



THE  
**one  
year**<sup>®</sup>  
BIBLE

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FOR MEN

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KJV

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**one  
year**<sup>®</sup>  
BIBLE

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**KJV**

KING JAMES VERSION

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## FOREWORD

You are holding in your hand the most effective transformational tool available to man. It is true and supernaturally powerful. If you read it and live out what you read, it will change the way you think, alter your perspective, and transform your worldview.

When we follow the precepts and principles in Scripture, we go from living and choosing based on our feelings to aligning our lives with God's truth, no matter our own opinions. Our feelings are important, but they become subject to God's truth, the foundation of what we believe and do. Our transformed minds shift out of asking God for things we want to asking God to reveal his will and grant us the strength to carry it out. Rather than just doing what we want with our lives, we search for what God has called us to do. Finally, we don't choose things that make us feel good and provide instant gratification. Instead, we start to choose what pleases God. When all of this is in place, our new lives are full of meaning, purpose, and peace. They are no longer stagnant but vivid.

My life experiences have proven to me over and over again that what you read in these pages is powerful and true and can be relied on in all areas of life—if you understand the meaning it is intended to convey. I have written a daily commentary to highlight particular truths and sometimes provide insight into difficult passages. If you want a deeper understanding of God's Word, including portions you find hard to understand, I recommend getting a copy of *Every Man's Bible*, the number one men's study Bible.

Research reveals that engaging with the Bible at least four days a week will dramatically impact your life. Your commitment to read it seven days a week could make a profound difference in how you live, how you relate to others, and your perspective on all that happens in the world. I wrote “*could* make a profound difference” rather than “*will* make a profound difference” because reading God's Word is not enough.

First, you need awareness. As you read, be aware of what does not match up with what you do or how you think. Search yourself to uncover any attitudes, actions, and interactions that need attention and change.

Second, you need desire. Awareness of what needs to change must lead to a desire to do whatever is required to grow and relate to God and others in deeper, richer, more authentic ways.

Third and most important, you need willingness. Being aware of your problems and wanting them to change is worthless without a willingness to take the appropriate steps, whatever they are and whenever you can, no matter how uncomfortable you feel or how difficult it is, to make the needed changes. I pray you approach the Bible with a humble willingness to align your life with God's truth.

As you read, there are well-known verses and there are challenging passages—some quite long. Fortunately, most of what you read is quite straightforward. Meditate on the parts you understand, while seeking further insight into anything you find confusing.

Another problem often arises when the truth you read does not match the way you feel or how others view the world. Perhaps the most unstable way to live life is to do so based on your feelings or on popular ideas that are not based on truth. When truth is more important to how you live, your perspective changes and your life remains grounded in strength, stability, and consistency.

I am so happy you have found your way to *The One Year Bible for Men*. I hope the few words I have written are valuable to your one-year experience with the Bible. I would love to hear from you or answer any of your questions. You can reach me at [SArterburn@newlife.com](mailto:SArterburn@newlife.com). May God richly bless your life through the reading of his Word.

*Gratefully,*  
*Stephen Arterburn, EdM*



## THE ONE YEAR BIBLE USER'S GUIDE

*Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.*

PSALM 119:105

*The One Year Bible* is divided into daily readings designed to guide you through the entire Bible in a year. But the arrangement doesn't take you straight through from Genesis to Revelation. Instead, each day you will find a portion of the Old Testament and the New Testament, plus short readings from Psalms and Proverbs. These four daily readings are grouped on consecutive pages, giving freshness and diversity to each day's reading experience. Many people have tried to read through the entire Bible in a year, but they quickly become frustrated when they get stuck in harder passages. This reading plan has helped millions of readers, including those who tried before but became frustrated, to successfully complete their reading of the entire Bible. And reading through the Bible will ensure that you will spend significant time engaged with God's Word.

Time spent genuinely engaged with God's Word has the potential to change your life. "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart" (Hebrews 4:12). The Bible isn't just a book of human wisdom. It comes from God himself, and in it he gives us the wisdom and knowledge needed to live a life of faith. "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works" (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

Time spent in the Scriptures, in a very real sense, is time spent with God. There is no better place in this world for us to hear from God. The Bible is a special gift, but a gift we often leave on the shelf—unopened and unread. And as we open it and read its pages, we are opening a door to a relationship with the Author. He's waiting there to speak to us, with the help of his ever-present Spirit. He gave us the Scriptures because he wants us to hear from and know him. Approach your reading each day with this knowledge and expectation.

### ENGAGING MORE DEEPLY WITH SCRIPTURE

In *The One Year Bible*, you are encouraged to read through the entire Bible in a year, and its structure provides a systematic daily plan for this. Most readers do their daily reading silently, often in a single sitting. However, since many of the readings are fairly long, it is easy to get distracted and to start "reading just to finish." If this is the case for you, you may find it helpful to slow down to engage more fully in the listening process.

Following is a list of concrete practices or tools that should help you engage more deeply

with Scripture. (Since everyone is different, not all of these practices may work for you. And some of the practices work better for longer passages, as opposed to single verses, and vice versa.) Use these tools to help you engage with God's Word more deeply.

**Practice 1—Read It Aloud:** This practice will slow you down and allow you to focus. Reading aloud takes about twice as long as silent reading. It also allows you to encounter God's Word twice—through both your eyes and ears—leading you to a more nuanced interaction with the text. (This is especially useful as you approach a longer passage.) As you read aloud, you could try to read the text interpretively—add color to your expression to help you more completely take in and express the message. You could even dramatize a scene. And if others are around, don't be afraid to share the experience with them!

**Practice 2—Copy It:** Take out a pen and paper and copy a verse or passage of particular interest. If you are a visual learner, this should help you focus on the text more intensely. It will also force you to slow down even more and approach it phrase by phrase, helping you savor the text as you would a meal of many courses. If you have some talent with your pen, express the meaning of the text with different kinds of scripts and ink colors. This will help you focus on the meaning in greater detail. Typing the text into your computer and formatting the text creatively could accomplish the same sort of thing. If your rendering turns out really well, frame it or send it to friends to encourage their reflection.

**Practice 3—Summarize It:** Take a journal or computer and write a summary for each reading in this Bible with just a single sentence. This could be a simple content summary, or perhaps a summary of what God said to you through the passage. Reading with this practice can help you stay focused and also help you create a personal tool for Bible review. As you finish reading a Bible book, summarize the entire book's core message in a sentence or paragraph. Then at the end of the year, try to summarize the message of the whole Bible. From your perspective, what is the Bible's unified message?

**Practice 4—Paraphrase It:** Take out a pen and paper, or start up your computer, and put some verses into your own words. Try to capture all the important parts of the passage without leaving anything out. This will help you pay attention to the details and to the rich meanings of the words. Drink in the text, digest its meaning, and write it again from the unique perspective God has given you. Don't worry about the word order; focus on the message. You will likely find that this leaves you with nuggets of wisdom to take away and to continue to think about.

**Practice 5—Divide It:** This practice is somewhat the opposite of summarizing the broad strokes of a passage. To divide a text, choose a particular sentence that is especially meaningful to you, like "The LORD is my shepherd" (Psalm 23:1). Highlight each word of the sentence successively, and read it over and over again. This will allow you to see the verse from varied angles.

THE LORD is my shepherd.

The LORD is my shepherd.

The LORD IS my shepherd.

The LORD is MY shepherd.

The LORD is my SHEPHERD.

As you do this, you will likely see truths in the text that you were blind to before.

**Practice 6—Personalize It:** Embrace or claim Scripture personally by taking a verse or passage that clearly applies to you and replacing the nouns or pronouns with your own name. This will

drive home the truth that God is speaking about you and to you. The verse that includes the text we just divided in Practice 5 might read, "The LORD is Susan's shepherd. Susan shall not want." You might also personalize it this way for a friend, your spouse, or your children.

**Practice 7—Pray It:** Many passages are helpful for guiding our prayers. They remind us of what is true and what is important to God. We can use these reminders as prayer prompts. Again, take the verse we looked at from Psalm 23. It might inspire a prayer like this: "Lord, you have reminded me that you are my Shepherd and that you can provide all that I need. As one of your sheep, I confess that I often don't follow you very closely. I'm often one of the lost sheep—one of those you need to search for in stormy weather and carry home. I can see that if I followed you more closely, I'd also be much closer to all that you have to offer me. The unmet needs I'm always complaining about would be better met if I just stayed near to my Shepherd. And I suppose sometimes I wander away looking to satisfy my wants rather than my real needs. Dear Shepherd, help me to stay close to your loving care and protection. Forgive my tendency to wander. Amen."

**Practice 8—Memorize It:** Putting Scripture to memory is the likely result of many of these other practices. For many of us, if we copy or read a verse again and again, we will soon know it by heart. To begin memorizing a text, repeating it is the best place to start. Read or copy a text three times a day for an entire month and then begin to recite it aloud for yourself on a regular basis. Then, if the appropriate opportunity arises, recite it for others. (Remember to learn the reference, too, so you can more easily locate it.) The psalm writer reminds us of why Scripture memorization is so important: "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee" (Psalm 119:11).

