

A Great While Before Day

VOLUME VII

DAILY DEVOTIONAL BY
DON ANDERSON

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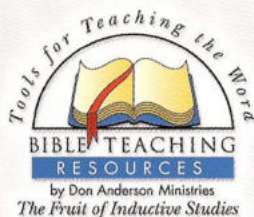
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Bible Teaching Resources

by Don Anderson Ministries

What Do We Do?

Formed in 1972 as a nonprofit organization, the Ministries is dedicated to excellence in the communication of the Scripture, camping, and counseling. Our ministry verse is Colossians 3:11b: "*Christ is all and in all.*" This, perhaps more than any other verse, sums up the Ministries' philosophy.

Communicating God's Word accurately and clearly is our primary focus. Bible classes are held annually in more than 20 cities in Texas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Louisiana. These classes – conducted in homes, businesses, banks, cafeterias, and public auditoriums – open and free of charge to anyone who is interested in learning more about the Scripture and its relevance to daily life. By design, class environments are warm, friendly, and non-threatening.

Believing that biblical principles can be effectively communicated in informal settings, the Ministries conducts fun-filled conferences and retreats throughout the year. Each event is intended to be an oasis of fun, fellowship, relaxation, and renewal – as well as a time of solid Christian growth.

Because our goal is to convey the Good News of Jesus Christ to as many people as possible, the Ministries' media division produces biblically-based messages on cassette and CD. Marriage video and CD series are also available. The Ministries' team also distributes Don's many books. These widely circulated resources for teaching, study, and spiritual enrichment are listed in our media catalog and are available at nominal cost from our office. A quarterly magazine, *The Grapevine*, is sent without cost to anyone requesting to be on our mailing list. Hundreds of copies of Don's series, *How to Become a Christian*, have been given out in classes, camps, and conferences, or mailed from the office through the years. There is never a charge for this timely series and our constant prayer is that it will be used to bring others into a relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.

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A GREAT WHILE BEFORE DAY

Ghe gospel writer Mark records that Jesus “rising up a great while before day... went out and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed.” (1:35 KJV). Whenever and wherever you spend your time with the Father each day, we hope that these devotional verses and thoughts will be encouraging. Each Scripture selection from the New Testament comes from the NEW AMERICAN STANDARD and the Old Testament selections come from the NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION.

JANUARY

January 1 — Psalm 88:9

... I call to you, O Lord, every day; I spread out my hands to you.
How about telling the Lord you will meet with Him every day this year?

January 2 — Psalm 66:5

Come and see what God has done, how awesome his works in man's behalf!
Consider what great things He has done for you this year.

January 3 — Psalm 66:10

For you, O God, tested us; you refined us like silver.
Lord, it is fine for You to refine as You see fit.

REFLECTION...

January 4 — Psalm 67:1

**May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine upon us,
Selah**

Lord, this is our prayer for each new day.

January 5 — Psalm 68:35

**You are awesome, O God, in your sanctuary; the God of Israel gives power
and strength to his people. Praise be to God!**

Lord, we come to praise You and to claim Your power and strength.

January 6 — Psalm 69:16-17

**Answer me, O LORD, out of the goodness of your love; in your great mercy
turn to me. Do not hide your face from your servant; answer me quickly,
for I am in trouble.**

Lord, there are urgent matters that need Your attention in my life today.

January 7 — Psalm 69:29-30

**I am in pain and distress; may your salvation, O God, protect me. I will
praise God's name in song and glorify him with thanksgiving.**

Lord, I want to continue to praise You in the midst of the difficulties of this day.

January 8 — Psalm 70:4

**But may all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; may those who love
your salvation always say, "Let God be exalted!"**

Lord, I rejoice and am glad in You. I love Your salvation and I want Your name to
be exalted in my life.

REFLECTION...

January 9 — Psalm 70:5

Yet I am poor and needy; come quickly to me, O God. You are my help and my deliverer; O LORD, do not delay.

Lord, I am looking to You for help and deliverance in Your own time.

January 10 — Psalm 71:1-2

In you, O Lord, I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame. Rescue me and deliver me in your righteousness; turn your ear to me and save me.

Lord, You are my place of safety and my source of strength.

January 11 — Psalm 71:9

Do not cast me away when I am old; do not forsake me when my strength is gone.

Thank You, Lord, that Your strength is made perfect in our weakness.

January 12 — Psalm 73:28

But as for me, it is good to be near God. I have made the Sovereign LORD my refuge; I will tell of all your deeds.

Thank You, Lord, that You know what this day holds because You know all things.

January 13 — Psalm 77:12

I will meditate on all your works and consider all your mighty deeds.

Lord, meditating on Your works and deeds brings contentment and joy to my soul.

REFLECTION...

January 14 — Psalm 78:52-53

But he brought his people out like a flock; he led them like sheep through the desert. He guided them safely, so they were unafraid; but the sea engulfed their enemies.

Lord, we need not fear when You are the One who is leading us.

January 15 — Psalm 79:9

Help us, O God our Savior, for the glory of your name; deliver us and forgive our sins for your name's sake.

Lord, I trust You to heal me and cleanse me for Your name's sake.

January 16 — Psalm 80:19

Restore us, O LORD God Almighty; make your face shine upon us, that we may be saved.

Lord, do whatever it takes to help us bring You pleasure this day.

January 17 — Psalm 82:4

Rescue the weak and needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked.

Lord, thank You that You supply our needs and strengthen our fragile humanity.

January 18 — Psalm 84:1-2

How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD Almighty! My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the LORD; my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.

Lord, sensitize me as Your servant to be more aware of Your presence.

REFLECTION...

January 19 — Psalm 84:10

Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere; I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

Lord, there is nothing richer, nothing I desire more, than spending quality time with You today.

January 20 — Psalm 84:12

O LORD Almighty, blessed is the man who trusts in you.

Lord, I am trusting You with all my heart as I face the challenge of this new day.

January 21 — Psalm 85:6-7

Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you? Show us your unfailing love, O LORD, and grant us your salvation.

Lord, refresh our thirsty hearts with the rains of revival.

January 22 — Psalm 86:2

Guard my life, for I am devoted to you. You are my God; save your servant who trusts in you.

Lord, You have my heart; I am devoted to You and I trust Your adequacy for whatever confronts me today.

January 23 — Psalm 86:3-4

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I call to you all day long. Bring joy to your servant, for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

Lord, my number one priority is to bring You joy as I follow in the path of obedience.

REFLECTION...

January 24 — Psalm 86:7

In the day of my trouble I will call to you, for you will answer me.

Father, I claim Your promise through Jeremiah that if I call unto You, You will answer me and show me great and mighty things I have not even thought of.

January 25 — Psalm 86:10

For you are great and do marvelous deeds; you alone are God.

Lord, show me Your greatness as You do exceeding abundant above all that I could ask or think.

January 26 — Psalm 86:11

Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name.

Show me Your way, O Lord, and I will walk in obedience to Your truth.

January 27 — Psalm 86:15

But you, O Lord, are a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness.

Lord, Your compassions fail not. They are new every morning. Great is Your faithfulness (Lamentations 3:22-23).

January 28 — Psalm 88:13

But I cry to you for help, O Lord; in the morning my prayer comes before you.

“In the morning, O Lord . . . I lay my requests before You and wait in expectation” (Psalm 5:3).

REFLECTION...

January 29 — Psalm 89:1

I will sing of the LORD's great love forever; with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all generations.

Lord, You are the theme of my love song and I am rejoicing in Your faithfulness.

January 30 — Psalm 89:8

O LORD God Almighty, who is like you? You are mighty, O LORD, and your faithfulness surrounds you.

Lord, Your might and Your faithfulness will make this a remarkable day.

January 31 — Psalm 90:10

The length of our days is seventy years—or eighty, if we have the strength; yet their span is but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away.

Lord, I accept this day as a gift from Your hand. Help me to be wise in the use of each hour.

FEBRUARY

February 1 — Psalm 90:14

Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love, that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.

Lord, it means everything to know that Your love is unconditional.

REFLECTION...

February 2 — Psalm 90:17

May the favor of the Lord our God rest upon us; establish the work of our hands for us—yes, establish the work of our hands.

Lord, keep me focused on the tasks that You have for me to do this day.

February 3 — Psalm 91:1-2

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, “He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.”

Father, You are totally adequate to meet the demands of this new day.

February 4 — Psalm 91:4

He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.

Lord, I am abiding under Your wings, availing myself of Your personal protection.

February 5 — Psalm 91:11

For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

Lord, how wonderful it is to know that the angels are there to protect us as well.

February 6 — Psalm 92:1-2

It is good to praise the LORD and make music to your name, O Most High, to proclaim your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night.

Lord, I am proclaiming Your love this morning and I am going to remember Your faithfulness tonight.

REFLECTION...

February 7 — Psalm 92:5

How great are your works, O LORD, how profound your thoughts!

There's no better way to start the day than considering Your works and knowing You are thinking of me!

