

**DAILY BIBLE READINGS - Week of January 5, 2025**  
**"Jesus, Our Lord"**

**GOD'S GLORY**

**Sunday..... Read Philippians 2:5-15**

*"And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."* To know Jesus personally as Savior is huge, the assurance of an eternal home in heaven and an eternal purpose for our earthly lives. The added blessing is when we make Jesus the Lord of our lives. Having Jesus as our Lord makes us His servants. This gives believers the high privilege of bringing glory to God. That becomes the purpose for all who have made the commitment to God's only begotten Son. All that is done in our earthly lives that have eternal purpose bring glory to our Creator. What a motive that is, every day we live! Making our Father in heaven proud of us is a great goal for Christians. If we live daily with a consciousness of His watchful eye, we will be motivated to make the best of every day. We never want our God to be ashamed to call us His child! We can best do that by sharing His love with those in our realm of contact.

**FAMILY**

**Monday..... Read Matthew 6:6-15**

*"After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name."* God considers all people who have given their hearts to His Son Jesus to be His family. Jesus made that clear when He advised the disciples on their prayers. They were to address God in heaven as their Father. That gives a very special meaning to the decision to receive Christ. Being part of God's family means having an eternal home in heaven. That means death for a believer is a trip to heaven to be with Christ. That is clearly stated in II Corinthians 5:8: *"We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord."* Obviously, the decision to receive Jesus as Savior is life's most important decision! Those who have strong earthly families with loving parents and siblings are blessed indeed. Those who are involved in a loving local church family of believers have a wonderful family as well. The lives of those who have both a church family home as well as their personal residence are truly blessed!

**FRIENDS**

**Tuesday..... Read John 15:10-17**

*"Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you."* What an amazing statement that Jesus made to His disciples! The fact that it is recorded in the Bible means we can assume it is applicable in our lives. Jesus, God the Son, considers us, as believers, His friends! Friendships are a rich blessing. All of us have experiences with friends. We know they will be there for us when we need support. Next to our family ties, friendships are the next most meaningful relationships! It is amazing that Jesus, God the Son, considers us to be His friends. Obedience to Biblical commands give us

that privilege. Just as we have on many occasions introduced our friends to others, so should we be eager to introduce our friend Jesus to others.

### **JOY**

**Wednesday..... Read Nehemiah 8:8-10**

*"The joy of the Lord is your strength."* When an individual receives the Lord Jesus as personal Savior, he or she is born of the spirit and has spiritual life. The Holy Spirit dwells in the bodies of all believers. With the Holy Spirit, we are told in Galatians 5:3 that the believer is the beneficiary of spiritual fruits, one of which is joy! All of us experience joy as a reaction to good news. Even unbelievers have that benefit. But the believer has the amazing benefit mentioned in Romans 5:3: *"And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience."* That privilege is because we have the assurance of Romans 8:28: *"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."*

### **FOLLOWER**

**Thursday .....Read Matthew 4:17-22**

*"And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."* What a wonderful message Jesus gave to these disciples who were fishermen. He said they could be "fishers of men." Catching fish to bring home for enjoyment at a meal is pleasurable. Convincing others to become followers of Jesus to get them on the road to heaven is a far greater thrill. Handing a gospel tract to someone may be giving them the gift of eternal life, as Philip was led by the Holy Spirit to help the eunuch understand the literature he was reading while traveling back to Africa after a visit to Jerusalem. As we read in Acts 8:31: *"And he said, How can I, except some man should guide me? And he desired of Philip that he would come up and sit with him."* The eunuch became a follower of God!

### **FAITH**

**Friday .....Mark 11:20-25**

*"Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them."* Prayer is the high privilege of believers! It is a demonstration of our dependence on God, and His desire to respond. God expects us to trust Him, to believe that He hears and answers our prayers. As a Father in heaven, He is willing and able to provide! Being the loving Father that He is, He will not give us things that would harm us. He first and foremost knows what is best, and that is what our Father in heaven wants for us. The prayer of faith is one that we pray trusting God to respond in a way that works for us! The best way to live is on the same wave length as God.

## PROOF

**Saturday .....Read James 2:15-20**

*"Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works."* We prove our faith in God by our actions. If our actions are consistent with God's instructions in the Bible, we are truly demonstrating our faith. Our hunger for Biblical truth is proof of our faith. Those who are eager to read the Bible or listen to others sharing Biblical truth is a demonstration of faith. Those who learn and share Biblical truth are giving evidence of their faith in the Bible. True faith is an active faith; it is living according to the principles laid out in Scripture!