**Practice 9—Share It:** God's Word is good news, whether it comes in a story or parable, an account of one of Jesus' miracles, a psalm of praise, a promise of hope, or a wise proverb. When you've read something helpful, thought provoking, or inspiring, share it. As you do, you'll find that the message becomes more real for you too. If it's a story, retell it to someone in your own words. Try to capture all the details. If it's a short promise or proverb, email it to a friend, post it on an announcement board or refrigerator, carve it into a piece of wood to hang on a wall, bring it up for discussion with friends over coffee, or tweet it for anyone who might be watching. If you've heard from God and it means something to you, take the time to share it.

**Practice 10—Live It:** It's not just important to read and listen to God's Word. We also need to find ways to put it into practice. (Keeping this in mind as you read will also help you to focus.) We are reminded of this in the book of James: "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves" (James 1:22). As you reflect on God's Word, conclude your time by thinking up ways to live it out. What can you put into action today?

## OTHER WAYS TO USE THE ONE-YEAR READING PLAN

Though *The One Year Bible* has led millions of readers through the Bible in one year, its arrangement is equally useful for guiding you through the Bible in two years, or even longer. If you feel too rushed or want to spend more time on each day's selections, here are a few other suggestions:

**The Split One-Year Plan.** Schedule time in both the morning and evening. Read the New Testament and Psalms selections in the morning and the Old Testament and Proverbs selections in the evening.

***The Two-Year Plan.*** During the first year, read the Old Testament and Proverbs selections. Then during the second year, read the selections from the New Testament and Psalms.

***The Three-Year Plan.*** Read the Old Testament selection the first year, the New Testament selection the second year, and the Psalms and Proverbs selections during the third year.

***The Words of Praise and Wisdom Plan.*** Read the Psalms and Proverbs selections for each day. This will take you through the Psalms twice and Proverbs once during the year, giving you words of praise and wisdom to live by each day.

You need not limit yourself to these suggested plans. The arrangement of *The One Year Bible* makes it easy to devise any number of Bible reading plans to meet your particular needs.



## PUBLISHER'S NOTE

*The One Year Bible for Men* has been prepared especially for Bible readers who wish to read through the entire Bible in one year, challenging themselves to allow God to transform them into the men he has created them to be. Millions of readers have enjoyed the convenient daily reading format featuring a passage from the Old Testament, the New Testament, Psalms, and Proverbs. In 365 daily readings, you will journey through the entire Bible and read through Psalms twice!

This special edition of *The One Year Bible* includes a daily reflection that highlights one aspect of that day's Scripture reading, speaking specifically to challenges we face as followers of Christ and as men. We have prepared a user's guide to help you explore a variety of ways to engage with God's Word using *The One Year Bible for Men*. You can find the user's guide on page A7.

May this year and every year be enriched as you enjoy daily portions from God's Word.

This edition of *The One Year Bible* contains the entire text of the *Holy Bible*, King James Version.





*EPISTLE DEDICATORY FOR THE AUTHORISED*  
**KING JAMES VERSION**

To the Most High and Mighty Prince

JAMES

*By the Grace of God*

King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland,

Defender of the Faith, &c.

The Translators of the Bible wish Grace, Mercy, and Peace  
through JESUS CHRIST our Lord

Great and manifold were the blessings, most dread Sovereign, which Almighty God, the Father of all mercies, bestowed upon us the people of *England*, when first he sent Your Majesty's Royal Person to rule and reign over us. For whereas it was the expectation of many, who wished not well unto our *Sion*, that upon the setting of that bright *Occidental Star*, Queen *Elizabeth* of most happy memory, some thick and palpable clouds of darkness would so have overshadowed this Land, that men should have been in doubt which way they were to walk; and that it should hardly be known, who was to direct the unsettled State; the appearance of Your Majesty, as of the *Sun* in his strength, instantly dispelled those supposed and surmised mists, and gave unto all that were well affected exceeding cause of comfort; especially when we beheld the Government established in Your Highness, and Your hopeful Seed, by an undoubted Title, and this also accompanied with peace and tranquility at home and abroad.

But among all our joys, there was no one that more filled our hearts, than the blessed continuance of the preaching of God's sacred Word among us; which is that inestimable treasure, which excelleth all the riches of the earth; because the fruit thereof extendeth itself, not only to the time spent in this transitory world, but directeth and disposeth men unto that eternal happiness which is above in heaven.

Then not to suffer this to fall to the ground, but rather to take it up, and to continue it in that state, wherein the famous Predecessor of Your Highness did leave it: nay, to go forward with the confidence and resolution of a Man in maintaining the truth of Christ, and propagating it far and near, is that which hath so bound and firmly knit the hearts of all Your Majesty's loyal and religious people unto You, that Your very name is precious among them: their eye doth behold You with comfort, and they bless You in their hearts, as that sanctified Person who, under God, is the immediate Author of their true happiness. And this their contentment doth not diminish or decay, but every day increaseth and taketh strength, when they observe, that the zeal of Your Majesty toward the house of God doth not slack or go backward, but is more and more kindled, manifesting itself abroad in the farthest parts of *Christendom*, by writing in defence of the Truth, (which hath given such a blow unto that man of sin, as will not be healed,) and every day at home, by religious and learned discourse, by frequenting the house of God, by hearing the

Word preached, by cherishing the Teachers thereof, by caring for the Church, as a most tender and loving nursing Father.

There are infinite arguments of this right Christian and religious affection in Your Majesty; but none is more forcible to declare it to others than the vehement and perpetuated desire of accomplishing and publishing of this work, which now with all humility we present unto Your Majesty. For when Your Highness had once out of deep judgment apprehended how convenient it was, that out of the Original Sacred Tongues, together with comparing of the labours, both in our own, and other foreign Languages, of many worthy men who went before us, there should be one more exact Translation of the holy Scriptures into the *English Tongue*; Your Majesty did never desist to urge and to excite those to whom it was commended, that the work might be hastened, and that the business might be expedited in so decent a manner, as a matter of such importance might justly require.

And now at last, by the mercy of God, and the continuance of our labours, it being brought unto such a conclusion, as that we have great hopes that the Church of *England* shall reap good fruit thereby; we hold it our duty to offer it to Your Majesty, not only as to our King and Sovereign, but as to the principal Mover and Author of the work: humbly craving of Your most Sacred Majesty, that since things of this quality have ever been subject to the censures of ill-meaning and discontented persons, it may receive approbation and patronage from so learned and judicious a Prince as Your Highness is, whose allowance and acceptance of our labours shall more honour and encourage us, than all the calumniations and hard interpretations of other men shall dismay us. So that if, on the one side, we shall be traduced by Popish Persons at home or abroad, who therefore will malign us, because we are poor instruments to make God's holy Truth to be yet more and more known unto the people, whom they desire still to keep in ignorance and darkness; or if, on the other side, we shall be maligned by self-conceited Brethren, who run their own ways, and give liking unto nothing, but what is framed by themselves, and hammered on their anvil; we may rest secure, supported within by the truth and innocency of a good conscience, having walked the ways of simplicity and integrity, as before the Lord; and sustained without by the powerful protection of Your Majesty's grace and favour, which will ever give countenance to honest and Christian endeavours against bitter censures and uncharitable imputations.

The Lord of heaven and earth bless Your Majesty with many and happy days, that, as his heavenly hand hath enriched Your Highness with many singular and extraordinary graces, so You may be the wonder of the world in this latter age for happiness and true felicity, to the honour of that great God, and the good of his Church, through Jesus Christ our Lord and only Saviour.



**THE NEW YEAR BEGINS** with hopes and dreams for what might develop in the months to come. No matter what we include in our resolutions or prayer requests, we are all looking for a better new year. We are full of anticipation. But after the newness of the year wears off, many of us sink into a sadness or depression because life does not magically or spontaneously change for the better. Perhaps this year we could make one simple change that would produce a much greater benefit. Rather than focusing on the results we would like to achieve, maybe we ought to focus more on the process that is needed to produce the results we desire. There are many options we can choose, but the best ones are available when we acknowledge the limitations we have as individuals and reach out to others to help us move toward a better life. Isolation, willpower, trying harder, and good intentions have left us unchanged. Humble willingness to reach out to a pastor, counselor, mentor, coach, or sponsor and ask for help is one giant step toward a more abundant life in God during the new year.

## GENESIS 1:1-2:25

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

<sup>2</sup>And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness *was* upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

<sup>3</sup>And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

<sup>4</sup>And God saw the light, that *it was* good: and God divided the light from the darkness.

<sup>5</sup>And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.

<sup>6</sup>And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.

<sup>7</sup>And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which *were* under the firmament from the waters which *were* above the firmament: and it was so.

<sup>8</sup>And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day.

<sup>9</sup>And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry *land* appear: and it was so.

<sup>10</sup>And God called the dry *land* Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that *it was* good.

<sup>11</sup>And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, *and* the fruit tree

yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed *is* in itself, upon the earth: and it was so.

<sup>12</sup>And the earth brought forth grass, *and* herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed *was* in itself, after his kind: and God saw that *it was* good.

<sup>13</sup>And the evening and the morning were the third day.

<sup>14</sup>And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years:

<sup>15</sup>And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so.