February 8 — Psalm 92:14

They will still bear fruit in old age, they will stay fresh and green.

Lord, I long to be bearing fruit for You all the days of my life.

February 9 — Psalm 95:6-7 LORD

Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker; for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care.

Lord, thank You for Your shepherding ministry in my life today.

February 10 — Psalm 96:1-2

Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth. Sing to the LORD, praise his name; proclaim his salvation day after day.

Lord, I am starting my day with a song: "O for a thousand tongues to sing / My great Redeemer's praise."

February 11 — Psalm 97:11-12

Light is shed upon the righteous and joy on the upright in heart. Rejoice in the LORD, you who are righteous, and praise his holy name.

Lord, Your light and Your joy make it easy for me to rejoice today.

REFLECTION...

February 12 — Psalm 100:1-3

Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth. Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Lord, I come before You this day with gladness in my heart and a joyful song upon my lips.

February 13 — Psalm 100:5

For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

Lord, my meditation of You today is upon Your goodness, Your love, and Your faithfulness.

February 14 — Psalm 73:23-24

Yet I am always with you; you hold me by my right hand. You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will take me into glory.

What a wonderful valentine from You today, Lord! You hold me; You guide me; You will take me into glory.

February 15 — Psalm 102:1-2

Hear my prayer, O LORD; let my cry for help come to you. Do not hide your face from me when I am in distress. Turn your ear to me; when I call, answer me quickly.

Lord, I am at peace in Your presence today and I know You have heard my prayers.

REFLECTION...

February 16 — Psalm 103:1-2

Praise the LORD, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.

Lord, today I am counting my blessings and I am naming them one by one.

February 17 — Psalm 103:8

The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.

Lord, thank You that You care enough to be involved, that You are gracious, and that You are slow to anger and bounding in love.

February 18 — Psalm 103:11-12

For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

Lord, how high is the heavens and how far is the east from the west?

February 19 — Psalm 103:17

But from everlasting to everlasting the LORD's love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children's children.

Lord, thank You for Your love that has made a provision of righteousness to render us acceptable in Your presence.

February 20 — Psalm 104:1

Praise the LORD, O my soul. O LORD my God, you are very great; you are clothed with splendor and majesty.

Father, this would be a good day to sing "How Great Thou Art" to You.

REFLECTION...

February 21 — Psalm 104:33

I will sing to the LORD all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

Lord, I want to have a song of praise on my lips every day for the rest of my life.

February 22 — Psalm 105:1

Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done.

Lord, I am giving thanks as I call upon Your name. It is my desire to make You known to the world around.

February 23 — Psalm 106:2

Who can proclaim the mighty acts of the LORD or fully declare his praise?

Lord, I feel so inadequate when it comes to verbalizing Your mighty acts and proclaiming Your praise.

February 24 — Psalm 106:13

But they soon forgot what he had done and did not wait for his counsel.

Lord, help me to remember what You have done and to never run ahead of You.

February 25 — Psalm 107:1

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.

Lord, You are good and thank You that Your love will always be there.

REFLECTION...

February 26 — Psalm 107:9

For he satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

February 27 — Psalm 107:13

Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress.

Lord, I called, You delivered, and I am glorifying You this day.

February 28 — Psalm 108:1

My heart is steadfast, O God; I will sing and make music with all my soul.

Lord, my heart is steadfast and my soul sings.

February 29 — Psalm 108:4-5

For great is your love, higher than the heavens; your faithfulness reaches to the skies. Be exalted, O God, above the heavens, and let your glory be over all the earth.

Lord, I am at rest in Your love, Your faithfulness, and Your glory.

MARCH

March 1 — Psalm 109:21-22

But you, O Sovereign LORD, deal well with me for your name's sake; out of the goodness of your love, deliver me. For I am poor and needy, and my heart is wounded within me.

Lord, I am poor and needy and I wait for You to make provision.

REFLECTION...

March 2 — Psalm 109:26-27

Help me, O LORD my God; same me in accordance with your love. Let them know that it is your hand, that you, O LORD, have done it.

Lord, I would love for the world to see Your hand at work in my life now.

March 3 — Psalm 111:2

Great are the works of the LORD; they are pondered by all who delight in them.

Lord, may this day find me pondering and delighting in Your great works.

March 4 — Psalm 111:7

The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy.

Lord, thank You for the reminder that what You do is faithful and just and that what You teach is trustworthy.

March 5 — Psalm 111:9

He provided redemption for his people; he ordained his covenant forever—holy and awesome is his name.

Father, thank You that Your Son paid the full price of my redemption with His own blood.

March 6 — Psalm 111:10

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding. To him belongs eternal praise.

Lord, I long for Your wisdom and good understanding.

REFLECTION...

March 7 — Psalm 112:1

Praise the LORD. Blessed is the man who fears the LORD, who finds great delight in his commands.

Lord, I delight to do Your will as You make it known to me.

March 8 — Psalm 113:3

From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets, the name of the LORD is to be praised.

Lord, help me to be praising You from sunrise to sunset.

March 9 — Psalm 113:7

He raised the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap.

Lord, thank You that You are always available to do what is necessary in the face of human suffering.

March 10 — Psalm 115:1

Not to us, O LORD, not to us but to your name be the glory, because of your love and faithfulness.

Lord, all glory and honor and praise belongs to You and You alone.

March 11 — Psalm 115:3

Our God is in heaven; he does whatever pleases him.

Lord, thank You for this reminder today that You are sovereign and that Your purpose will ultimately prevail.

REFLECTION...

March 12 — Psalm 115:11

You who fear him, trust in the LORD—he is their help and shield.

Lord, it is a great way to start the day knowing that I can trust in Your help and in Your protection.

March 13 — Psalm 115:18

It is we who extol the LORD, both now and forevermore. Praise the LORD.

You are worthy, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power.

March 14 — Psalm 116:1-2

I love the LORD, for he heard my voice; he heard my cry for mercy. Because he turned his ear to me, I will call on him as long as I live.

I love You Lord and I will call on You as long as I live.

March 15 — Psalm 116:5

The LORD is gracious and righteous; our God is full of compassion.

Lord, as I think of You today I am going to think of three eternal truths: (1) You are gracious; (2) You are righteous; (3) You are full of compassion.

March 16 — Psalm 116:7

Be at rest once more, O my soul, for the LORD has been good to you.

Lord, thank You for the good reminder that I need to be at rest because You have been so good to me in the past. Why should I fear for the present and the future?

REFLECTION...

March 17 — Psalm 116:8-9

For you, O LORD, have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling, that I may walk before the LORD in the land of the living.

Father, I am sure it will be amazing to us when we get to glory to see all that You have done to protect and to provide for us as Your children.

March 18 — Psalm 116:12

How can I repay the LORD for all his goodness to me?

Lord, to quote a friend: "I am awash in red ink as far as my indebtedness to You for all that You have done for me."

March 19 — Psalm 116:15

Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints.

Lord, help me to see death from Your perspective and to express it in the words of the apostle Paul, "I am having the desire to depart and be with Christ for that is very much better" (Philippians 1:23 DAV).

March 20 — Psalm 117:1-2

Praise the LORD, all you nations; extol him, all you peoples. For great is his love toward us, and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever. Praise the LORD.

Lord, I am counting on Your love and faithfulness as I face this new day.

March 21 — Psalm 118:8

It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in man.

Lord, I can honestly say as I face today, I am trusting in You with all my heart.

REFLECTION...

March 22 — Psalm 118:14

The LORD is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation.

Lord, You are a threefold blessing to me today: my strength; my song; my salvation

March 23 — Psalm 118:15

Shouts of joy and victory resound in the tents of the righteous: “The LORD’s right hand has done mighty things!”

Lord, I am experiencing Your joy and victory today because You have done mighty things!

March 24 — Psalm 118:18

The LORD has chastened me severely, but he has not given me over to death.

Lord, I accept this discipline from Your hand knowing that it will ultimately produce the fruit of righteousness.

March 25 — Psalm 118:23

The LORD has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes.

Lord, You are the One who is famous for doing exceeding abundant above all that we can ask or think.

March 26 — Psalm 118:25

O LORD, save us; O LORD, grant us success.

Lord, I want to thank You for the gift of salvation and for the path of success You have chosen for my life.

REFLECTION...

March 27 — Psalm 118:28

You are my God, and I will give you thanks; you are my God, and I will exalt you.

Lord, with the psalmist I will give You thanks and exalt You this day.

March 28 — Psalm 119:2

Blessed are they who keep his statutes and seek him with all their heart.

Lord, obedience to Your word and intimacy with You is the longing of my heart.

March 29 — Psalm 119:5

Oh, that my ways were steadfast in obeying your decrees!

Lord, thank You for the forgiveness for those times when I have failed to be steadfast in obedience.

March 30 — Psalm 119:8

I will obey your decrees; do not utterly forsake me.

“Test me, O Lord, and try me, examine my heart and my mind; for your love is ever before me, and I walk continually in your truth” (Psalm 26:3).

