know and understand scripture will show we have new life.
Godliness; honesty; and truthfulness will show the Holy Spirit dwells in us.

April 27

Desire Christ.

Philippians 3:7 'But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.'

When our heart is filled with the love of Christ;
the desire for the world cannot hold us.
When Christ is our one desire;
the emptiness of religion has no power over us.
It is Christ alone who satisfies the thirsty heart.
He gives peace, contentment, and joy.
His riches never fade; His love never fails.
The highest prize is to know Him more.

April 28

Our armour is Christ.

Ephesians 6:11 'Put on the whole armour of God, that you may be able to stand against the deceitful schemes of the devil.'

The Christian life is a spiritual warfare.
The enemy seeks to find areas of weakness;
we must be protected at all times.
Our armour is Christ,
and it is by His word; His strength; and His power; that we stand.

April 29

Our seal; down payment; and guarantee.

2 Corinthians 1:22 'Who has also sealed us, and given the down payment of the Spirit in our hearts.'

The life of Christ in us is the seal
that sets us apart from the world.
The Holy Spirit is given to us as the down payment
of our full inheritance in Christ.
He is our guarantee right now that
what God has promised He will fulfil.

April 30

The gift of salvation in Jesus Christ must be received.

2 Corinthians 6:2 'Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.'

The gift of salvation in Jesus Christ must be received.
Things of no worth can rob us of the greatest riches.
Jesus gave all for us so that in Him we have life;
and become heirs with Him.
The opportunity to receive His gift is now;
no other time is for sure.

The Holy Spirit works with us.

Acts 15:28 'For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit, and to us,'

The Holy Spirit does not bypass our intellect.
He brings scripture to our mind so we know His will.
He leads us in truth so His love controls our actions;
and His peace guides our decisions.
It is with our heart and mind we must serve Christ;
and the Spirit of God helps us do it.

April 3

Freedom; purpose; meaning; fulfilment.

Acts 9:6 '...Lord, what will You have me to do?'

When Jesus is Lord of our life then freedom is to know and obey His word.
We find purpose in our life by doing His will and serving one another.
There is meaning in everything we do because we are His people.
We have fulfilment and joy because our life can express our love for Christ.

April 4

All we need is in Christ.

1 Corinthians 2:2 'For I determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ, and Him crucified.'

In Jesus Christ is everything we need.

He is our strength; our life; our righteousness.
It was love that united Christ with us;
it is faith that unites us with Him.
He died for us so that in Him all the promises of God are ours.

April 5

Worship in the Spirit.

Philippians 3:3 'For we are the circumcision, which worship God in the spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh.'

We worship in the Spirit when the love of Christ motivates us;
the joy of the Lord drives us;
and we rely upon His strength and not ourselves.
Worship is to love, obey, and serve the Lord joyfully.

April 6

Ready for His return.

Luke 12:35 'Let your waist be girded and your lamps burning;'

It is by grace we are saved but we must live expecting
Jesus to return anytime;
Having our minds filled with His word so we keep in truth;
our hearts filled with His love so we are willing to forgive;
and to follow after His righteousness;
not ashamed to tell others of Christ and His gospel.

April 7

Jesus alone satisfies.

Revelation 22:17 '...let the one who thirsts come. And whoever will, let him take the water of life freely.'

Religion cannot quench the thirst of the heart.
Religion is a dry place.
Jesus alone satisfies.
New life comes through faith in Jesus Christ alone.
He gives freedom from fear,
brings joy that lasts forever,
and will fill our heart with His love.

April 8

Act as His people.

Ephesians 4:1 '...that you walk worthy of the calling with which you are called,'

We are to walk worthy because in Christ we have been made worthy.
We are to be holy because Jesus has made us holy.
We are to live as His children because He has made us family with Him.
We are to act as His people because He has given us His Spirit.

April 9

Encouraging one another.

1 Thessalonians 5:11 'Therefore encourage one another, and build up one another, even as you are doing.'

Everyone who has received Christ should encourage others in Christ.
We have all the promises of God that will keep us in every situation.
When we know who we are in Christ
and what Jesus has done for us
then we can help to lift others.

April 10

The wisdom and knowledge of God.

Romans 11:33 'O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God!'

Through Christ Jesus the wisdom of God is seen in us.
It was wisdom that planned our salvation;
brought new life through faith in Christ;
and unites us in Him.
He is able to watch over us because He knows and understands;
He sees and provides.

April 11

The Mighty God became like us.

Colossians 2:9 'For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily.'

All we need is found in Jesus.
The Mighty God became like us so His life can be in us.
Religion cannot save us;
philosophy cannot free us;
but in Jesus Christ sin is wiped away;
new life is given;
and the power of God works in us.
He alone gives freedom and life.

April 12

Maintain good works.

Titus 3:8 '...those who have believed in God should be careful to maintain good works.'

The light of the gospel will be seen through our good works.
Words alone will never convince others that Jesus is alive.
When our hearts are filled with the love of Jesus
then the works that we do will show the reality of our faith in Christ.

April 13

One day Jesus will return.

Luke 21:28 '...look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draws near.'

One day Jesus will return.
It is now that we must live for Him.
The world needs to see Christ in us.
His love overcomes fear so we can reach out to others;
His joy gives us strength to stand firm in difficulties;
His peace remains even in the darkest times.

April 14

Follow after peace.

