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THE  
**KJV**  
*Daily*  
DEVOTIONAL

*Inspiration and Encouragement  
from the Beloved*  
**KING JAMES VERSION**

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*Our mission is to inspire the world with the life-changing message of the Bible.*



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## *Introduction*



More than 400 years after its first publication, the King James Version remains one of the most popular Bible translations available. The beautiful phrasing and cadence of the King James Version have stood the test of time, providing for a moving and powerful reading experience. Believed by many to be one of the most literal and accurate translations of the original Bible languages, the King James Version has changed countless lives over four centuries.

Here, in 365 daily readings, you'll find encouragement from God's Word for an entire year. Spend quiet time immersed in the wisdom only the living and active Word of the Creator of the Universe can offer you, and be blessed!

*The Publisher*



DAY 1

## *His Joy*

*The LORD thy God in the midst of thee is mighty;  
he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will  
rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing.*

ZEPHANIAH 3:17

*Joy.* What a wonderful word! The connotations of delight and gladness. You are usually joyful when something has pleased you. Maybe it's an energizing run, the chatter of a child, or simply a quiet, starry night that soothes your senses and fills your heart with satisfaction.

Scripture tells us the Lord will rejoice over us with singing. Imagine that! The Mighty Warrior of the universe relishing His creation. And that creation is you. It's hard to imagine when we have our dirty faces or are out of sorts that He could care for us at all. But it's true. Our God saves and loves. Our God is truth and mercy.

Take a deep breath and carve out some time to appreciate and bask in the truth of the Bible. God loves *you* and He rejoices in *you*. You are the apple of His eye. Reach out a hand to Him this day, knowing full well He will interlace His fingers with yours and never let go.

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*Father God, how we love You. We do not understand  
the depth and breadth of Your love for us,  
but we are ever so grateful. Amen.*

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DAY 2

*Rejected!*



*The stone which the builders refused is  
become the head stone of the corner.*


PSALM 118:22



When Jesus walked on the earth, it was not the common people, but those who should have known better, that rejected Him. The learned men of the day, who had studied long and hard, knew that the Messiah was to come, but they were unwilling to accept the carpenter's son from Galilee as the Chosen One. They rejected Him and masterminded His death on a cross, but that was not enough to thwart the holy plans of God. Christ was, is, and always will be the one true Son of God. Those who reject Him build their faith with faulty materials. Only Christ is the true cornerstone of faith. Upon that stone alone can true faith be built.

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*Provide the foundation for my faith, Oh God,  
and help me to construct a fortress that will withstand  
all assaults. Protect me with Your love. Amen.*





DAY 3

## *Pray for Others*

*I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men.*

I TIMOTHY 2:1

After Moses received the Ten Commandments from God on Mount Sinai, he called the Israelites together and said to them, “The LORD talked with you face to face in the mount out of the midst of the fire, (I stood between the LORD and you at that time, to shew you the word of the LORD: for ye were afraid by reason of the fire, and went not up into the mount)” (Deuteronomy 5:4–5). Moses often was the intermediary between God and His people. He interceded on their behalf.

Intercessory prayer is a divine act of love and service. It requires persistence, patience, and faith in God. Christians should intercede for family and friends, their country, government leaders, their pastors, the Church, the poor, the sick, the community in which they live, their enemies, and especially for those who are not saved. Wherever there is a need, Christians should pray.

The Bible holds many examples of intercessory prayer. Look for them as you read the scriptures. Discover how God’s people prayed and the great changes those prayers made.

Intercessory prayer is just as important today as it was in Moses’ time. It draws believers nearer to God and provides them with a powerful way to help others. Whom will you pray for today?

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*Heavenly Father, guide me as I pray for others. Help me to pray for them faithfully, patiently, and persistently. Amen.*

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DAY 4

## *Give It All*

*Then Jesus beholding him loved him, and said unto him, One thing thou lackest: go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, take up the cross, and follow me. And he was sad at that saying, and went away grieved: for he had great possessions.*

MARK 10:21–22

It wasn't the response the rich young ruler wanted to hear. Things usually went his way. His position and prestige afforded him that.

But these straightforward, piercing words, blended with the love in Jesus' eyes, troubled the man's soul. It just was too much. He understood just what was being asked of him—everything! The pain in his heart was reflected on his face and in his posture as he slumped away. The truth was, this ruler was not ready to relinquish his all for Jesus.