March 31 — Psalm 119:15

I meditate on your precepts and consider your ways.

Lord, my mind is filled with Your word and I am considering Your ways.

REFLECTION...

APRIL

April 1 — Psalm 119:16

I delight in your decrees; I will not neglect your word.

Father, I want to be known as a person who is daily feeding upon Your word.

April 2 — Psalm 119:18

Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law.

Father, may Your Spirit thrill me with fresh nuggets of gold from Your word.

April 3 — Psalm 119:28

My soul is weary with sorrow; strengthen me according to your word.

Lord, times are tough but thank You for the strength that comes from Your word.

April 4 — Psalm 119:35

Direct me in the path of your commands, for there I find delight.

Lord, I find such joy by being obedient to Your word.

April 5 — Psalm 119:40

How I long for your precepts! Preserve my life in your righteousness.

Lord, I love and long for more and more of Your word.

April 6 — Psalm 119:45

I will walk about in freedom, for I have sought out your precepts.

Lord, I am reminded of what You said in John 8:32, "And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall set you free."

REFLECTION...

April 7 — Psalm 119:50

My comfort in my suffering is this: Your promise preserves my life.

Lord, thank You for the fact that You are the God of all comfort and that Your promises will sustain me as I face life today.

April 8 — Psalm 119:53

Indignation grips me because of the wicked, who have forsaken your law.

Lord, I do find myself frequently grieved by the majority who have forsaken Your law.

April 9 — Psalm 119:57

You are my portion, O Lord; I have promised to obey your words.

Lord, if I have You and Your word, that is all I am going to need for the remaining days of my life.

April 10 — Psalm 119:58

I have sought your face with all my heart; be gracious to me according to your promise.

Lord, You promised Jeremiah, "You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

April 11 — Psalm 119:59, 60

I have considered my ways and have turned my steps to your statutes. I will hasten and not delay to obey your commands.

Lord, my commitment to You this day is to be found walking in Your word and quick to obey Your commands.

REFLECTION...

April 12 — Psalm 119:64

The earth is filled with your love, O Lord; teach me your decrees.

Lord, fill me with Your love and guide me into Your truth.

April 13 — Psalm 119:66

Teach me knowledge and good judgment, for I believe in your commands.

Lord, my prayer is for knowledge and good judgment as I live my life today.

April 14 — Psalm 119:67-68

Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I obey your word. You are good, and what you do is good; teach me your decrees.

Lord, thank You that Your discipline bears the fruit of righteousness in the obedient heart.

April 15 — Psalm 119:71

It was good for me to be afflicted so that I might learn your decrees.

Father, in the school of suffering I am learning how to be obedient.

April 16 — Psalm 119:75

I know, O LORD, that your laws are righteous, and in faithfulness you have afflicted me.

Father, thank You that You care enough for me that You will not allow me to have my own way.

REFLECTION...

April 17 — Psalm 119:80

May my heart be blameless toward your decrees, that I may not be put to shame.

Lord, if there is anything in my life today that needs to be corrected, please reveal it unto me.

April 18 — Psalm 119:89

Your word, O LORD, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens.

Father, thank You for Your eternal unchanging word.

April 19 — Psalm 119:90

Your faithfulness continues through all generations; you established the earth, and it endures.

Lord, I just want to praise You this morning for Your faithfulness. "Your mercies are new every morning . . . great is your faithfulness" (Lamentations 3:22-23).

April 20 — Psalm 119:92-93

If your law had not been my delight, I would have perished in my affliction. I will never forget your precepts, for by them you have preserved my life.

Lord, my heart is delighting in Your word as I face this new day.

April 21 — Psalm 119:97

Oh, how I love your law! I meditate on it all day long.

Lord, I love Your law, but my request is that You might help me to meditate more and more upon your word each day.

REFLECTION...

April 22 — Psalm 119:101

I have kept my feet from every evil path so that I might obey your word.

I wish I could say this, but I do want You to know that You have my heart and that I am learning to be an obedient child.

April 23 — Psalm 119:103

How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

Lord, I can say with Jeremiah: "Your words were found, and I did eat them and your words are the joy and rejoicing of my heart" (Jeremiah 15:16).

April 24 — Psalm 119:105

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.

Lord, I am walking with You today in the light of Your word.

April 25 — Psalm 119:107

I have suffered much; preserve my life, O LORD, according to your word.

Lord, I want to start this day by praising You for Your protection.

April 26 — Psalm 119:108

Accept, O LORD, the willing praise of my mouth, and teach me your laws.

Lord, my praise is for Your Person and my petition is that You might teach me Your word.

REFLECTION...

April 27 — Psalm 119:111-112

Your statutes are my heritage forever; they are the joy of my heart. My heart is set on keeping your decrees to the very end.

Lord, Your word is my heritage, the joy of my heart and I am determined to keep Your word to the very end.

April 28 — Psalm 119:114

You are my refuge and my shield; I have put my hope in your word.

Lord, thank You for Your personal protection and for the promises in Your word.

April 29 — Psalm 119:124

Deal with your servant according to your love and teach me your decrees.

Lord, thank You that all of Your dealings with me are out of Your love and that You are teaching me Your word.

April 30 — Psalm 119:125

I am your servant; give me discernment that I may understand your statutes.

Lord, I am available to be Your servant today. Help me to understand more and more of Your word and way of doing things.

REFLECTION...

MAY

May 1 — Psalm 119:130

The unfolding of your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.

Father, thank You for the presence of the Holy Spirit who sheds light upon Your word and gives us understanding.

May 2 — Psalm 119:133

Direct my footsteps according to your word; let not sin rule over me.

Lord, my desire is to be obedient to Your word and victorious over sin in my life.

May 3 — Psalm 119:135

Make your face shine upon your servant and teach me your decrees.

Lord, I love it when You are smiling at me and teaching me Your word.

May 4 — Psalm 119:140

Your promises have been thoroughly tested, and your servant loves them.

Lord, thank You for the sense of security that I feel because of Your promises.

May 5 — Psalm 119:147

I rise before dawn and cry for help; I have put my hope in your word.

Morning by morning, O Lord, You hear my voice; morning by morning I lay my requests before You and wait in expectation" (Psalm 5:3).

REFLECTION...

May 6 — Psalm 119:154

Defend my cause and redeem me; preserve my life according to your promise.

Lord, in view of Your promises, I have a peace that You have my best interests at heart.

May 7 — Psalm 119:165

Great peace have they who love your law, and nothing can make them stumble.

Thank You, Lord, that the work of righteousness will be peace and the effect of righteousness, quietness and assurance forever.

May 8 — Psalm 119:169

May my cry come before you, O LORD; give me understanding according to your word.

Thank You, Lord, that You do hear our cry and give us understanding of Your word.

May 9 — Psalm 119:170

May my supplication come before you; deliver me according to your promise.

Thank You, Lord, for the promise in Your word that we can call upon You in the day of trouble and You will deliver us and we will glorify You.

REFLECTION...

May 10 — Psalm 119:176

I have strayed like a lost sheep. Seek your servant, for I have not forgotten your commands.

Thank You, Lord, for the wonderful realization that if I have strayed, You, as the Good Shepherd, will not give up looking for me until You have found me.

May 11 — Psalm 120:1

I call on the LORD in my distress, and he answers me.

Lord, Jeremiah's words ring in my ears: "Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know" (Jeremiah 33:3).

May 12 — Psalm 121:1-2

I lift up my eyes to the hills—where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.

Thank You, Father, for Your total availability to be our help in time of need.

May 13 — Psalm 121:3-4

He will not let your foot slip—he who watches over you will not slumber; indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

Father, what a joy to realize that Your eyes are always upon us and Your ears are attentive to our cries.

May 14 — Psalm 121:7-8

The LORD will keep you from all harm—he will watch over your life; the LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore.

Lord, You are like a faithful parent guiding, guarding, and providing for us in every way.

REFLECTION...

May 15 — Psalm 122:1

I rejoiced with those who said to me, “Let us go to the house of the LORD.”

Father, thank You for the edification, exhortation, and encouragement that is ours when we faithfully go to the house of the Lord.

May 16 — Psalm 126:2--3

Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy. Then it was said among the nations, “The LORD has done great things for them.”

The LORD has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy.

Lord, thank You for the holy laughter, the abundant joy, and the great things that You have done for us.

May 17 — Psalm 126:5-6

Those who sow in tears will reap with songs of joy. He who goes out weeping, carrying seed to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with him.

Lord, in anticipation of a rich harvest, help us to be faithful to sow the seeds of Your word in human hearts today.

May 18 — Psalm 127:1-2

Unless the LORD builds the house, its builders labor in vain. Unless the LORD watches over the city, the watchmen stand guard in vain. In vain you rise early and stay up late, toiling for food to eat—for he grants sleep to those he loves.

Lord, help me to be fruitful in Your service today. May I be free from stress and may I sleep well tonight.

REFLECTION...