Romans 14:19 'Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace,'

Christ is seen in His people when peace and love unite us.
Peace embraces the weak and is willing to yield.
It desires to see the life of Christ strengthened in others;
and has no concern over personal opinions.
It does not promote a set of rules;
truth is in Christ.

April 15

Holiness and the fear of the Lord.

2 Corinthians 7:1 '...perfecting holiness in the fear of God.'

Holiness is the life of Christ working in us.
The fear of the Lord will give us boldness to live for Christ.
His presence with us removes the fear of what will happen.
His Spirit within us equips us in every circumstance.
His word to us is worth more than the riches of the world.

April 16

We are the children of the King.

1 John 3:2 'Beloved, now are we the children of God, and it does not yet appear what we shall be.'

In Christ we are united with God in family relationship.
We know it is true because His Spirit dwells in us,
confirming His word to us.
We can trust in His care;
rely on His promises;
and rejoice knowing we are the children of the King.

April 17

Truth must be experienced.

1 John 2:12 'I write unto you, little children, because your sins are forgiven you for His name's sake.'

Truth must be experienced.
We grow in truth as we grow in Christ.
The Christian life begins
with the joy and freedom of knowing that our sins are forgiven.
We become strong as the word of God fills our hearts
and we walk in truth.

April 18

The church is not a hierarchy.

Romans 1:12 'That is, that I may be comforted together with you by the mutual faith both of you and me.'

The church is not a hierarchy;
it is a body in which the life of Christ dwells.
In Christ we are united as one
so we will encourage and strengthen one another
with the word of God; prayer; fellowship; and in caring for one another.

April 19

Put on humility.

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

When Christ is our life, we can put on humility
because He has made us royalty.
We can speak with love to one another
because we serve Christ and not ourselves.

We can rejoice in the success of others
because our riches are in Christ.

April 20

Serving one another in the body of Christ.

1 Cor 14:1 'Pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts,' The Lord equips His people so we can serve one another. The love of Christ will give us a heart to serve without self interest. The word of God gives wisdom and understanding in what to say and what to do. The Spirit of God leads and empowers us so our life and ministry is effective.

April 21

The riches of His mercy.

Ephesians 2:4 'But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us,' The Lord is our helper. The riches of His mercy are seen in that He is able to justify the guilty; to make righteous the unclean; to give new life to those born dead in sin; to make sons and daughters out of people who were His enemies.

April 22

In Christ all things are turned around.

1 Corinthians 1:29 'That no flesh should glory in His presence.' In Christ all things are turned around. The weak become strong; the last are first; the least become great; the poor become rich; the foolish are made wise; and the despised become mighty. Self reliance and self importance can never experience the power of God.

1 Corinthians 1:27 'But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise;' The plan and purpose of God in Jesus Christ turns everything in reverse. The weak are strong; the poor are rich; the last are first; the least becomes great; and foolishness is the wisdom of God. In Christ the despised things become mighty.

April 23

His character; His love; His word seen through us.

Colossians 1:10 'That you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;' The world

will only see Jesus through the lives of His people. His character is seen in holiness. His love is expressed by the fruit of the Spirit. His word is seen in us as we grow in Him.

April 24

A heart to care for others.

2 Corinthians 8:16 'But thanks be to God, who put the same earnest care into the heart of Titus for you.' The Lord gives His people a heart to care for others. Everyone who belongs to Christ has a work to do; to care for those He puts on our heart. The love of Christ working in His people is how the gospel is spread around the world.

April 25

We serve the living God.

1 Timothy 4:10 'Therefore we both labour and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God,' We know we serve the living God because Christ lives in us. For this reason we have boldness to share His love in the face of opposition. We have joy that strengthens us in trials. We have assurance so we can tell others about Jesus.

April 26

A bruised reed and a smoking flax.

Matthew 12:20 'A bruised reed shall He not break, and smoking flax shall He not quench,'

The love of Christ reaches out to all who will call upon Him.
He gives mercy for the worst of sinners;
joy for the weary;
strength for those who are worn down;
purpose for those who have no meaning to life;
and His promises overcome despair.

April 27

A victorious Christian.

2 Corinthians 2:14 'Now thanks be unto God, who always causes us to triumph in Christ'.

A victorious Christian regards the will of the Lord
as more important than personal comforts;

is filled with the joy of the Holy Spirit that is not changed by circumstances;
and has no desire for self glory
but only seeks to glorify Jesus.

April 28

The presence of the Lord with us is enough.

2 Timothy 4:18 'And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and preserve me unto his heavenly kingdom.'

The presence of the Lord with us is enough.
His peace removes the fear of uncertain times.
His word upholds us when we face difficulties and trials.
His Spirit gives us assurance that His purpose will be fulfilled in our life.

April 29

His mind in us.

1 Corinthians 2:16 'For who has known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct Him? But we have the mind of Christ.'

As we grow in Christ,
our thoughts will be continuously based upon scripture.
The Holy Spirit will lead us
into a deeper understanding of our new life in Christ.
His word in our mind will cause His love to overflow in our heart.

April 30

The gift of salvation in Jesus Christ must be received.

2 Corinthians 6:2 'Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.'

The gift of salvation in Jesus Christ must be received.
Things of no worth can rob us of the greatest riches.
Jesus gave all for us so that in Him we have life;
and become heirs with Him.
The opportunity to receive His gift is now;
no other time is for sure.