<sup>16</sup>And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: *he made* the stars also.

<sup>17</sup>And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth,

<sup>18</sup>And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness: and God saw that *it was* good.

<sup>19</sup>And the evening and the morning were the fourth day.

<sup>20</sup>And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl *that* may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven.

<sup>21</sup>And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and

every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that *it was good*.

<sup>22</sup>And God blessed them, saying, Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let fowl multiply in the earth.

<sup>23</sup>And the evening and the morning were the fifth day.

<sup>24</sup>And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so.

<sup>25</sup>And God made the beast of the earth after his kind, and cattle after their kind, and every thing that creepeth upon the earth after his kind: and God saw that *it was good*.

<sup>26</sup>And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

<sup>27</sup>So God created man in his *own* image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

<sup>28</sup>And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

<sup>29</sup>And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which *is* upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which *is* the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat.

<sup>30</sup>And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, wherein *there is life*, I have given every green herb for meat: and it was so.

<sup>31</sup>And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, *it was very good*. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

<sup>21</sup>Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them.

<sup>2</sup>And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made.

<sup>3</sup>And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.

<sup>4</sup>These *are* the generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens,

<sup>5</sup>And every plant of the field before it was

in the earth, and every herb of the field before it grew: for the LORD God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and *there was* not a man to till the ground.

<sup>6</sup>But there went up a mist from the earth, and watered the whole face of the ground.

<sup>7</sup>And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

<sup>8</sup>And the LORD God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed.

<sup>9</sup>And out of the ground made the LORD God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

<sup>10</sup>And a river went out of Eden to water the garden; and from thence it was parted, and became into four heads.

<sup>11</sup>The name of the first *is* Pison: that *is* it which compasseth the whole land of Havilah, where *there is* gold;

<sup>12</sup>And the gold of that land *is* good: there *is* bdellium and the onyx stone.

<sup>13</sup>And the name of the second river *is* Gihon: the same *is* it that compasseth the whole land of Ethiopia.

<sup>14</sup>And the name of the third river *is* Hiddekel: that *is* it which goeth toward the east of Assyria. And the fourth river *is* Euphrates.

<sup>15</sup>And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.

<sup>16</sup>And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat:

<sup>17</sup>But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

<sup>18</sup>And the LORD God said, *It is* not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.

<sup>19</sup>And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought *them* unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that *was* the name thereof.

<sup>20</sup>And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him.

<sup>21</sup>And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof;

<sup>22</sup>And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.

<sup>23</sup>And Adam said, This *is* now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.

<sup>24</sup>Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

<sup>25</sup>And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

### MATTHEW 1:1-2:12

The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

<sup>2</sup>Abraham begat Isaac; and Isaac begat Jacob; and Jacob begat Judas and his brethren;

<sup>3</sup>And Judas begat Phares and Zara of Thamar; and Phares begat Esrom; and Esrom begat Aram;

<sup>4</sup>And Aram begat Aminadab; and Aminadab begat Naasson; and Naasson begat Salmon;

<sup>5</sup>And Salmon begat Booz of Rachab; and Booz begat Obed of Ruth; and Obed begat Jesse;

<sup>6</sup>And Jesse begat David the king. And David the king begat Solomon of her *that had been the wife* of Urias;

<sup>7</sup>And Solomon begat Roboam; and Roboam begat Abia; and Abia begat Asa;

<sup>8</sup>And Asa begat Josaphat; and Josaphat begat Joram; and Joram begat Ozias;

<sup>9</sup>And Ozias begat Joatham; and Joatham begat Achaz; and Achaz begat Ezekias;

<sup>10</sup>And Ezekias begat Manasses; and Manasses begat Amon; and Amon begat Josias;

<sup>11</sup>And Josias begat Jechonias and his brethren, about the time they were carried away to Babylon.

<sup>12</sup>And after they were brought to Babylon, Jechonias begat Salathiel; and Salathiel begat Zorobabel;

<sup>13</sup>And Zorobabel begat Abiud; and Abiud begat Eliakim; and Eliakim begat Azor;

<sup>14</sup>And Azor begat Sadoc; and Sadoc begat Achim; and Achim begat Eliud;

<sup>15</sup>And Eliud begat Eleazar; and Eleazar begat Matthan; and Matthan begat Jacob;

<sup>16</sup>And Jacob begat Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ.

<sup>17</sup>So all the generations from Abraham to David *are* fourteen generations; and from David until the carrying away into Babylon *are* fourteen generations; and from the carrying away into Babylon unto Christ *are* fourteen generations.

<sup>18</sup>Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.

<sup>19</sup>Then Joseph her husband, being a just *man*, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily.

<sup>20</sup>But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.

<sup>21</sup>And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

<sup>22</sup>Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying,

<sup>23</sup>Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

<sup>24</sup>Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife:

<sup>25</sup>And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS.

<sup>2:1</sup>Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem,

<sup>2</sup>Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.

<sup>3</sup>When Herod the king had heard *these things*, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

<sup>4</sup>And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born.

<sup>5</sup>And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet,

<sup>6</sup>And thou Bethlehem, *in* the land of Judah, art not the least among the princes of Judah: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.

<sup>7</sup>Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared.

<sup>8</sup>And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found *him*, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also.

<sup>9</sup>When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was.

<sup>10</sup>When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.

<sup>11</sup>And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.

<sup>12</sup>And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.

### PSALM 1:1-6

<sup>1</sup>Blessed *is* the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

<sup>2</sup>But his delight *is* in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

<sup>3</sup>And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in

his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

<sup>4</sup>The ungodly *are* not so: but *are* like the chaff which the wind driveth away.

<sup>5</sup>Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

<sup>6</sup>For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

### PROVERBS 1:1-6

The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel.

<sup>2</sup>To know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding;

<sup>3</sup>To receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, and judgment, and equity;

<sup>4</sup>To give subtilty to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion.

<sup>5</sup>A wise *man* will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels:

<sup>6</sup>To understand a proverb, and the interpretation; the words of the wise, and their dark sayings.

**MAKING SOMETHING OUT OF NOTHING** || In the beginning, God did what God loves to do: He created something new out of nothing. What a something it was—full of wonder, beauty, and grandeur. By faith we believe that it was all created by God. Perhaps it would require even more faith to accept that this earth is a random coincidence. Among billions of stars and planets, here the atmosphere, gravity, tilt, and sunlight all exist perfectly for our lives to unfold. When we feel like nothing and turn to God, he is ready to create something astounding all over again.

### GENESIS 3:1-4:26

Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

<sup>2</sup>And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:

<sup>3</sup>But of the fruit of the tree which *is* in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.

<sup>4</sup>And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:

<sup>5</sup>For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

<sup>6</sup>And when the woman saw that the tree *was* good for food, and that it *was* pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make *one*

wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

<sup>7</sup>And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they *were* naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

<sup>8</sup>And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden.

<sup>9</sup>And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where *art* thou?

<sup>10</sup>And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I *was* naked; and I hid myself.

<sup>11</sup>And he said, Who told thee that thou *wast* naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof

I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?

<sup>12</sup>And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to *be* with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat.

<sup>13</sup>And the LORD God said unto the woman, What *is* this *that* thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.

<sup>14</sup>And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou *art* cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life:

<sup>15</sup>And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

<sup>16</sup>Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire *shall be* to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.

<sup>17</sup>And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed *is* the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;

<sup>18</sup>Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field;

<sup>19</sup>In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou *art*, and unto dust shalt thou return.

<sup>20</sup>And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living.

<sup>21</sup>Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them.

<sup>22</sup>And the LORD God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever:

<sup>23</sup>Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken.

<sup>24</sup>So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.

<sup>4:1</sup>And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the LORD.

<sup>2</sup>And she again bare his brother Abel. And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground.

<sup>3</sup>And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the LORD.

<sup>4</sup>And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering:

<sup>5</sup>But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell.

<sup>6</sup>And the LORD said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen?

<sup>7</sup>If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee *shall be* his desire, and thou shalt rule over him.

<sup>8</sup>And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him.

<sup>9</sup>And the LORD said unto Cain, Where *is* Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: *Am* I my brother's keeper?

<sup>10</sup>And he said, What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground.

<sup>11</sup>And now *art* thou cursed from the earth, which hath opened her mouth to receive thy brother's blood from thy hand.

<sup>12</sup>When thou tillest the ground, it shall not henceforth yield unto thee her strength; a fugitive and a vagabond shalt thou be in the earth.

<sup>13</sup>And Cain said unto the LORD, My punishment *is* greater than I can bear.

<sup>14</sup>Behold, thou hast driven me out this day from the face of the earth; and from thy face shall I be hid; and I shall be a fugitive and a vagabond in the earth; and it shall come to pass, *that* every one that findeth me shall slay me.

<sup>15</sup>And the LORD said unto him, Therefore whosoever slayeth Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold. And the LORD set a mark upon Cain, lest any finding him should kill him.

<sup>16</sup>And Cain went out from the presence of the LORD, and dwelt in the land of Nod, on the east of Eden.

<sup>17</sup>And Cain knew his wife; and she conceived, and bare Enoch: and he builded a city, and called the name of the city, after the name of his son, Enoch.