May 19 — Psalm 128:1-2

Blessed are all who fear the LORD, who walk in his ways. You will eat the fruit of your labor; blessings and prosperity will be yours.

Father, I fear You and want to walk in Your ways. Thank You that there will be fruit for my labor; blessings and prosperity will abound.

May 20 — Psalm 130:1-2

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD; O Lord, hear my voice. Let your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy.

Lord, thank You that I can cry to You in the hard times and have the awareness that You hear my voice and are attentive to my cry.

May 21 — Psalm 130:5

I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I put my hope.

Lord, I would not run ahead of You but will wait and put my hope in Your word.

May 22 — Psalm 131:2

But I have stilled and quieted my soul; like a weaned child with its mother, like a weaned child is my soul within me.

Lord, Your protection, provision, and personal attention have stilled and quieted my soul.

May 23 — Psalm 135:14

For the LORD will vindicate his people and have compassion on his servants.

Lord, as Your servant, I thank You for Your love and justice that is continually exercised on behalf of Your people.

REFLECTION...

May 24 — Psalm 136:1

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good. His love endures forever.

What a joy to give thanks to You, Lord, for You are good and Your love endures forever.

May 25 — Psalm 138:3

When I called, you answered me; you made me bold and stouthearted.

Lord, thank You again this day for answered prayer, the boldness to speak Your Word, and Your sustaining strength in the hour of need.

May 26 — Psalm 138:8

The LORD will fulfill [his purpose] for me; your love, O LORD, endures forever—do not abandon the works of your hands.

Lord, it is great to know that You will fulfill Your purpose for me, that Your love will last forever, and that You will finish the work You have begun in my life.

May 27 — Psalm 139:1-2

O LORD, you have searched me and you know me. You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar.

Lord, my heart swells with joy because of Your careful concern for me.

May 28 — Psalm 139:3-4

You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways. Before a word is on my tongue you know it completely, O LORD.

Lord, Your awareness of my ways and my words brings me peace as I face this day.

REFLECTION...

May 29 — Psalm 139:5-6

You hem me in—behind and before; you have laid your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain

Lord, I face this new day hemmed in on all sides and with Your hand upon me.

What more could I ask?

May 30 — Psalm 139:14

I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

Lord, I just want to say, You are wonderful!

May 31 — Psalm 139:17

How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!

Lord, it means so much to know that You are thinking about me as I face this new day.

JUNE

June 1 — Psalm 139:23-24

Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

Lord, I long for You to search me and to test me and reveal to me those things which are offensive to You.

REFLECTION...

June 2 — Psalm 140:6-7

O LORD, I say to you, “You are my God. Hear, O LORD, my cry for mercy. O Sovereign LORD, my strong deliverer, who shields my head in the day of battle.”

Lord, there is great comfort in knowing that You are sovereign and that You are my strong Deliverer.

June 3 — Psalm 141:1

O LORD, I call to you; come quickly to me. Hear my voice when I call to you.

Lord, thank You that You do come quickly when I call, and You hear my voice, and You answer my prayers.

June 4 — Psalm 141:3

Set a guard over my mouth, O LORD; keep watch over the door of my lips.

Lord, I would ask You to help me watch my words this day. Help me to be silent when I need to be silent and to speak only when I need to speak.

June 5 — Psalm 141:4

Let not my heart be drawn to what is evil, to take part in wicked deeds with men who are evildoers; let me not eat of their delicacies.

Lord, protect my heart from evil and help me to be faithful to stand on Your convictions.

REFLECTION...

June 6 — Psalm 142:3

When my spirit grows faint within me, it is you who know my way. In the path where I walk men have hidden a snare for me.

Lord, thank You that Your strength is made perfect in our weakness.

June 7 — Psalm 142:5

I cry to you, O LORD; I say, "You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living."

Lord, I face this day with confidence knowing that You are my protection and my provision.

June 8 — Psalm 143:1

O LORD, hear my prayer, listen to my cry for mercy; in your faithfulness and righteousness come to my relief.

Lord, because of Your faithfulness and righteousness, I can count on Your total adequacy for the needs of today.

June 9 — Psalm 143:5-6

I remember the days of long ago; I meditate on all your works and consider what your hands have done. I spread out my hands to you; my soul thirsts for you like a parched land.

Lord, thank You for all that You have done, are doing, and will continue to do in my life.

June 10 — Psalm 143:7

Answer me quickly, O LORD; my spirit faints with longing. Do not hide your face from me or I will be like those who go down to the pit.

Lord, I need for You to intervene on my behalf in this hour of great need.

REFLECTION...

June 11 — Psalm 143:8

Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you. Show me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul

Lord, I am convinced of Your unfailing love and I have put my trust in You; my request is for You to show me the way that I should go.

June 12 — Psalm 143:10

Teach me to do your will, for you are my God; may your good Spirit lead me on level ground.

Lord, I am ready and available to do Your will. It is the desire of my heart to fulfill Your purpose.

June 13 — Psalm 144:15

Blessed are the people of whom this is true; blessed are the people whose God is the LORD.

Lord, I am truly blessed because You are my Lord.

June 14 — Psalm 145:3

Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom.

Lord, I praise You this day for Your greatness.

June 15 — Psalm 145:7

They will celebrate your abundant goodness and joyfully sing of your righteousness.

Lord, as I begin this day I celebrate Your goodness and sing of Your righteousness.

REFLECTION...

June 16 — Psalm 145:8-9

The LORD is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love.

The LORD is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made.

Lord, I praise You this day because You are gracious, compassionate, slow to anger, and rich in love.

June 17 — Psalm 145:14

The LORD upholds all those who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down.

Lord, I am reminded of the words in Psalm 37:24: "Though he stumble, he will not fall for the LORD upholds him with his hand."

June 18 — Psalm 145:16

You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing.

Lord, thank You for being aware and opening Your hand to satisfy the desires of my heart.

June 19 — Psalm 145:18

The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

Lord, I praise You for the promise of Your presence and that You are there to walk with me through this day.

June 20 — Psalm 145:19

He fulfills the desires of those who fear him; he hears their cry and saves them.

Lord, thank You for the kindnesses You shower upon us and the prayers You answer daily.

REFLECTION...

June 21 — Psalm 145:21

My mouth will speak in praise of the LORD. Let every creature praise his holy name for ever and ever.

Lord, my mouth is filled with praise for Your person and for Your holy name.

June 22 — Psalm 146:1-2

Praise the LORD. Praise the LORD, O my soul. I will praise the LORD all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

Lord, I begin this day by offering the sacrifice of praise. Lord, teach me how to praise You on a daily basis.

June 23 — Psalm 147:3

He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

Lord, thank You that You are there and involved in healing our broken hearts and binding up our wounds.

June 24 — Psalm 147:5

Great is our Lord and mighty in power; his understanding has no limit.

Lord, I praise You this day for Your greatness, Your power, and Your understanding.

June 25 — Psalm 147:11

The LORD delights in those who fear him, who put their hope in his unfailing love.

Lord, it is my supreme desire to be a delight to You and I commit myself to fear You and to put my hope in Your unfailing love.

REFLECTION...

June 26 — Psalm 147:15

He sends his command to the earth; his word runs swiftly.

Lord, thank You for the security that is my portion this day as I know that when You speak, things happen quickly.

June 27 — Psalm 148:13

Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his splendor is above the earth and the heavens.

O Lord, You are worthy to receive the glory and the honor and the power for You have created all things. All was created and called into being by an act of Your will.

June 28 — Psalm 149:1

Praise the LORD. Sing to the LORD a new song, his praise in the assembly of the saints.

Father, the song upon our lips this day is, "Praise the Savior, ye who know Him, who can tell how much we owe Him, gladly let us render to Him, all we are and have."

June 29 — Psalm 149:4

For the LORD takes delight in his people; he crowns the humble with salvation.

Lord, the words of the prophet are on our lips this day, "The Lord your God is with you, he is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, he will quiet you with his love, he will rejoice over you with singing" (Zephaniah 3:17).

REFLECTION...

June 30 — Psalm 150:2

Praise him for his acts of power; praise him for his surpassing greatness.

Lord, I am praising You this day for Your person, Your presence, Your power, Your program, Your purpose, Your provision, Your protection, and Your peace.

JULY

July 1 — Proverbs 1:7

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline.

Lord, it is my desire to honor You and to appropriate Your wisdom and discipline.

July 2 — Proverbs 1:10, 15

My son, if sinners entice you, do not give in to them . . . my son, do not go along with them, do not set foot on their paths.

Lord, thank You for making available the strength and grace to help me be victorious in temptation.

July 3 — Proverbs 1:19

Such is the end of all who go after ill-gotten gain; it takes away the lives of those who get it.

Lord, teach me this day the lesson of contentment with all that You have provided to meet my needs.

REFLECTION...

July 4 — Proverbs 1:28

“Then they will call to me but I will not answer; they will look for me but will not find me.”

Lord, help our country to return to You before it is too late.