What has Christ asked *you* to let go of? What are you holding tightly to? Most of us don't have great wealth (we might wish for that kind of "problem"), but are we willing to give up what *do* have to serve Him?

Outwardly, we may look fine. But inwardly? Are our motives pure? Do we have an "underground" thought life? Is there anger bubbling beneath our calm surface?

Today let's face the truth of exactly who we are and give up those things that prevent us from wholeheartedly serving Jesus.

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*Lord, show me what I need to relinquish to You. Help me to abandon everything to freely and joyfully serve You. Amen.*

DAY 5

## *A New Day*

*O LORD, be gracious unto us; we have waited for thee: be thou their arm every morning, our salvation also in the time of trouble.*

ISAIAH 33:2

There are days that start off wrong and finish worse. Days in which we feel out of sorts, like a tire out of balance, clumsy and inefficient. We say things we shouldn't say, using a voice that is too harsh, too loud. We experience days full of failure, tinged by sin. Wouldn't it be great to redo our bad days?

We have that opportunity. It's called *tomorrow*. Lamentations 3:22–23 tells us that by God's mercies, He gives us a fresh canvas every twenty-four hours. Anger, grudges, irritations, and pain don't have to be part of it. No matter how stormy the day before, each new day starts fresh. And He is there for us first thing in the morning and every step of the way in our day, even if things begin to go wrong—again.

Every day is a new day, a new beginning, a new chance to enjoy our lives—because each day is a new day with God. We can focus on the things that matter most: worshipping Him, listening to Him, and being in His presence. No matter what happened the day before, we have a fresh start to enjoy a deeper relationship with Him. A fresh canvas, every twenty-four hours.

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*Before I get out of bed in the morning, let me say these words and mean them: "This is the day which the LORD hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it" (Psalm 118:24). Amen.*

DAY 6

## *When Bad Things Happen*

*If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?  
The LORD is in his holy temple, the LORD's throne is in heaven:  
his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men.*

PSALM 11:3-4

What does daily life look like when an earthquake rocks a third-world country, killing hundreds of thousands and leaving an already desolate nation in ruins? When a tsunami sweeps away entire villages? When a hurricane flattens everything within a one-hundred-mile radius of the shore?

Law and order collapse when natural disasters strike. The struggle for basic survival eclipses all else. All too often, corrupt or inept governments are unable to meet the needs of their citizens when a catastrophe strikes.

Where is God when it hurts? Where is God in the midst of injustice? Does God care? These timeless questions never lose their relevance. The entire book of Job wrestles with these questions. The psalmist also picks up the lament, and only responds that God is still on the throne.

We may never understand why bad things happen or why God seems to be silent. But we can know that regardless of the way things appear, our loving God is still in control—even when things appear to be spiraling out of control. How will you trust God today?

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*Heavenly Father, I am always increasing my trust in You.  
When bad things happen, I learn to trust You without  
understanding. It is enough that You are in control. Amen.*

DAY 7

*Rejoice!*

*Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice.*

PHILIPPIANS 4:4

Paul wrote these words from prison. Considering his circumstances, it doesn't seem like he had much reason to rejoice. Yet, he knew what many of us forget: when we have the Lord on our side, we always have reason to rejoice.

He didn't say, "Rejoice in your circumstances." He told us to rejoice in the Lord. When we're feeling depressed, anxious, or lost in despair, we can think of our Lord. We can remind ourselves that we are so very loved. We are special to God. He adores us, and in His heart, each of us is irreplaceable.

Perhaps the reason we lose our joy sometimes is because we've let the wrong things be the source of our joy. If our joy is in our finances, our jobs, or our relationships, what happens when those things fall through? Our joy is lost.

But when God is the source of our joy, we will never lose that joy. Circumstances may frustrate us and break our hearts. But God is able to supply all our needs. He is able to restore broken relationships. He can give us a new job or help us to succeed at our current job. Through it all, despite it all, we can rejoice in knowing that we are God's, and He loves us.

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*Dear Father, thank You for loving me.  
Help me to make You the source of my joy. Amen.*

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DAY 8

## *Staying Close*

*And there was one Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Aser: she was of a great age, and had lived with an husband seven years from her virginity; and she was a widow of about fourscore and four years, which departed not from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day. And she coming in that instant gave thanks likewise unto the Lord, and spake of him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem.*

LUKE 2:36-38

Talk about commitment. Anna had been widowed since she was a young woman. There's no mention of her having children. Instead of finding another husband, she decided to live out her days serving God.