<sup>18</sup>And unto Enoch was born Irad: and Irad begat Mehujael: and Mehujael begat Methusael: and Methusael begat Lamech.

<sup>19</sup>And Lamech took unto him two wives: the name of the one *was* Adah, and the name of the other Zillah.

<sup>20</sup>And Adah bare Jabal: he was the father

of such as dwell in tents, and *of such as have* cattle.

<sup>21</sup>And his brother's name *was* Jubal: he was the father of all such as handle the harp and organ.

<sup>22</sup>And Zillah, she also bare Tubal-cain, an instructor of every artificer in brass and iron: and the sister of Tubal-cain *was* Naamah.

<sup>23</sup>And Lamech said unto his wives, Adah and Zillah, Hear my voice; ye wives of Lamech, hearken unto my speech: for I have slain a man to my wounding, and a young man to my hurt.

<sup>24</sup>If Cain shall be avenged sevenfold, truly Lamech seventy and sevenfold.

<sup>25</sup>And Adam knew his wife again; and she bare a son, and called his name Seth: For God, *said she*, hath appointed me another seed instead of Abel, whom Cain slew.

<sup>26</sup>And to Seth, to him also there was born a son; and he called his name Enos: then began men to call upon the name of the LORD.

### MATTHEW 2:13-3:6

And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him.

<sup>14</sup>When he arose, he took the young child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt:

<sup>15</sup>And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son.

<sup>16</sup>Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wrath, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently inquired of the wise men.

<sup>17</sup>Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremy the prophet, saying,

<sup>18</sup>In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping *for* her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not.

<sup>19</sup>But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeareth in a dream to Joseph in Egypt,

<sup>20</sup>Saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and go into the land of Israel: for they are dead which sought the young child's life.

<sup>21</sup>And he arose, and took the young child and his mother, and came into the land of Israel.

<sup>22</sup>But when he heard that Archelaus did reign in Judaea in the room of his father Herod, he was afraid to go thither: notwithstanding, being warned of God in a dream, he turned aside into the parts of Galilee:

<sup>23</sup>And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, He shall be called a Nazarene.

<sup>3:1</sup>In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea,

<sup>2</sup>And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

<sup>3</sup>For this is he that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

<sup>4</sup>And the same John had his raiment of camel's hair, and a leathern girdle about his loins; and his meat was locusts and wild honey.

<sup>5</sup>Then went out to him Jerusalem, and all Judaea, and all the region round about Jordan,

<sup>6</sup>And were baptized of him in Jordan, confessing their sins.

### PSALM 2:1-12

<sup>1</sup>Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing?

<sup>2</sup>The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, *saying*,

<sup>3</sup>Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us.

<sup>4</sup>He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision.

<sup>5</sup>Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and vex them in his sore displeasure.

<sup>6</sup>Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion.

<sup>7</sup>I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou *art* my Son; this day have I begotten thee.

<sup>8</sup>Ask of me, and I shall give *thee* the heathen *for* thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth *for* thy possession.

<sup>9</sup>Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.

<sup>10</sup>Be wise now therefore, O ye kings: be instructed, ye judges of the earth.

<sup>11</sup>Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling.

<sup>12</sup>Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish *from* the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed *are* all they that put their trust in him.

**PROVERBS 1:7-9**

The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of knowledge: *but* fools despise wisdom and instruction.

<sup>8</sup>My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother:

<sup>9</sup>For they *shall be* an ornament of grace unto thy head, and chains about thy neck.

**RELIABLE SOURCES** || In the Garden of Eden, a perfect environment provided by God, Satan snaked his way into the inquisitive heart of Eve and convinced her that the God of the universe cannot be trusted. "Find your own way." "Trust your gut." "God doesn't care." "You know better." Satan has not changed, and we are still falling for the oldest tricks in his book. Fortunately, God made a way for redemption. As John the Baptist cried out in the wilderness, the truth, the ultimate good news of the gospel, was on the way: Jesus.

**GENESIS 5:1-7:24**

This *is* the book of the generations of Adam. In the day that God created man, in the likeness of God made he him;

<sup>2</sup>Male and female created he them; and blessed them, and called their name Adam, in the day when they were created.

<sup>3</sup>And Adam lived an hundred and thirty years, and begat *a son* in his own likeness, after his image; and called his name Seth:

<sup>4</sup>And the days of Adam after he had begotten Seth were eight hundred years: and he begat sons and daughters:

<sup>5</sup>And all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and thirty years: and he died.

<sup>6</sup>And Seth lived an hundred and five years, and begat Enos:

<sup>7</sup>And Seth lived after he begat Enos eight hundred and seven years, and begat sons and daughters:

<sup>8</sup>And all the days of Seth were nine hundred and twelve years: and he died.

<sup>9</sup>And Enos lived ninety years, and begat Cainan:

<sup>10</sup>And Enos lived after he begat Cainan eight hundred and fifteen years, and begat sons and daughters:

<sup>11</sup>And all the days of Enos were nine hundred and five years: and he died.

<sup>12</sup>And Cainan lived seventy years, and begat Mahalaleel:

<sup>13</sup>And Cainan lived after he begat Mahalaleel eight hundred and forty years, and begat sons and daughters:

<sup>14</sup>And all the days of Cainan were nine hundred and ten years: and he died.

<sup>15</sup>And Mahalaleel lived sixty and five years, and begat Jared:

<sup>16</sup>And Mahalaleel lived after he begat Jared

eight hundred and thirty years, and begat sons and daughters:

<sup>17</sup>And all the days of Mahalaleel were eight hundred ninety and five years: and he died.

<sup>18</sup>And Jared lived an hundred sixty and two years, and he begat Enoch:

<sup>19</sup>And Jared lived after he begat Enoch eight hundred years, and begat sons and daughters:

<sup>20</sup>And all the days of Jared were nine hundred sixty and two years: and he died.

<sup>21</sup>And Enoch lived sixty and five years, and begat Methuselah:

<sup>22</sup>And Enoch walked with God after he begat Methuselah three hundred years, and begat sons and daughters:

<sup>23</sup>And all the days of Enoch were three hundred sixty and five years:

<sup>24</sup>And Enoch walked with God: and he *was* not; for God took him.

<sup>25</sup>And Methuselah lived an hundred eighty and seven years, and begat Lamech:

<sup>26</sup>And Methuselah lived after he begat Lamech seven hundred eighty and two years, and begat sons and daughters:

<sup>27</sup>And all the days of Methuselah were nine hundred sixty and nine years: and he died.

<sup>28</sup>And Lamech lived an hundred eighty and two years, and begat a son:

<sup>29</sup>And he called his name Noah, saying, This *same* shall comfort us concerning our work and toil of our hands, because of the ground which the LORD hath cursed.

<sup>30</sup>And Lamech lived after he begat Noah five hundred ninety and five years, and begat sons and daughters:

<sup>31</sup>And all the days of Lamech were seven hundred seventy and seven years: and he died.

<sup>32</sup>And Noah was five hundred years old: and Noah begat Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

6:1 And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them,

2 That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they *were* fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose.

3 And the LORD said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also *is* flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years.

4 There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare *children* to them, the same *became* mighty men which *were* of old, men of renown.

5 And GOD saw that the wickedness of man *was* great in the earth, and *that* every imagination of the thoughts of his heart *was* only evil continually.

6 And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart.

7 And the LORD said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them.

8 But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.

9 These *are* the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man *and* perfect in his generations, *and* Noah walked with God.

10 And Noah begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

11 The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence.

12 And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth.

13 And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth.

14 Make thee an ark of gopher wood; rooms shalt thou make in the ark, and shalt pitch it within and without with pitch.

15 And this *is* the *fashion* which thou shalt make it of: The length of the ark *shall be* three hundred cubits, the breadth of it fifty cubits, and the height of it thirty cubits.

16 A window shalt thou make to the ark, and in a cubit shalt thou finish it above; and the door of the ark shalt thou set in the side thereof; *with* lower, second, and third *stories* shalt thou make it.

17 And, behold, I, even I, do bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh,

wherein *is* the breath of life, from under heaven; *and* every thing that *is* in the earth shall die.

18 But with thee will I establish my covenant; and thou shalt come into the ark, thou, and thy sons, and thy wife, and thy sons' wives with thee.

19 And of every living thing of all flesh, two of every *sort* shalt thou bring into the ark, to keep *them* alive with thee; they shall be male and female.

20 Of fowls after their kind, and of cattle after their kind, of every creeping thing of the earth after his kind, two of every *sort* shall come unto thee, to keep *them* alive.

21 And take thou unto thee of all food that is eaten, and thou shalt gather *it* to thee; and it shall be for food for thee, and for them.

22 Thus did Noah; according to all that God commanded him, so did he.

7:1 And the LORD said unto Noah, Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation.

2 Of every clean beast thou shalt take to thee by sevens, the male and his female: and of beasts that *are* not clean by two, the male and his female.

3 Of fowls also of the air by sevens, the male and the female; to keep seed alive upon the face of all the earth.

4 For yet seven days, and I will cause it to rain upon the earth forty days and forty nights; and every living substance that I have made will I destroy from off the face of the earth.