July 5 — Proverbs 1:31

They will eat the fruit of their ways and be filled with the fruit of their schemes.

Lord, I am reminded of the law of the harvest: “They who sow the wind, reap the whirlwind” (Hosea 8:7).

July 6 — Proverbs 2:6

For the LORD gives wisdom, and from his mouth come knowledge and understanding.

Lord, I receive the gift of wisdom with gratitude and ask for a greater knowledge of Your person and a better understanding of Your plan.

July 7 — Proverbs 2:7-8

He holds victory in store for the upright, he is a shield to those whose walk is blameless, for he guards the course of the just and protects the way of his faithful ones.

Lord, thank You for this fresh reminder of Your interest and involvement in our daily walk.

REFLECTION...

July 8 — Proverbs 3:3-4

Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. Then you will win favor and a good name in the sight of God and man.

Lord, it is Your love and Your faithfulness that I long to see made manifest in my life this day.

July 9 — Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

Lord, my heart is at peace as I trust You this hour, knowing that You have everything under control.

July 10 — Proverbs 3:7

Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and shun evil.

Lord, I am reminded of Peter's words: "Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time" (1 Peter 5:6).

July 11 — Proverbs 3:9-10

Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.

Lord, I want to honor You by helping others with the provision You have made for me.

REFLECTION...

July 12 — Proverbs 3:11-12

My son, do not despise the LORD's discipline and do not resent his rebuke, because the LORD disciplines those he loves, as a father the son he delights in.

Lord, thank You for the woodshed experiences of my life; they have produced the peaceful fruit of righteousness.

July 13 — Proverbs 3:27

Do not withhold good from those who deserve it, when it is in your power to act.

Lord, fill my mouth with positive words of praise for those I come in contact with this day.

July 14 — Proverbs 4:14

Do not set foot on the path of the wicked or walk in the way of evil men.

Lord, thank You for the strength that You provide to walk in Your word and Your way.

July 15 — Proverbs 4:18

The path of the righteous is like the first gleam of dawn, shining ever brighter till the full light of day.

Lord, I praise You that Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.

REFLECTION...

July 16 — Proverbs 4:23

Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life.

Search me, O God, and know my heart, and direct my footsteps according to Your word.

July 17 — Proverbs 5:21

For a man's ways are in full view of the LORD, and he examines all his paths.

"Test me, O Lord, and try me, examine my heart and my mind; for your love is ever before me, and I walk continually in your truth" (Psalm 26:2-3).

July 18 — Proverbs 5:23

He will die for lack of discipline, led astray by his own great folly.

Lord, I make myself available to You that You might produce the fruit of the spirit which is self-control in my life today.

July 19 — Proverbs 6:10-11

A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest—and poverty will come on you like a bandit and scarcity like an armed man.

Lord, one response to this warning is to follow in the path of the daily disciplines, so I come before You today.

July 20 — Proverbs 8:10, 11

Choose my instruction instead of silver, knowledge rather than choice gold, for wisdom is more precious than rubies, and nothing you desire can compare with her.

Lord, Your word says that You gave Solomon wisdom and very great insight. Would You do that for me today?

REFLECTION...

July 21 — Proverbs 8:34-35

Blessed is the man who listens to me, watching daily at my doors, waiting at my doorway. For whoever finds me finds life and receives favor from the LORD.

Lord, You were pleased when Solomon asked for wisdom. I want to bring pleasure to Your heart today by asking the same.

July 22 — Proverbs 9:6

Leave your simple ways and you will live; walk in the way of understanding.

Lord, “may the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight” this day (Psalm 19:14).

July 23 — Proverbs 9:10

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

Lord, I honor You this day and long to know You in a more intimate way.

July 24 — Proverbs 10:7

The memory of the righteous will be a blessing, but the name of the wicked will not.

Lord, make me a blessing to the lives I touch this day.

July 25 — Proverbs 10:9

The man of integrity walks securely, but he who takes crooked paths will be found out.

Lord, keep me on the straight and narrow as I walk in Your truth.

REFLECTION...

July 26 — Proverbs 10:17

He who heeds discipline shows the way to life, but whoever ignores correction leads others astray.

Lord, I long to be sensitive and submissive to Your hand of correction in my life.

July 27 — Proverbs 10:19

When words are many, sin is not absent, but he who holds his tongue is wise.

Lord, I am reminded of the words of James: "But let everyone be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger" (James 1:19).

July 28 — Proverbs 11:3

The integrity of the upright guides them, but the unfaithful are destroyed by their duplicity.

Lord, for this day I am laying hold of Your promise in the new covenant that You will give Your followers singleness of heart and action.

July 29 — Proverbs 11:13

A gossip betrays a confidence, but a trustworthy man keeps a secret.

Lord, keep me from being careless with my tongue.

July 30 — Proverbs 11:24-25

One man gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty. A generous man will prosper; he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed.

Lord, the longing of my heart is that I might be known as a generous person.

REFLECTION...

July 31 — Proverbs 11:30

The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and he who wins souls is wise.

Lord, may the fruit of the Spirit be evident in my life today and bear witness to someone who needs to know the Savior.

AUGUST

August 1 — Proverbs 12:15

The way of a fool seems right to him, but a wise man listens to advice.

Lord, help me to seek and to heed the advice of those who love me.

August 2 — Proverbs 12:18

Reckless words pierce like a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.

Lord, help me to be obedient to the words of Paul to the Ephesians: "Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, that it may give grace to those who hear" (Ephesians 4:29).

August 3 — Proverbs 12:22

The LORD detests lying lips, but he delights in men who are truthful.

Lord, help me to be obedient to the words of Paul to the Ephesians: "For this day as well, therefore lay aside falsehood, speak truth each one of you with his neighbor for we are members of one another" (Ephesians 4:25).

REFLECTION...

August 4 — Proverbs 12:25

An anxious heart weighs a man down, but a kind word cheers him up.

Lord, my goal for the day is that I might speak a word that will lighten someone's load and bring cheer.

August 5 — Proverbs 13:10

Pride only breeds quarrels, but wisdom is found in those who take advice.

Lord, help me to pursue humility, honesty, and holiness, with reckless abandon.

August 6 — Proverbs 13:15

Good understanding wins favor, but the way of the unfaithful is hard.

Lord, keep me from resisting or reacting wrongly to the circumstances in my life. Help me to be faithful to respond to what You are allowing.

August 7 — Proverbs 14:12

There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death.

Lord, I am committing myself afresh to Your word, Your way, and Your wisdom.

August 8 — Proverbs 14:15

A simple man believes anything, but a prudent man gives thought to his steps.

Lord, grant me the wisdom to make wise decisions this day.

REFLECTION...

August 9 — Proverbs 14:22

Do not those who plot evil go astray? But those who plan what is good find love and faithfulness.

Lord, I know I will find love and faithfulness as I plan today to do Your will.

August 10 — Proverbs 14:30

A heart at peace gives life to the body, but envy rots the bones.

Remember, the work of righteousness is peace; its effect, quietness and assurance forever.

August 11 — Proverbs 14:34

Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people.

Lord, my prayer is the prayer of the psalmist that you would guide me in paths of righteousness for Your name's sake.

August 12 — Proverbs 15:1

A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

Lord, keep me from being harsh and sarcastic in my speech. May my words be gentle and kind.

August 13 — Proverbs 15:3

The eyes of the LORD are everywhere, keeping watch on the wicked and the good.

Lord, since You are watching, help me to be faithful in my commitment to You.

REFLECTION...

August 14 — Proverbs 15:10

Stern discipline awaits him who leaves the path; he who hates correction will die.

Lord, help me to be sensitive, submissive, and serious, about my response to Your hand of discipline in my life.

August 15 — Proverbs 15:22

Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers they succeed.

Lord, help me to be open and transparent with my friends who are able to help me make the right decisions.

August 16 — Proverbs 15:31

He who listens to a life-giving rebuke will be at home among the wise.

Lord, help me not to be defensive when I hear things that are difficult to hear.

August 17 — Proverbs 15:32

He who ignores discipline despises himself, but whoever heeds correction gains understanding.

Lord, I know that it is from a heart of love that You discipline everyone of us. Help me to be responsive so that I might gain understanding.

August 18 — Proverbs 16:2

All a man's ways seem innocent to him, but motives are weighed by the LORD.

Lord, free me from ulterior motives and help me more and more to see things in my life from Your perspective.

REFLECTION...

August 19 — Proverbs 16:3

Commit to the LORD whatever you do, and your plans will succeed.

Lord, I know You have a plan, a program, a purpose for my life. I want to be busy this day fulfilling Your goals for me.

August 20 — Proverbs 16:7

When a man's ways are pleasing to the LORD, he makes even his enemies live at peace with him.

Lord, it is the supreme desire of my heart to be pleasing to You on the vertical and at peace with men on the horizontal.

August 21 — Proverbs 16:9

In his heart a man plans his course, but the LORD determines his steps.

Lord, thank You for Your sovereign purpose that keeps us on track and headed in the right direction.