Anna's years of commitment paid off when she was very old. God made sure that Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to that particular temple so Anna could see Him, hold Him, and declare His presence to all who would listen.

If we want to catch God in His work, in the middle of His most exciting acts, we must stay close to the place He's working. In that day, it was the temple. Today, it might be at church or in the middle of a particular ministry project. But when we put our own schedules and agendas first and disregard God's work, we miss out on His most thrilling exploits.

Like Anna, we should do all we can to serve God and stay close to His work. When we do, we'll witness some amazing feats.

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*Dear Father, show me where You are working,  
and help me to stay close to You. Amen.*

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DAY 9

## *Speak Light*

*O send out thy light and thy truth: let them lead me;  
let them bring me unto thy holy hill, and to thy tabernacles.*

PSALM 43:3

The tiny lighthouse sat out on the rocky shore. Without fail, its bright beacon pierced the night, and its bellowing horn echoed from the rocks, warning ships of dangers and perils. Countless boats strayed off course in dense fog, to be steered from danger by the tiny lighthouse.

True light, sent out through the clouds and darkness, can save lives. A voice speaking the truth of Christ has real power behind it: the power of salvation. Be proud of who you are and all that Christ has done for you. It matters little whether you are big, strong, smart, or powerful. What matters is that you have the truth of Christ to share, and there is no greater force in all creation.

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*May my light shine in the darkness until all darkness ceases to be.  
Let me reflect Your divine light, Lord, clearing away the fog and  
helping others come into the safety of Your love. Amen.*

DAY 10

## *Meat or Mush?*

*Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.*

2 JOHN 1:9

Have you had to contend with “smorgasbord Christianity”? Suddenly your minister leaves, and as your congregation seeks a new leader, a succession of preachers fills the pulpit week after week. And every week you’re being fed a different kind of spiritual food.

Don’t relax and figure you’re on a spiritual vacation. This is the time to listen very carefully. You have no idea where these people come from theologically, and it might be easy to be led astray by a deep, mellow voice or empty but high-sounding words.

Spiritual ideas abound, but not all are sound. Sometimes it’s easy to assume you’re getting good meat when you’re actually being served mushy, rotten vegetables.

How can you tell meat from mush? Compare the message to Christ’s words. Is the preacher avoiding the Bible’s tough commands, preaching ideas that are not biblical, or appealing to non-Christian ideas? Better beware.

Jesus gave us strong doctrines and good teaching to lead us into His truth. Faithful expositors cling to His Word. They offer meat and milk—not rotten teachings.

Eat well!

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*Keep me aware of Your truth, Lord.  
I want to live on it, not on mush. Amen.*

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DAY 11

## *Encouraging Words*

*Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.*

EPHESIANS 4:29

“Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me,” goes the old saying. It’s not true, however. Words can—and do—hurt. Ask anyone who was bullied as a child. Discouraging, shaming words stay with a person for years, even decades.

As we spend more time texting and giving status updates—and less time talking—we also need to be aware that whatever we “say” online stays online, for good (we can delete things, but others may have captured screen shots or printed our words out). Did you rant on Facebook about a friend or political party? It’s out there. That comment belittling a coworker? It’s out there. When you left a nasty comment on a blog in a moment of anger? It’s out there.

As Ephesians 4:29 says, the words we choose are important. . .especially as the world becomes more disconnected and disinterested in the things of God. The way we talk, both online and off, can either attract people toward Jesus or turn them away from Him. Today, think about the language you use and the tone you’re talking with. Are your word choices helpful? Are your phrases kind? Is the tone you’re taking sarcastic? Cynical? Bitter? Ask God to help you think before you speak (or post).

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*Father, may everything I say be helpful, kind, and encouraging to others. Thank You for forgiving me when I mess up, Lord—because I will. Amen.*

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DAY 12

## *Knowing Who You Are in Christ*

*Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference.*

ROMANS 3:22

Sometimes we measure our value by “what we do” (our work or our talents), but this should never be. Who you are is more than a name. More than a face. More than the job/work you do. You are uniquely created, a true one of a kind. You are God’s kid. His. Loved. Cherished. Blessed.