5 And Noah did according unto all that the LORD commanded him.

6 And Noah *was* six hundred years old when the flood of waters was upon the earth.

7 And Noah went in, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him, into the ark, because of the waters of the flood.

8 Of clean beasts, and of beasts that *are* not clean, and of fowls, and of every thing that creepeth upon the earth,

9 There went in two and two unto Noah into the ark, the male and the female, as God had commanded Noah.

10 And it came to pass after seven days, that the waters of the flood were upon the earth.

11 In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened.

12 And the rain was upon the earth forty days and forty nights.

<sup>13</sup>In the selfsame day entered Noah, and Shem, and Ham, and Japheth, the sons of Noah, and Noah's wife, and the three wives of his sons with them, into the ark;

<sup>14</sup>They, and every beast after his kind, and all the cattle after their kind, and every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth after his kind, and every fowl after his kind, every bird of every sort.

<sup>15</sup>And they went in unto Noah into the ark, two and two of all flesh, wherein *is* the breath of life.

<sup>16</sup>And they that went in, went in male and female of all flesh, as God had commanded him: and the LORD shut him in.

<sup>17</sup>And the flood was forty days upon the earth; and the waters increased, and bare up the ark, and it was lift up above the earth.

<sup>18</sup>And the waters prevailed, and were increased greatly upon the earth; and the ark went upon the face of the waters.

<sup>19</sup>And the waters prevailed exceedingly upon the earth; and all the high hills, that *were* under the whole heaven, were covered.

<sup>20</sup>Fifteen cubits upward did the waters prevail; and the mountains were covered.

<sup>21</sup>And all flesh died that moved upon the earth, both of fowl, and of cattle, and of beast, and of every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth, and every man:

<sup>22</sup>All in whose nostrils *was* the breath of life, of all that *was* in the dry *land*, died.

<sup>23</sup>And every living substance was destroyed which was upon the face of the ground, both man, and cattle, and the creeping things, and the fowl of the heaven; and they were destroyed from the earth: and Noah only remained *alive*, and they that *were* with him in the ark.

<sup>24</sup>And the waters prevailed upon the earth an hundred and fifty days.

### **MATTHEW 3:7-4:11**

But when he [John the Baptist] saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?

<sup>8</sup>Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance:

<sup>9</sup>And think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to *our* father: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham.

<sup>10</sup>And now also the ax is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.

<sup>11</sup>I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and *with* fire:

<sup>12</sup>Whose fan *is* in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.

<sup>13</sup>Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him.

<sup>14</sup>But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me?

<sup>15</sup>And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer *it to be so* now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered him.

<sup>16</sup>And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:

<sup>17</sup>And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

<sup>4:1</sup>Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.

<sup>2</sup>And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred.

<sup>3</sup>And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.

<sup>4</sup>But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

<sup>5</sup>Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple,

<sup>6</sup>And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in *their* hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.

<sup>7</sup>Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.

<sup>8</sup>Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them;

<sup>9</sup>And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.

<sup>10</sup>Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

<sup>11</sup>Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him.

### PSALM 3:1-8

*A Psalm of David, when he fled from Absalom his son.*

<sup>1</sup>LORD, how are they increased that trouble me! many *are* they that rise up against me.

<sup>2</sup>Many *there be* which say of my soul, *There is* no help for him in God. Selah.

<sup>3</sup>But thou, O LORD, *art* a shield for me; my glory, and the lifter up of mine head.

<sup>4</sup>I cried unto the LORD with my voice, and he heard me out of his holy hill. Selah.

<sup>5</sup>I laid me down and slept; I awaked; for the LORD sustained me.

<sup>6</sup>I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people, that have set *themselves* against me round about.

<sup>7</sup>Arise, O LORD; save me, O my God: for thou hast smitten all mine enemies *upon* the cheek bone; thou hast broken the teeth of the ungodly.

<sup>8</sup>Salvation *belongeth* unto the LORD: thy blessing *is* upon thy people. Selah.

### PROVERBS 1:10-19

My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not.

<sup>11</sup>If they say, Come with us, let us lay wait for blood, let us lurk privily for the innocent without cause:

<sup>12</sup>Let us swallow them up alive as the grave; and whole, as those that go down into the pit:

<sup>13</sup>We shall find all precious substance, we shall fill our houses with spoil:

<sup>14</sup>Cast in thy lot among us; let us all have one purse:

<sup>15</sup>My son, walk not thou in the way with them; refrain thy foot from their path:

<sup>16</sup>For their feet run to evil, and make haste to shed blood.

<sup>17</sup>Surely in vain the net is spread in the sight of any bird.

<sup>18</sup>And they lay wait for their *own* blood; they lurk privily for their *own* lives.

<sup>19</sup>So *are* the ways of every one that is greedy of gain; *which* taketh away the life of the owners thereof.

**WATERMEN** || A true waterman respects the power of storms, waves, rapids, and undercurrents. He can survive these deadly forces and even put them to use. Noah is the first waterman we read about. Many would come after him, but none greater than John the Baptist, who stepped into the river's current to baptize those who repented of their sins. Then Jesus stepped into the water with John, in the same place as the sinners he came to save. Jesus calls us to be watermen, making disciples and bringing them to the water to be baptized.

### GENESIS 8:1-10:32

And God remembered Noah, and every living thing, and all the cattle that *was* with him in the ark: and God made a wind to pass over the earth, and the waters asswaged;

<sup>2</sup>The fountains also of the deep and the windows of heaven were stopped, and the rain from heaven was restrained;

<sup>3</sup>And the waters returned from off the earth continually: and after the end of the hundred and fifty days the waters were abated.

<sup>4</sup>And the ark rested in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, upon the mountains of Ararat.

<sup>5</sup>And the waters decreased continually until the tenth month: in the tenth *month*, on the first *day* of the month, were the tops of the mountains seen.

<sup>6</sup>And it came to pass at the end of forty days, that Noah opened the window of the ark which he had made:

<sup>7</sup>And he sent forth a raven, which went forth to and fro, until the waters were dried up from off the earth.

<sup>8</sup>Also he sent forth a dove from him, to see if the waters were abated from off the face of the ground;

<sup>9</sup>But the dove found no rest for the sole of her foot, and she returned unto him into the ark, for the waters *were* on the face of the whole earth: then he put forth his hand, and took her, and pulled her in unto him into the ark.

<sup>10</sup>And he stayed yet other seven days; and again he sent forth the dove out of the ark;

<sup>11</sup>And the dove came in to him in the evening; and, lo, in her mouth *was* an olive leaf plucked off: so Noah knew that the waters were abated from off the earth.

<sup>12</sup>And he stayed yet other seven days; and sent forth the dove; which returned not again unto him any more.

<sup>13</sup>And it came to pass in the six hundredth

and first year, in the first *month*, the first *day* of the month, the waters were dried up from off the earth: and Noah removed the covering of the ark, and looked, and, behold, the face of the ground was dry.

<sup>14</sup>And in the second month, on the seven and twentieth day of the month, was the earth dried.

<sup>15</sup>And God spake unto Noah, saying,

<sup>16</sup>Go forth of the ark, thou, and thy wife, and thy sons, and thy sons' wives with thee.

<sup>17</sup>Bring forth with thee every living thing that *is* with thee, of all flesh, *both* of fowl, and of cattle, and of every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth; that they may breed abundantly in the earth, and be fruitful, and multiply upon the earth.

<sup>18</sup>And Noah went forth, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him:

<sup>19</sup>Every beast, every creeping thing, and every fowl, *and* whatsoever creepeth upon the earth, after their kinds, went forth out of the ark.

<sup>20</sup>And Noah builded an altar unto the LORD; and took of every clean beast, and of every clean fowl, and offered burnt offerings on the altar.

<sup>21</sup>And the LORD smelled a sweet savour; and the LORD said in his heart, I will not again curse the ground any more for man's sake; for the imagination of man's heart *is* evil from his youth; neither will I again smite any more every thing living, as I have done.

<sup>22</sup>While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.

<sup>9:1</sup>And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth.

<sup>2</sup>And the fear of you and the dread of you shall be upon every beast of the earth, and upon every fowl of the air, upon all that moveth *upon* the earth, and upon all the fishes of the sea; into your hand are they delivered.

<sup>3</sup>Every moving thing that liveth shall be meat for you; even as the green herb have I given you all things.

<sup>4</sup>But flesh with the life thereof, *which is* the blood thereof, shall ye not eat.

<sup>5</sup>And surely your blood of your lives will I require; at the hand of every beast will I require it, and at the hand of man; at the hand of every man's brother will I require the life of man.

<sup>6</sup>Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man.

<sup>7</sup>And you, be ye fruitful, and multiply; bring

forth abundantly in the earth, and multiply therein.

<sup>8</sup>And God spake unto Noah, and to his sons with him, saying,

<sup>9</sup>And I, behold, I establish my covenant with you, and with your seed after you;

<sup>10</sup>And with every living creature that *is* with you, of the fowl, of the cattle, and of every beast of the earth with you; from all that go out of the ark, to every beast of the earth.

<sup>11</sup>And I will establish my covenant with you; neither shall all flesh be cut off any more by the waters of a flood; neither shall there any more be a flood to destroy the earth.