August 22 — Proverbs 16:20

Whoever gives heed to instruction prospers, and blessed is he who trusts in the LORD.

Lord, as I face this new day, make me teachable and trusting.

August 23 — Proverbs 17:3

The crucible for silver and the furnace for gold, but the LORD tests the heart.

Lord, may the words of the psalmist be our confidence: "Though you probe my heart and examine me at night, though you test me, you will find nothing" (Psalm 17:3).

REFLECTION...

August 24 — Proverbs 17:17

A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

Lord, helps me to be the kind of friend who can be counted upon to always be there doing what is needed.

August 25 — Proverbs 17:27

A man of knowledge uses words with restraint, and a man of understanding is even-tempered.

Lord, my prayer for this day is that You might control my tongue and temper by the power of the Holy Spirit.

August 26 — Proverbs 18:2

A fool finds no pleasure in understanding but delights in airing his own opinions.

Lord, teach me how to really listen with my heart to what others are saying and to use restraint in giving advice.

August 27 — Proverbs 18:22

He who finds a wife finds what is good and receives favor from the LORD.

Lord, thank You for the gift of our precious ones, like my wonderful Pearl.

August 28 — Proverbs 19:11

A man's wisdom gives him patience; it is to his glory to overlook an offense.

Lord, help me to manifest patience in the process of pursuing Your plan, and keep me from being overly touchy with others.

REFLECTION...

August 29 — Proverbs 19:20

Listen to advice and accept instruction, and in the end you will be wise.

Lord, it is the longing of my heart that I might never quit learning what You are trying to teach me.

August 30 — Proverbs 19:21

Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the LORD's purpose that prevails.

Lord, thank You for the confidence that when my plans go up in smoke, Your purpose prevails.

August 31 — Proverbs 20:3

It is to a man's honor to avoid strife, but every fool is quick to quarrel.

Lord, I ask You for the wisdom that James describes when he says: "The wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy, and good fruits, unwaivering, without hypocrisy" (James 3:17).

SEPTEMBER

September 1 — Proverbs 20:19

A gossip betrays a confidence; so avoid a man who talks too much.

Lord, guide me in my walk, and in my talk as I face this brand new day.

REFLECTION...

September 2 — Proverbs 20:27

The lamp of the LORD searches the spirit of a man; it searches out his inmost being.

“Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there be any wicked way in me . . .” (Psalm 139:23-24).

September 3 — Proverbs 21:2

All a man’s ways seem right to him, but the LORD weighs the heart.

Lord, I set myself before You asking You to show me Your ways and to purify my heart.

September 4 — Proverbs 21:3

To do what is right and just is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice.

Lord, I am totally committed to do what is right and just in Your eyes.

September 5 — Proverbs 21:5

The plans of the diligent lead to profit as surely as haste leads to poverty.

Lord, keep me free from haste and hurry as I wait for You to make Your way known.

September 6 — Proverbs 21:23

He who guards his mouth and his tongue keeps himself from calamity.

Lord, I come to You this day with the prayer of the psalmist: “Set a guard over my mouth, O Lord; keep watch over the door of my lips” (Psalm 141:3).

REFLECTION...

September 7 — Proverbs 22:1

A good name is more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver or gold.

Lord, I know that as I set my affections on things above rather than on things of the earth, I will become more and more a person of integrity.

September 8 — Proverbs 22:6

Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it.

Lord, thank You for our children. Help me to find increasing joy in following in Your steps.

September 9 — Proverbs 22:15

Folly is bound up in the heart of a child, but the rod of discipline will drive it far from him.

Lord, the confession of my lips of this day are the words of the psalmist: "It was good for me to be afflicted so that I might learn your decrees" (Psalm 119:71).

September 10 — Proverbs 23:4

Do not wear yourself out to get rich; have the wisdom to show restraint.

Lord, I am reminded of Your Words from Paul's pen to Timothy: "But godliness with contentment is great gain" (1 Timothy 6:6)" Keep me focused on my number one priority: to bring You pleasure.

REFLECTION...

September 11 — Proverbs 23:17

Do not let your heart envy sinners, but always be zealous for the fear of the LORD.

Lord, keep me focused this day upon You, recognizing the fact that my rich inheritance is out of this world.

September 12 — Proverbs 24:10

If you falter in times of trouble, how small is your strength!

Lord, in the strength of the One who dwells within me, I am ready for anything that life is going to throw at me today.

September 13 — Proverbs 24:30-31

I went past the field of the sluggard, past the vineyard of the man who lacks judgment; thorns had come up everywhere, the ground was covered with weeds, and the stone wall was in ruins.

Lord, keep me from letting up and lying down. Instead, in Your strength, let me lay it on and leave a legacy.

September 14 — Proverbs 25:11

A word aptly spoken is like apples of gold in settings of silver.

Lord, fill my mouth with Your words this day that I might speak words that will reach the hearts of others.

September 15 — Proverbs 25:28

Like a city whose walls are broken down is a man who lacks self-control.

Lord, Your Spirit produces self-control. May He have freedom to do that in my life this day.

REFLECTION...

September 16 — Proverbs 26:20

Without wood a fire goes out; without gossip a quarrel dies down.

Lord, may the words of my lips be factual, faithful, and fruitful in what they accomplish in the lives of others.

September 17 — Proverbs 27:1

Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring forth.

Lord, help me to seize the day knowing that there are no guarantees of a tomorrow.

September 18 — Proverbs 27:17

As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.

Lord, thank You for my accountability relationships that are continually sharpening my focus.

September 19 — Proverbs 28:1

The wicked man flees though no one pursues, but the righteous are as bold as a lion.

Lord, I need not fear for You are my shield and my defender.

September 20 — Proverbs 28:6

Better a poor man whose walk is blameless than a rich man whose ways are perverse.

Lord, I know that You love the just and that You will not forsake Your faithful ones.

REFLECTION...

September 21 — Proverbs 28:13

He who conceals his sins does not prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy.

Lord, I am coming to You this day wanting to walk in the light so that I might become aware of those things which are offensive to You.

September 22 — Proverbs 28:14

Blessed is the man who always fears the LORD, but he who hardens his heart falls into trouble.

Lord, I present to You a soft, sensitive, submissive heart, ready to do Your will.

September 23 — Proverbs 28:19

He who works his land will have abundant food, but the one who chases fantasies will have his fill of poverty.

Lord, keep me sowing the seed of Your word that I might continually be reaping an abundant harvest.

September 24 — Proverbs 28:26

He who trusts in himself is a fool, but he who walks in wisdom is kept safe.

Lord, I am committed today to walk in Your way with Your wisdom as my guide.

REFLECTION...

September 25 — Proverbs 29:6

An evil man is snared by his own sin, but a righteous one can sing and be glad.

Lord, free me from the snares of my own sin that I might sing with joy Your song of deliverance.

September 26 — Proverbs 29:11

A fool gives full vent to his anger, but a wise man keeps himself under control.

Lord, keep me from flying off the handle in anger. Help me to manifest strength, stability, and self-control.

September 27 — Proverbs 29:23

A man's pride brings him low, but a man of lowly spirit gains honor.

Lord, I come to You with the words of Peter upon my lips: "Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time" (1 Peter 5:6).

September 28 — Proverbs 29:25

Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the LORD is kept safe.

Lord, I claim Your words to Jeremiah: "Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you," declares the Lord" (Jeremiah 1:8).

REFLECTION...

September 29 — Proverbs 30:5

“Every word of God is flawless; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him.”

Lord, I am meditating upon Your word as I have taken shelter behind the shield of faith.

September 30 — Proverbs 31:30

Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.

Lord, free me from the tyranny of the temporary and keep me focused on the permanence of the eternal.

OCTOBER

October 1 — Isaiah 1:4

Ah, sinful nation, a people loaded with guilt, a brood of evildoers, children given to corruption! They have forsaken the LORD; they have spurned the Holy One of Israel and turned their backs on him.

Lord, is this the way You feel about America?

October 2 — Isaiah 1:18

“Come now, let us reason together,” says the LORD. “Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.

Lord, thank You for the changes that take place in our lives when we come to reason together with You.

REFLECTION...

October 3 — Isaiah 1:25

I will turn my hand against you; I will thoroughly purge away your dross and remove all your impurities.

Father, my prayer this day is that You will hasten the purifying process that I might walk before You in truth.

October 4 — Isaiah 2:17

The arrogance of man will be brought low and the pride of men humbled; the LORD alone will be exalted in that day.

Lord, in a spirit of humility and brokenness, help me to exalt You this day by my life and my lips.

October 5 — Isaiah 3:10

Tell the righteous it will be well with them, for they will enjoy the fruit of their deeds.

Father, thank You for this promise. Help me to be faithful in sowing seeds of righteousness.

October 6 — Isaiah 5:11

Woe to those who rise early in the morning to run after their drinks, who stay up late at night till they are inflamed with wine.

Father, these words remind me of Ephesians 5:18, "And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit."

REFLECTION...