What does the Bible say about you? You are a new creation. A royal priesthood. A holy nation. The righteousness of God. A holy temple. A member of the body. A citizen of heaven. Saved by faith. Raised up by Him. The aroma of Christ. Filled with heavenly gifts. Delivered from the domain of darkness. Capable of doing all things through Him who strengthens you. On and on the descriptions go.

Wow! When you read all of those things, you begin to see yourself as God sees you. You’re not “just” another person. You’re a child of the one true King, and He delights in you! Today, take a close look in the mirror. Don’t stare at your reflection in the usual way. Get God’s perspective. Then begin to see yourself the way He does.

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*Lord, I needed this reminder that I’m all of the things You say I am.  
First and foremost, I’m Yours! So, no putting myself down, Father!  
Give me Your eyes to see myself the way You see me. Amen.*

DAY 13

## *Unlock the Door*

*The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints.*

EPHESIANS 1:18

Math is a language all its own. Unfortunately, many students struggle to learn that language. Sometimes they never understand it completely but retain just enough of the language to make it through required courses. In many cases it requires another person who speaks “math” to help struggling students unlock the door to the language barrier.

Your spiritual life is also a different language. God’s ways are not the ways of this world. Often His ways of doing things are similar to learning a new language. Prayer can unlock the door to understanding God’s Word and His design for your life. As you spend time with God in prayer asking for understanding of His Word, His truth will speak to you in a brand-new way. The Holy Spirit will help you unlock the secrets of His purpose and plan for your life.

Discovering His purpose for your life can be exciting, if you’re willing to open the door to a new adventure with Him.

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*Heavenly Father, thank You for the Bible. Help me to read it with understanding and come to know You in a whole new way. Amen.*

DAY 14

## *One Big Family*

*But he answered and said unto him that told him,  
Who is my mother? and who are my brethren?*

MATTHEW 12:48

Jesus' family had heard of the crowds of people looking for healings. They were understandably worried. When someone announced their arrival, Jesus asked this question that seemed to deny them. Harsh! Was He having a bad day?

Part of the importance we place on family comes from the fear of strangers, but each “stranger” is beloved by God. Jesus wasn't excluding His mother and brothers—He was expanding the definition of family. He goes on to say, “Whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother” (v. 50). That's a pretty wide net to cast—but it goes further. Even those who haven't done the will of the Father can join the family if they repent.

The idea of a universal family sounds very “summer of love.” The “flower power” generation grasped the concept of loving humanity, but they sometimes put more faith in sex and drugs than in God.

The idea of a family in which we are all God's children is like G. K. Chesterton's description of Christianity. It “has not been tried and found wanting, it has been found difficult and not tried.” A true family of Christ is still possible. It begins when we lay aside fear and hold out a hand.

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*I am honored to be a member of Your family, God. Allow me to see  
beyond my own family and to reach out in love to all  
my sisters and brothers in Christ. Amen.*

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DAY 15

## *Foolproof*

*Answer not a fool according to his folly, lest thou also be like unto him.  
Answer a fool according to his folly, lest he be wise in his own conceit.*

PROVERBS 26:4-5

Skeptics love to point out what they believe are contradictions in the Bible. Well, here's one if ever there was one. The only problem is, of course, that this is no contradiction. Solomon gave these two contrasting pieces of advice, deliberately stating one right after the other, to make it clear that we are to respond differently in different circumstances. Solomon later pointed out, "To every thing there is a season," and, "A wise man's heart discerneth both time and judgment" (Ecclesiastes 3:1; 8:5).

The kind of answer you give a fool (the word here means a "self-confident person") depends on how caught up in his self-confident opinions he is, what the circumstances are, and who's standing around listening. God may lead you to give him a serious answer (in contrast to his proud chatter) or a humorous, foolish answer (to show him how foolishly he's talking).

With a full-blown fool, it's best to bite your tongue and refrain from saying anything at all (Proverbs 23:9). No matter what you say, it won't persuade him.

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*Dear God, when I don't know how to respond to a foolish opinion, show me. Give me the proper answer, or lead me to keep still. Amen.*

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DAY 16

## Choose Life

*The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill,  
and to destroy: I am come that they might have life,  
and that they might have it more abundantly.*

JOHN 10:10

Too often, it seems as if the negatives of life outweigh the positives. The bills are piling up. Your friends and family need your time and attention. So does your boss. You're exhausted and lacking mental focus. Life begins to cave in around you. . . . It's just too much!