<sup>12</sup>And God said, This *is* the token of the covenant which I make between me and you and every living creature that *is* with you, for perpetual generations:

<sup>13</sup>I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth.

<sup>14</sup>And it shall come to pass, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the bow shall be seen in the cloud:

<sup>15</sup>And I will remember my covenant, which *is* between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh.

<sup>16</sup>And the bow shall be in the cloud; and I will look upon it, that I may remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that *is* upon the earth.

<sup>17</sup>And God said unto Noah, This *is* the token of the covenant, which I have established between me and all flesh that *is* upon the earth.

<sup>18</sup>And the sons of Noah, that went forth of the ark, were Shem, and Ham, and Japheth: and Ham *is* the father of Canaan.

<sup>19</sup>These *are* the three sons of Noah: and of them was the whole earth overspread.

<sup>20</sup>And Noah began *to be* a husbandman, and he planted a vineyard:

<sup>21</sup>And he drank of the wine, and was drunken; and he was uncovered within his tent.

<sup>22</sup>And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father, and told his two brethren without.

<sup>23</sup>And Shem and Japheth took a garment, and laid *it* upon both their shoulders, and went backward, and covered the nakedness of their father; and their faces *were* backward, and they saw not their father's nakedness.

<sup>24</sup>And Noah awoke from his wine, and knew what his younger son had done unto him.

<sup>25</sup>And he said, Cursed *be* Canaan; a servant of servants shall he be unto his brethren.

<sup>26</sup>And he said, Blessed *be* the LORD God of Shem; and Canaan shall be his servant.

<sup>27</sup>God shall enlarge Japheth, and he shall dwell in the tents of Shem; and Canaan shall be his servant.

<sup>28</sup>And Noah lived after the flood three hundred and fifty years.

<sup>29</sup>And all the days of Noah were nine hundred and fifty years: and he died.

<sup>10:1</sup>Now these *are* the generations of the sons of Noah, Shem, Ham, and Japheth: and unto them were sons born after the flood.

<sup>2</sup>The sons of Japheth; Gomer, and Magog, and Madai, and Javan, and Tubal, and Me-shech, and Tiras.

<sup>3</sup>And the sons of Gomer; Ashkenaz, and Riphath, and Togarmah.

<sup>4</sup>And the sons of Javan; Elishah, and Tarshish, Kittim, and Dodanim.

<sup>5</sup>By these were the isles of the Gentiles divided in their lands; every one after his tongue, after their families, in their nations.

<sup>6</sup>And the sons of Ham; Cush, and Mizraim, and Phut, and Canaan.

<sup>7</sup>And the sons of Cush; Seba, and Havilah, and Sabtah, and Raamah, and Sabtechah: and the sons of Raamah; Sheba, and Dedan.

<sup>8</sup>And Cush begat Nimrod: he began to be a mighty one in the earth.

<sup>9</sup>He was a mighty hunter before the LORD: wherefore it is said, Even as Nimrod the mighty hunter before the LORD.

<sup>10</sup>And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, and Erech, and Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar.

<sup>11</sup>Out of that land went forth Asshur, and builded Nineveh, and the city Rehoboth, and Calah,

<sup>12</sup>And Resen between Nineveh and Calah: the same *is* a great city.

<sup>13</sup>And Mizraim begat Ludim, and Ananim, and Lehabim, and Naphtuhim,

<sup>14</sup>And Pathrusim, and Casluhim, (out of whom came Phillistim,) and Caphtorim.

<sup>15</sup>And Canaan begat Sidon his firstborn, and Heth,

<sup>16</sup>And the Jebusite, and the Amorite, and the Gargasite,

<sup>17</sup>And the Hivite, and the Arkite, and the Sinite,

<sup>18</sup>And the Arvadite, and the Zemarite, and the Hamathite: and afterward were the families of the Canaanites spread abroad.

<sup>19</sup>And the border of the Canaanites was from Sidon, as thou comest to Gerar, unto Gaza; as thou goest, unto Sodom, and Gomorrah, and Admah, and Zeboim, even unto Lasha.

<sup>20</sup>These *are* the sons of Ham, after their families, after their tongues, in their countries, *and* in their nations.

<sup>21</sup>Unto Shem also, the father of all the children of Eber, the brother of Japheth the elder, even to him were *children* born.

<sup>22</sup>The children of Shem; Elam, and Asshur, and Arphaxad, and Lud, and Aram.

<sup>23</sup>And the children of Aram; Uz, and Hul, and Gether, and Mash.

<sup>24</sup>And Arphaxad begat Salah; and Salah begat Eber.

<sup>25</sup>And unto Eber were born two sons: the name of one *was* Peleg; for in his days was the earth divided; and his brother's name *was* Joktan.

<sup>26</sup>And Joktan begat Almodad, and Sheleph, and Hazarmaveth, and Jerah,

<sup>27</sup>And Hadoram, and Uzal, and Diklah,

<sup>28</sup>And Obal, and Abimael, and Sheba,

<sup>29</sup>And Ophir, and Havilah, and Jobab: all these *were* the sons of Joktan.

<sup>30</sup>And their dwelling was from Mesha, as thou goest unto Sephar a mount of the east.

<sup>31</sup>These *are* the sons of Shem, after their families, after their tongues, in their lands, after their nations.

<sup>32</sup>These *are* the families of the sons of Noah, after their generations, in their nations: and by these were the nations divided in the earth after the flood.

#### MATTHEW 4:12-25

Now when Jesus had heard that John was cast into prison, he departed into Galilee;

<sup>13</sup>And leaving Nazareth, he came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is upon the sea coast, in the borders of Zabulon and Nephthalim:

<sup>14</sup>That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying,

<sup>15</sup>The land of Zabulon, and the land of Nephthalim, *by* the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles;

<sup>16</sup>The people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up.

<sup>17</sup>From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

<sup>18</sup>And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers.

<sup>19</sup>And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.

<sup>20</sup>And they straightway left *their* nets, and followed him.

<sup>21</sup>And going on from thence, he saw other

two brethren, James *the son* of Zebedee, and John his brother, in a ship with Zebedee their father, mending their nets; and he called them.

<sup>22</sup>And they immediately left the ship and their father, and followed him.

<sup>23</sup>And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.

<sup>24</sup>And his fame went throughout all Syria: and they brought unto him all sick people that were taken with divers diseases and torments, and those which were possessed with devils, and those which were lunatick, and those that had the palsy; and he healed them.

<sup>25</sup>And there followed him great multitudes of people from Galilee, and *from* Decapolis, and *from* Jerusalem, and *from* Judaea, and *from* beyond Jordan.

### PSALM 4:1-8

*To the chief Musician on Neginoth, A Psalm of David.*

<sup>1</sup>Hear me when I call, O God of my righteousness: thou hast enlarged me *when I was* in distress; have mercy upon me, and hear my prayer.

<sup>2</sup>O ye sons of men, how long *will ye turn* my glory into shame? *how long* will ye love vanity, and seek after leasing? Selah.

<sup>3</sup>But know that the LORD hath set apart him that is godly for himself: the LORD will hear when I call unto him.

<sup>4</sup>Stand in awe, and sin not: commune with your own heart upon your bed, and be still. Selah.

<sup>5</sup>Offer the sacrifices of righteousness, and put your trust in the LORD.

<sup>6</sup>*There be* many that say, Who will shew us any good? LORD, lift thou up the light of thy countenance upon us.

<sup>7</sup>Thou hast put gladness in my heart, more than in the time *that* their corn and their wine increased.

<sup>8</sup>I will both lay me down in peace, and sleep: for thou, LORD, only makest me dwell in safety.

### PROVERBS 1:20-23

Wisdom crieth without; she uttereth her voice in the streets:

<sup>21</sup>She crieth in the chief place of concourse, in the openings of the gates: in the city she uttereth her words, *saying*,

<sup>22</sup>How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity? and the scorners delight in their scorning, and fools hate knowledge?

<sup>23</sup>Turn you at my reproof: behold, I will pour out my spirit unto you, I will make known my words unto you.

**JOIN THE CROWD** || Just like our parents warned us, the wrong crowd will tear us down. But joining the right crowd can carry us forward. Large groups followed after Jesus, amazed at what he said and did. We also need to be part of a crowd of godly men who are following Jesus. So if you're surrounded by people who pull you down, or if your need to belong comes into conflict with an individualistic sense of independence, remember that men become godly men in the company of other godly men. Find those men, and join the crowd.

### GENESIS 11:1-13:4

And the whole earth was of one language, and of one speech.

<sup>2</sup>And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar; and they dwelt there.

<sup>3</sup>And they said one to another, Go to, let us make brick, and burn them throughly. And they had brick for stone, and slime had they for mortar.

<sup>4</sup>And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top *may reach* unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth.

<sup>5</sup>And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of men builded.

<sup>6</sup>And the LORD said, Behold, the people *is* one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do.

<sup>7</sup>Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech.

<sup>8</sup>So the LORD scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth: and they left off to build the city.

<sup>9</sup>Therefore is the name of it called Babel;

because the LORD did there confound the language of all the earth: and from thence did the LORD scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth.