October 7 — Isaiah 5:20-21

Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter. Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes and clever in their own sight.

Lord, help me this day to walk in the light and to see things more and more from Your perspective.

October 8 — Isaiah 6:5

“Woe to me!” I cried. “I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty.”

Father, thank You that as I walk in the light, the blood of Jesus Christ, Your Son, cleanses from all sin.

October 9 — Isaiah 6:8

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I. Send me!”

Lord, I am available to go where You want me to go and to do what You want me to do this day.

October 10 — Isaiah 7:14

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

Lord, thank You for this wonderful prophecy that was fulfilled in the birth of Your Son.

REFLECTION...

October 11 — Isaiah 9:3

You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as men rejoice when dividing the plunder.

Lord, having a relationship with You is exciting as You help us grow and You increase our joy.

October 12 — Isaiah 9:6

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Father, I just want to thank and praise You for the gift of Your Son.

October 13 — Isaiah 9:7

Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.

Father, thank You for this promise of the future kingdom when Your Son will rule and reign in righteousness.

October 14 — Isaiah 11:1-2

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him—the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD.

Father, thank You that Jesus came from the tribe of Judah, from the family of Jesse and that He is bearing fruit in our lives today.

REFLECTION...

October 15 — Isaiah 12:2

“Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The LORD, the LORD, is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation.”

Lord, You are my salvation, my strength and my song; therefore I will trust You and not be afraid.

October 16 — Isaiah 12:5

Sing to the LORD, for he has done glorious things; let this be known to all the world.

Lord, my lips are filled with the sacrifice of praise as I greet this brand new day.

October 17 — Isaiah 14:24

The LORD Almighty has sworn, “Surely, as I have planned, so it will be, and as I have purposed, so it will stand.”

Lord, I am submitting myself afresh to Your purpose and plan for today.

October 18 — Isaiah 14:27

For the LORD Almighty has purposed, and who can thwart him? His hand is stretched out, and who can turn it back?

Lord, I trust You this day, fully aware that You have everything under control.

October 19 — Isaiah 25:1

O LORD, you are my God; I will exalt you and praise your name, for in perfect faithfulness you have done marvelous things, things planned long ago.

Lord, I exalt You and praise Your name. You are indeed at work in my life and I thank You for it.

REFLECTION...

October 20 — Isaiah 25:8

He will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove the disgrace of his people from all the earth. The LORD has spoken.

Lord, hasten the day when death is history and tears will be dried forever.

October 21 — Isaiah 26:3-4

You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in you. Trust in the LORD forever, for the LORD, the LORD, is the Rock eternal.

Lord, thank You for the perfect peace that prevails as my mind stays focused upon You.

October 22 — Isaiah 26:8

Yes, LORD, walking in the way of your laws, we wait for you; your name and renown are the desire of our hearts.

Lord, this day finds me walking in Your trust, waiting for You to work, and wanting for You to be glorified in my life.

October 23 — Isaiah 26:9

My soul yearns for you in the night; in the morning my spirit longs for you. When your judgments come upon the earth, the people of the world learn righteousness.

Lord, You and You alone are the supreme desire of my heart.

October 24 — Isaiah 26:12

LORD, you establish peace for us; all that we have accomplished you have done for us.

Lord, help me to remember this day that all we have accomplished You have done for us.

REFLECTION...

October 25 — Isaiah 28:29

All this also comes from the LORD Almighty, wonderful in counsel and magnificent in wisdom.

Lord, I wait before You this day to avail myself of Your counsel and magnificent wisdom.

October 26 — Isaiah 29:13

The Lord says: “These people come near to me with their mouth and honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. Their worship of me is made up only of rules taught by men.”

Lord, help me to see this day that You are not interested in religion and rituals, but that You want a relationship that captures our hearts.

October 27 — Isaiah 30:15

This is what the Sovereign LORD, the Holy One of Israel, says: “In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength, but you would have none of it.”

Lord, I come before You this day in the spirit of repentance and rest, and I want to live before You in quietness and trust.

October 28 — Isaiah 30:18

Yet the LORD longs to be gracious to you; he rises to show you compassion. For the LORD is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him!

Lord, I just want to thank You this day for the fact that You are gracious and compassionate.

REFLECTION...

October 29 — Isaiah 30:21

Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, “This is the way; walk in it.”

Lord, help me to be sensitive to Your still, small voice spoken through Your word that I might walk in Your path.

October 30 — Isaiah 32:2

Each man will be like a shelter from the wind and a refuge from the storm, like streams of water in the desert and the shadow of a great rock in a thirsty land.

Lord, it is my desire to be a shelter from the storm, a stream of refreshment, and a shadow from the heat of the day of those who come across my path.

October 31 — Isaiah 32:17

The fruit of righteousness will be peace; the effect of righteousness will be quietness and confidence forever.

Lord, if Your righteousness is to be seen in my life this day, it will be through peace, quietness, and confidence.

NOVEMBER

November 1 — Isaiah 33:2

O LORD, be gracious to us; we long for you. Be our strength every morning, our salvation in time of distress.

Lord, I, too, long for You and ask You to be my strength and my salvation in this new day.

REFLECTION...

November 2 — Isaiah 40:8

“The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God stands forever.”

Lord, thank You for this reminder that everything around us is temporary but that the word of our God stands forever.

November 3 — Isaiah 40:11

He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.

Lord, thank You for Your shepherding ministry in caring, carrying, and carefully leading us.

November 4 — Isaiah 40:29

He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

Lord, thank You for Your adequate resources for us when we are weak and weary.

November 5 — Isaiah 40:31

But those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Lord, my hope and my expectation are in You this day.

November 6 — Isaiah 41:10

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

What a joy it is to start this day with the promise of Your presence.

REFLECTION...

November 7 — Isaiah 41:13

For I am the LORD, your God, who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you.

Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, help me stand.

November 8 — Isaiah 42:3

A bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out. In faithfulness he will bring forth justice;

Thank You, Lord, for the awareness that You never give up on us and that You are watching what is going on.

November 9 — Isaiah 43:1

But now, this is what the LORD says—he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: “Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine.”

Lord, what a blessing it is at the start of this day to know that You know my name and that I belong to You.

November 10 — Isaiah 43:2

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.

What joy there is, Lord, in knowing that You are intimately involved in all that is going on in my life.

REFLECTION...

November 11 — Isaiah 43:11

I, even I, am the LORD, and apart from me there is no savior.

The Savior's words to Thomas come to mind this morning: "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no man comes to the Father, but by me" (John 14:6).

November 12 — Isaiah 43:13

"Yes, and from ancient days I am he. No one can deliver out of my hand. When I act, who can reverse it?"

What security is mine in knowing that I am in Your hand and that You are at work.

November 13 — Isaiah 43:18

"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past.

I am reminded of the words of Paul, "Forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead" (Philippians 3:13).

November 14 — Isaiah 43:19

See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland.

What a comfort it is in times of transition to know that the Lord is intimately involved in all that is new.

November 15 — Isaiah 43:25

"I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more."

Lord, my freedom and joy know no bounds this day because You have blotted out my transgressions and You remember my sins no more.

REFLECTION...

November 16 — Isaiah 45:12

It is I who made the earth and created mankind upon it. My own hands stretched out the heavens; I marshaled their starry hosts.

With the psalmist I cry, "O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!" (Psalm 8:1).

November 17 — Isaiah 45:22

"Turn to me and be saved, all you ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is no other."

Lord, I have turned to You and I thank You for the gift of Your Son who provides eternal salvation.

November 18 — Isaiah 46:4

Even to your old age and gray hairs I am he, I am he who will sustain you. I have made you and I will carry you; I will sustain you and I will rescue you.

Lord, I am getting a little older and I really thank You for this precious promise of Your sustaining grace.

November 19 — Isaiah 46:10

I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say: My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please.

Lord, I face this brand new day with Your purpose, Your pleasure, and Your promises on my mind.

REFLECTION...

November 20 — Isaiah 48:3

I foretold the former things long ago, my mouth announced them and I made them known; then suddenly I acted, and they came to pass.

Lord, I am reminded of the words of Joshua: “Not one of all the Lord’s good promises to the house of Israel failed; every one was fulfilled” (Joshua 21:45).

November 21 — Isaiah 48:10-11

See, I have refined you, though not as silver; I have tested you in the furnace of affliction. For my own sake, for my own sake, I do this. How can I let myself be defamed? I will not yield my glory to another.

Lord, I am available to be tested and tried in the furnace of affliction because I long to be useful in Your hand.

November 22 — Isaiah 48:17

This is what the LORD says—your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: “I am the LORD your God, who teaches you what is best for you, who directs you in the way you should go.

Lord, teach me what is best for me and direct me in the way You want me to go.

November 23 — Isaiah 48:18

If only you had paid attention to my commands, your peace would have been like a river, your righteousness like the waves of the sea.

Lord, my prayer this day is that You would make me sensitive and responsive to Your commands.

REFLECTION...