God's Word, though, shows us the lie—and the “liar”—behind those defeating thoughts. We have an enemy who delights in our believing such negative things, an enemy who wants only destruction for our souls. But Jesus came to give us life! We only have to choose it, as an act of the will blended with faith.

God is always a gentleman—He's not going to force His life on us. But when we rely on Him alone, He'll enable us to not only survive but *thrive* in our daily routine.

Each day, let's make a conscious decision to take hold of what Christ offers us—life, to the full.

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*Loving Lord, help me daily to choose You and the life You want to give me.  
Give me the eyes of faith to trust that You will enable me to thrive. Amen.*

DAY 17

## *Shining Light*

*Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.*

MATTHEW 5:14

Jesus' disciples knew all about darkness. Centuries before electricity had been harnessed to provide light, people made do with fires and oil lamps. When the sun went down, darkness ruled.

So when Jesus told His followers that they are the light of the world, the image meant a great deal to them. Light that overtakes the darkness—light to illuminate the way to the Savior. What an amazing concept!

Jesus tells us twenty-first-century followers to be light, too, boldly and unashamedly flooding the darkness that surrounds us. How do we do it? First, by living the life God calls us to—not sinless, but forgiven. Second, by sprinkling our conversations with evidence of our faith. Did something good happen? Share that blessing with others and give God the credit for it. When someone asks about the peace they see in you, share the joy of Jesus.

Being a light of the world is not about being a Bible thumper or bashing others over the head with religion. It's about living out genuine faith that allows Christ's light to break through our everyday lives. With that goal in mind, shine!

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*Jesus, You are my true light. Even though I alone can't shine as brightly as You, I ask that You shine through me as I seek to follow after You. I know I won't be perfect, but I also know that Your grace has me covered. Amen.*

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DAY 18

## *Together*

*Next unto him repaired Uzziel the son of Harhaiah, of the goldsmiths.*

*Next unto him also repaired Hananiah the son of one of the apothecaries, and they fortified Jerusalem unto the broad wall.*

NEHEMIAH 3:8

When Nehemiah started rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem, he used all sorts of people. The perfume makers and goldsmiths may have supplied the means, or they may actually have put stone upon stone. Beside these artisans were merchants and rulers of districts. Men of different tribes worked side by side. Some repaired areas they had a personal interest in. Shallum repaired a section with his daughters. Priests and temple servants labored. Some were less than diligent; others were zealous.

Nehemiah called *all* believers to do the Lord's work. And, working together, they rebuilt the city walls in an amazing fifty-two days! The fact that they were surrounded on all sides by enemies may have been a further incentive.

Faith is in a similar position today. We only have one enemy, but we make him stronger when we treat our brothers and sisters as Satan's reinforcements. By allowing politics and interpretations to divide church from church we only weaken the city of God.

Make the common denominator belief in Him and we will build a wall with all His people on the inside and only Satan left on the outside.

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*Heavenly Father, lead me to unite with my fellow believers, because when we band together there is nothing that can destroy our love and devotion toward You and Your work. Amen.*

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DAY 19  
*In Hand*

*And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.*

COLOSSIANS 1:17

Jesus holds our world together in both the spiritual and the physical realm. It's not that He wraps His arms around our universe to keep it from falling apart. Rather, Jesus fine-tuned our Earth for life and continually preserves those conditions.

Earth's precise distance from the sun is essential to life. If Earth were 5 percent closer, rivers and oceans would evaporate from a strong greenhouse effect. Move 5 percent farther away, both water and carbon dioxide would freeze. Too cold or too hot means no life.

Even our sterile moon makes life possible by stabilizing the tilt of Earth's axis. Without the moon's steady pull, Earth's tilt could randomly swing over a wide range, resulting in temperatures too hot and too cold for life and erratic seasons.

Astronomers are also discovering how other planets in our solar system actually help Earth. For example, the huge planet Jupiter deflects many comets from entering the inner section of the solar system, where they could easily hit Earth with devastating results.

Through science we discover the physical laws Jesus designed for our universe. Through Bible study we unearth the spiritual laws Jesus designed for us. Look to Jesus to hold your life together.

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*You knit the heavens and Earth together perfectly. You blessed me with spiritual laws to help me live abundantly here on earth and forever with You in heaven. I praise You, Lord! Amen.*