<sup>10</sup>These *are* the generations of Shem: Shem was an hundred years old, and begat Arphaxad two years after the flood:

<sup>11</sup>And Shem lived after he begat Arphaxad five hundred years, and begat sons and daughters.

<sup>12</sup>And Arphaxad lived five and thirty years, and begat Salah:

<sup>13</sup>And Arphaxad lived after he begat Salah four hundred and three years, and begat sons and daughters.

<sup>14</sup>And Salah lived thirty years, and begat Eber:

<sup>15</sup>And Salah lived after he begat Eber four hundred and three years, and begat sons and daughters.

<sup>16</sup>And Eber lived four and thirty years, and begat Peleg:

<sup>17</sup>And Eber lived after he begat Peleg four hundred and thirty years, and begat sons and daughters.

<sup>18</sup>And Peleg lived thirty years, and begat Reu:

<sup>19</sup>And Peleg lived after he begat Reu two hundred and nine years, and begat sons and daughters.

<sup>20</sup>And Reu lived two and thirty years, and begat Serug:

<sup>21</sup>And Reu lived after he begat Serug two hundred and seven years, and begat sons and daughters.

<sup>22</sup>And Serug lived thirty years, and begat Nahor:

<sup>23</sup>And Serug lived after he begat Nahor two hundred years, and begat sons and daughters.

<sup>24</sup>And Nahor lived nine and twenty years, and begat Terah:

<sup>25</sup>And Nahor lived after he begat Terah an hundred and nineteen years, and begat sons and daughters.

<sup>26</sup>And Terah lived seventy years, and begat Abram, Nahor, and Haran.

<sup>27</sup>Now these *are* the generations of Terah: Terah begat Abram, Nahor, and Haran; and Haran begat Lot.

<sup>28</sup>And Haran died before his father Terah in the land of his nativity, in Ur of the Chaldees.

<sup>29</sup>And Abram and Nahor took them wives: the name of Abram's wife *was* Sarai; and the name of Nahor's wife, Milcah, the daughter of Haran, the father of Milcah, and the father of Iscah.

<sup>30</sup>But Sarai was barren; she *had* no child.

<sup>31</sup>And Terah took Abram his son, and Lot

the son of Haran his son's son, and Sarai his daughter in law, his son Abram's wife; and they went forth with them from Ur of the Chaldees, to go into the land of Canaan; and they came unto Haran, and dwelt there.

<sup>32</sup>And the days of Terah were two hundred and five years: and Terah died in Haran.

<sup>12:1</sup>Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee:

<sup>2</sup>And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:

<sup>3</sup>And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

<sup>4</sup>So Abram departed, as the LORD had spoken unto him; and Lot went with him: and Abram *was* seventy and five years old when he departed out of Haran.

<sup>5</sup>And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their substance that they had gathered, and the souls that they had gotten in Haran; and they went forth to go into the land of Canaan; and into the land of Canaan they came.

<sup>6</sup>And Abram passed through the land unto the place of Sichem, unto the plain of Moreh. And the Canaanite *was* then in the land.

<sup>7</sup>And the LORD appeared unto Abram, and said, Unto thy seed will I give this land: and there builded he an altar unto the LORD, who appeared unto him.

<sup>8</sup>And he removed from thence unto a mountain on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, *having* Bethel on the west, and Hai on the east: and there he builded an altar unto the LORD, and called upon the name of the LORD.

<sup>9</sup>And Abram journeyed, going on still toward the south.

<sup>10</sup>And there was a famine in the land: and Abram went down into Egypt to sojourn there; for the famine *was* grievous in the land.

<sup>11</sup>And it came to pass, when he was come near to enter into Egypt, that he said unto Sarai his wife, Behold now, I know that thou *art* a fair woman to look upon:

<sup>12</sup>Therefore it shall come to pass, when the Egyptians shall see thee, that they shall say, This *is* his wife: and they will kill me, but they will save thee alive.

<sup>13</sup>Say, I pray thee, thou *art* my sister: that it may be well with me for thy sake; and my soul shall live because of thee.

<sup>14</sup>And it came to pass, that, when Abram

was come into Egypt, the Egyptians beheld the woman that she *was* very fair.

<sup>15</sup>The princes also of Pharaoh saw her, and commended her before Pharaoh: and the woman was taken into Pharaoh's house.

<sup>16</sup>And he entreated Abram well for her sake: and he had sheep, and oxen, and he asses, and menservants, and maidservants, and she asses, and camels.

<sup>17</sup>And the LORD plagued Pharaoh and his house with great plagues because of Sarai Abram's wife.

<sup>18</sup>And Pharaoh called Abram, and said, What *is* this *that* thou hast done unto me? why didst thou not tell me that she *was* thy wife?

<sup>19</sup>Why saidst thou, She *is* my sister? so I might have taken her to me to wife: now therefore behold thy wife, take *her*, and go thy way.

<sup>20</sup>And Pharaoh commanded *his* men concerning him: and they sent him away, and his wife, and all that he had.

<sup>13:1</sup> And Abram went up out of Egypt, he, and his wife, and all that he had, and Lot with him, into the south.

<sup>2</sup>And Abram *was* very rich in cattle, in silver, and in gold.

<sup>3</sup>And he went on his journeys from the south even to Bethel, unto the place where his tent had been at the beginning, between Bethel and Hai;

<sup>4</sup>Unto the place of the altar, which he had made there at the first: and there Abram called on the name of the LORD.

### MATTHEW 5:1-26

And seeing the multitudes, he [Jesus] went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him:

<sup>2</sup>And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,

<sup>3</sup>Blessed *are* the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup>Blessed *are* they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

<sup>5</sup>Blessed *are* the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup>Blessed *are* they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

<sup>7</sup>Blessed *are* the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

<sup>8</sup>Blessed *are* the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

<sup>9</sup>Blessed *are* the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

<sup>10</sup>Blessed *are* they which are persecuted for

righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup>Blessed are ye, when *men* shall revile you, and persecute *you*, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.

<sup>12</sup>Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

<sup>13</sup>Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.

<sup>14</sup>Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

<sup>15</sup>Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

<sup>16</sup>Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

<sup>17</sup>Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.

<sup>18</sup>For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.

<sup>19</sup>Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach *them*, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>20</sup>For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed *the righteousness* of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>21</sup>Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment:

<sup>22</sup>But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire.

<sup>23</sup>Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath aught against thee;

<sup>24</sup>Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift.

<sup>25</sup>Agree with thine adversary quickly, whiles thou art in the way with him; lest at any time the adversary deliver thee to the judge, and the judge deliver thee to the officer, and thou be cast into prison.

<sup>26</sup>Verily I say unto thee, Thou shalt by no

means come out thence, till thou hast paid the uttermost farthing.

### PSALM 5:1-12

*To the chief Musician upon Nehiloth, A Psalm of David.*

<sup>1</sup>Give ear to my words, O LORD, consider my meditation.

<sup>2</sup>Hearken unto the voice of my cry, my King, and my God: for unto thee will I pray.

<sup>3</sup>My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O LORD; in the morning will I direct *my prayer* unto thee, and will look up.

<sup>4</sup>For thou *art* not a God that hath pleasure in wickedness: neither shall evil dwell with thee.

<sup>5</sup>The foolish shall not stand in thy sight: thou hatest all workers of iniquity.

<sup>6</sup>Thou shalt destroy them that speak leasing: the LORD will abhor the bloody and deceitful man.

<sup>7</sup>But as for me, I will come *into* thy house in the multitude of thy mercy: *and* in thy fear will I worship toward thy holy temple.

<sup>8</sup>Lead me, O LORD, in thy righteousness because of mine enemies; make thy way straight before my face.

<sup>9</sup>For *there is* no faithfulness in their mouth; their inward part *is* very wickedness; their

throat *is* an open sepulchre; they flatter with their tongue.

<sup>10</sup>Destroy thou them, O God; let them fall by their own counsels; cast them out in the multitude of their transgressions; for they have rebelled against thee.

<sup>11</sup>But let all those that put their trust in thee rejoice: let them ever shout for joy, because thou defendest them: let them also that love thy name be joyful in thee.

<sup>12</sup>For thou, LORD, wilt bless the righteous; with favour wilt thou compass him as *with* a shield.

### PROVERBS 1:24-28

Because I [Wisdom] have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded;

<sup>25</sup>But ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof:

<sup>26</sup>I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh;

<sup>27</sup>When your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you.

<sup>28</sup>Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me:

**MAKE IT RIGHT** || Fear and a lack of faith drove Abram to lie and hand his wife over to the king. If Abram, a man famous for his faith, can fail so miserably, it is no wonder that we fail also. When we do, we need to make it right. God wants our love and worship, but first we ought to make things right with anyone we have wronged. Humbling ourselves, asking another person to forgive us, and making restitution are all aspects of the faith and worship God is looking for from a godly man.

### GENESIS 13:5-15:21

And Lot also, which went with Abram, had flocks, and herds, and tents.

<sup>6</sup>And the land was not able to bear them, that they might dwell together: for their substance was great, so that they could not dwell together.

<sup>7</sup>And there was a strife between the herdmen of Abram's cattle and the herdmen of Lot's cattle: and the Canaanite and the Perizite dwelled then in the land.