November 24 — Isaiah 48:22

“There is no peace,” says the LORD, “for the wicked.”

Father, thank You for the wonderful gift of peace that is ours when we come to know Jesus Christ as Savior.

November 25 — Isaiah 49:13

Shout for joy, O heavens; rejoice, O earth; burst into song, O mountains!

For the LORD comforts his people and will have compassion on his afflicted ones.

Father, I rejoice in Your comfort and compassion at the dawning of this new day.

November 26 — Isaiah 50:4

The Sovereign LORD has given me an instructed tongue, to know the word that sustains the weary. He wakens me morning by morning, wakens my ear to listen like one being taught.

Lord, control my tongue by the power of Your Spirit that I might speak words of encouragement to someone who is weary this day.

November 27 — Isaiah 50:7

Because the Sovereign LORD helps me, I will not be disgraced. Therefore have I set my face like flint, and I know I will not be put to shame.

Father, thank You for the help that You provide to keep us faithful and persevering through the problems that will confront us this day.

November 28 — Isaiah 50:10

Who among you fears the LORD and obeys the word of his servant? Let him who walks in the dark, who has no light, trust in the name of the LORD and rely on his God.

Lord, I want to be known as one who fears the Lord and obeys His word.

REFLECTION...

November 29 — Isaiah 51:1

“Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness and who seek the LORD: Look to the rock from which you were cut and to the quarry from which you were hewn.

Father, it is my deep desire to be faithful in the pursuit of righteousness and to seek You this day.

November 30 — Isaiah 51:7

“Hear me, you who know what is right, you people who have my law in your hearts: Do not fear the reproach of men or be terrified by their insults.

Lord, I am reminded of the Proverb that says the fear of man brings a snare but the one who puts his trust in the Lord shall be safe.

DECEMBER

December 1 — Isaiah 51:11

The ransomed of the LORD will return. They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away.

Our prayer this day, O Lord, is that You will hasten the coming of Your kingdom.

December 2 — Isaiah 52:7

How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, “Your God reigns!”

Lord, what a day of rejoicing that will be when we can say, “Our God reigns!”

REFLECTION...

December 3 — Isaiah 53:3

He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

Father, thank You for this sober reminder of what it cost to purchase my eternal salvation.

December 4 — Isaiah 53:4

Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted.

Father, thank You for the reminder that our Savior took our infirmities and carried our sorrows when He went to the cross.

December 5 — Isaiah 53:5

But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.

Lord, I am reminded of Paul's words in 2 Corinthians 5:21: "He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him" (NASB).

December 6 — Isaiah 53:6

We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Father, thank You for our good Shepherd who lay down His life for the sheep.

REFLECTION...

December 7 — Isaiah 53:7

He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

Lord, like John the Baptist, we bow in humble gratitude as we behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

December 8 — Isaiah 53:10

Yet it was the LORD's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the LORD makes his life a guilt offering, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand.

Lord, what sorrow and sadness must have been Yours as You allowed Your Son to be crushed for our sins.

December 9 — Isaiah 53:11

After the suffering of his soul, he will see the light [of life] and be satisfied; by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and he will bear their iniquities.

What pure joy, our Father, is mine knowing that I have been declared righteous by faith and that my Savior has borne the burden of my sin.

December 10 — Isaiah 54:2

"Enlarge the place of your tent, stretch your tent curtains wide, do not hold back; lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes."

Lord, thank You for the exciting times in our lives when You are moving us forward in greater ministry.

REFLECTION...

December 11 — Isaiah 54:7

“For a brief moment I abandoned you, but with deep compassion I will bring you back.”

Lord, I am reminded of the words of Jeremiah in Lamentations that because of Your great mercies we are not consumed for Your compassions fail not—they are new every morning. Great is Your faithfulness! (Lamentations 3:22-23).

December 12 — Isaiah 54:10

“Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed,” says the LORD, who has compassion on you.

Lord, I find myself rejoicing this day in Your unfailing love and Your covenant of peace.

December 13 — Isaiah 54:13

All your sons will be taught by the LORD, and great will be your children’s peace.

Lord, what a great parenting promise this is for all of us who have raised children or are in the process of rearing them.

December 14 — Isaiah 54:17

“No weapon forged against you will prevail, and you will refute every tongue that accuses you. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and this is their vindication from me,” declares the LORD.

Lord, I am reminded of the words of Paul to the Romans: “Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, ‘Vengeance is mine, I will repay’ says the Lord” (Romans 12:19).

REFLECTION...

December 15 — Isaiah 55:6

Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near.

Lord, I begin this new day by seeking and calling upon Your name.

December 16 — Isaiah 55:7

Let the wicked forsake his way and the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on him, and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

Lord, thank You for the mercy and pardon that we receive when we turn to You.

December 17 — Isaiah 55:8

“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the LORD.

Lord, I am committed to thinking Your thoughts and walking in Your ways.

December 18 — Isaiah 55:9

“As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

Lord, my prayer this day is that You might fill my mind with Your thoughts and show me Your ways.

December 19 — Isaiah 55:10-11

As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

Lord, thank You for the fact that when we are faithful to proclaim Your word, it will accomplish Your desires and fulfill Your purpose.

REFLECTION...

December 20 — Isaiah 56:1

This is what the LORD says: “Maintain justice and do what is right, for my salvation is close at hand and my righteousness will soon be revealed.”

Lord, I want to be Your obedient servant by maintaining justice and doing what is right.

December 21 — Isaiah 56:12

“Come,” each one cries, “let me get wine! Let us drink our fill of beer! And tomorrow will be like today, or even far better.”

Remember it is actually far better to be filled with the Spirit than with the spirits.

December 22 — Isaiah 57:2

Those who walk uprightly enter into peace; they find rest as they lie in death.

Lord, the desire of my heart is to walk uprightly so that I might experience Your peace and find fulfillment in the hour of my death.

December 23 — Isaiah 57:20-21

But the wicked are like the tossing sea, which cannot rest, whose waves cast up mire and mud. “There is no peace,” says my God, “for the wicked.”

Father, I am reminded of the words of the Lord Jesus: “Come unto me all ye who are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest” (Matthew 11:28).

REFLECTION...

December 24 — Isaiah 58:11

The LORD will guide you always; he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail.

Lord, thank You for these precious Christmas gifts: 1) You will guide us always; 2) You will satisfy our needs; and 3) You will strengthen us.

December 25 — Isaiah 59:1-2

Surely the arm of the LORD is not too short to save, nor his ear too dull to hear. But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.

Lord, on this day when we celebrate Your Son's birth, make us aware of any unconfessed sin in our lives that might hinder our fellowship with You.

December 26 — Isaiah 59:8

The way of peace they do not know; there is no justice in their paths. They have turned them into crooked roads; no one who walks in them will know peace.

Lord, I begin this new day walking in the narrow way which leads to life.

December 27 — Isaiah 59:12

For our offenses are many in your sight, and our sins testify against us. Our offenses are ever with us, and we acknowledge our iniquities.

Lord, I start today with the prayer of the psalmist David upon my lips: "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me" (Psalm 51:10).

REFLECTION...

December 28 — Isaiah 64:1

Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains would tremble before you!

Lord, You said in the final chapter of Revelation: “Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to render to every man according to what he has done” (Revelation 22:12).

December 29 — Isaiah 64:6

All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away.

Lord, I find myself rejoicing in the cleansing power of the blood of the Lamb.

December 30 — Isaiah 65:2

All day long I have held out my hands to an obstinate people, who walk in ways not good, pursuing their own imaginations.

Lord, I want to take Your hand and I want to walk in Your ways, and I want to pursue Your plans.

December 31 — Isaiah 66:2

Has not my hand made all these things, and so they came into being?” declares the LORD. “This is the one I esteem: he who is humble and contrite in spirit, and trembles at my word.”

Lord, on this final day of the year, I want to present You with a humble and contrite spirit, and I come trembling at Your word.

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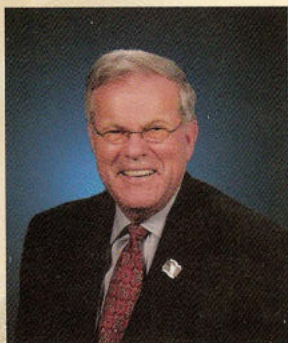
January 13 — Psalm 77:12
**I will meditate on all your works and
consider all your mighty deeds.**


*Lord, meditating on Your works and deeds
brings contentment and joy to my soul.*

**Live this year one day at a time and
spend part of each with the Lord.**

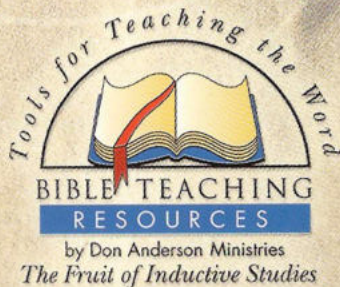
--from A Great While Before Day, Volume VII

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*Don currently serves as the pastor of Hide-A-Way Lake Community
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