<sup>8</sup>And Abram said unto Lot, Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee, and between my herdmen and thy herdmen; for we *be* brethren.

<sup>9</sup>*Is* not the whole land before thee? separate thyself, I pray thee, from me: if *thou wilt take*

the left hand, then I will go to the right; or if *thou depart* to the right hand, then I will go to the left.

<sup>10</sup>And Lot lifted up his eyes, and beheld all the plain of Jordan, that it *was* well watered every where, before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, *even* as the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt, as thou comest unto Zoar.

<sup>11</sup>Then Lot chose him all the plain of Jordan; and Lot journeyed east: and they separated themselves the one from the other.

<sup>12</sup>Abram dwelled in the land of Canaan, and Lot dwelled in the cities of the plain, and pitched *his* tent toward Sodom.

<sup>13</sup>But the men of Sodom *were* wicked and sinners before the LORD exceedingly.

<sup>14</sup>And the LORD said unto Abram, after that Lot was separated from him, Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward:

<sup>15</sup>For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever.

<sup>16</sup>And I will make thy seed as the dust of the earth: so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, *then* shall thy seed also be numbered.

<sup>17</sup>Arise, walk through the land in the length of it and in the breadth of it; for I will give it unto thee.

<sup>18</sup>Then Abram removed *his* tent, and came and dwelt in the plain of Mamre, which *is* in Hebron, and built there an altar unto the LORD.

<sup>14:1</sup> And it came to pass in the days of Amraphel king of Shinar, Arioch king of Ellasar, Chedorlaomer king of Elam, and Tidal king of nations;

<sup>2</sup>That *these* made war with Bera king of Sodom, and with Birsha king of Gomorrah, Shinab king of Admah, and Shemeber king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela, which *is* Zoar.

<sup>3</sup>All these were joined together in the vale of Siddim, which *is* the Salt Sea.

<sup>4</sup>Twelve years they served Chedorlaomer, and in the thirteenth year they rebelled.

<sup>5</sup>And in the fourteenth year came Chedorlaomer, and the kings that *were* with him, and smote the Rephaims in Ashteroth Karnaim, and the Zuzims in Ham, and the Emims in Shaveh Kiriathaim,

<sup>6</sup>And the Horites in their mount Seir, unto El-paran, which *is* by the wilderness.

<sup>7</sup>And they returned, and came to Enmishpat, which *is* Kadesh, and smote all the country of the Amalekites, and also the Amorites, that dwelt in Hazon-tamar.

<sup>8</sup>And there went out the king of Sodom, and the king of Gomorrah, and the king of Admah, and the king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela (the same *is* Zoar;) and they joined battle with them in the vale of Siddim;

<sup>9</sup>With Chedorlaomer the king of Elam, and with Tidal king of nations, and Amraphel king of Shinar, and Arioch king of Ellasar; four kings with five.

<sup>10</sup>And the vale of Siddim *was full of* slime-pits; and the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fled, and fell there; and they that remained fled to the mountain.

<sup>11</sup>And they took all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah, and all their victuals, and went their way.

<sup>12</sup>And they took Lot, Abram's brother's son, who dwelt in Sodom, and his goods, and departed.

<sup>13</sup>And there came one that had escaped, and told Abram the Hebrew; for he dwelt in the plain of Mamre the Amorite, brother of Eshcol, and brother of Aner: and these *were* confederate with Abram.

<sup>14</sup>And when Abram heard that his brother was taken captive, he armed his trained *servants*, born in his own house, three hundred and eighteen, and pursued *them* unto Dan.

<sup>15</sup>And he divided himself against them, he and his servants, by night, and smote them, and pursued them unto Hobah, which *is* on the left hand of Damascus.

<sup>16</sup>And he brought back all the goods, and also brought again his brother Lot, and his goods, and the women also, and the people.

<sup>17</sup>And the king of Sodom went out to meet him after his return from the slaughter of Chedorlaomer, and of the kings that *were* with him, at the valley of Shaveh, which *is* the king's dale.

<sup>18</sup>And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he *was* the priest of the most high God.

<sup>19</sup>And he blessed him, and said, Blessed *be* Abram of the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth:

<sup>20</sup>And blessed *be* the most high God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand. And he gave him tithes of all.

<sup>21</sup>And the king of Sodom said unto Abram, Give me the persons, and take the goods to thyself.

<sup>22</sup>And Abram said to the king of Sodom, I have lift up mine hand unto the LORD, the most high God, the possessor of heaven and earth,

<sup>23</sup>That I will not *take* from a thread even to a shoelatchet, and that I will not take any thing that *is* thine, lest thou shouldest say, I have made Abram rich:

<sup>24</sup>Save only that which the young men have eaten, and the portion of the men which went with me, Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre; let them take their portion.

<sup>15:1</sup> After these things the word of the LORD came unto Abram in a vision, saying, Fear not, Abram: I *am* thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward.

<sup>2</sup>And Abram said, Lord GOD, what wilt thou give me, seeing I go childless, and the steward of my house *is* this Eliezer of Damascus?

<sup>3</sup>And Abram said, Behold, to me thou hast given no seed: and, lo, one born in my house *is* mine heir.

<sup>4</sup>And, behold, the word of the LORD *came* unto him, saying, This shall not be thine heir;

but he that shall come forth out of thine own bowels shall be thine heir.

<sup>5</sup>And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be.

<sup>6</sup>And he believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness.

<sup>7</sup>And he said unto him, I *am* the LORD that brought thee out of Ur of the Chaldees, to give thee this land to inherit it.

<sup>8</sup>And he said, Lord GOD, whereby shall I know that I shall inherit it?

<sup>9</sup>And he said unto him, Take me an heifer of three years old, and a she goat of three years old, and a ram of three years old, and a turtle-dove, and a young pigeon.

<sup>10</sup>And he took unto him all these, and divided them in the midst, and laid each piece one against another: but the birds divided he not.

<sup>11</sup>And when the fowls came down upon the carcases, Abram drove them away.

<sup>12</sup>And when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and, lo, an horror of great darkness fell upon him.

<sup>13</sup>And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land *that is not theirs*, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years;

<sup>14</sup>And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: and afterward shall they come out with great substance.

<sup>15</sup>And thou shalt go to thy fathers in peace; thou shalt be buried in a good old age.

<sup>16</sup>But in the fourth generation they shall come hither again: for the iniquity of the Amorites *is not yet full*.

<sup>17</sup>And it came to pass, that, when the sun went down, and it was dark, behold a smoking furnace, and a burning lamp that passed between those pieces.

<sup>18</sup>In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates:

<sup>19</sup>The Kenites, and the Kenizzites, and the Kadmonites,

<sup>20</sup>And the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Rephaims,

<sup>21</sup>And the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Girgashites, and the Jebusites.

### MATTHEW 5:27-48

Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery:

<sup>28</sup>But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.

<sup>29</sup>And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast *it* from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not *that* thy whole body should be cast into hell.

<sup>30</sup>And if thy right hand offend thee, cut it off, and cast *it* from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not *that* thy whole body should be cast into hell.

<sup>31</sup>It hath been said, Whosoever shall put away his wife, let him give her a writing of divorcement:

<sup>32</sup>But I say unto you, That whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery.

<sup>33</sup>Again, ye have heard that it hath been said by them of old time, Thou shalt not forswear thyself, but shalt perform unto the Lord thine oaths:

<sup>34</sup>But I say unto you, Swear not at all; neither by heaven; for it is God's throne:

<sup>35</sup>Nor by the earth; for it is his footstool: neither by Jerusalem; for it is the city of the great King.

<sup>36</sup>Neither shalt thou swear by thy head, because thou canst not make one hair white or black.

<sup>37</sup>But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil.

<sup>38</sup>Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth:

<sup>39</sup>But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.

<sup>40</sup>And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have *thy* cloak also.

<sup>41</sup>And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain.

<sup>42</sup>Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away.

<sup>43</sup>Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy.

<sup>44</sup>But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

<sup>45</sup>That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

<sup>46</sup>For if ye love them which love you, what

reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same?

<sup>47</sup>And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more *than others*? do not even the publicans so?

<sup>48</sup>Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

### PSALM 6:1-10

*To the chief Musician on Neginoth upon Sheminith, A Psalm of David.*

<sup>1</sup>O LORD, rebuke me not in thine anger, neither chasten me in thy hot displeasure.

<sup>2</sup>Have mercy upon me, O LORD; for I *am* weak: O LORD, heal me; for my bones are vexed.

<sup>3</sup>My soul is also sore vexed: but thou, O LORD, how long?

<sup>4</sup>Return, O LORD, deliver my soul: oh save me for thy mercies' sake.

<sup>5</sup>For in death *there is* no remembrance of thee: in the grave who shall give thee thanks?

<sup>6</sup>I am weary with my groaning; all the night make I my bed to swim; I water my couch with my tears.

<sup>7</sup>Mine eye is consumed because of grief; it waxeth old because of all mine enemies.

<sup>8</sup>Depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity; for the LORD hath heard the voice of my weeping.

<sup>9</sup>The LORD hath heard my supplication; the LORD will receive my prayer.

<sup>10</sup>Let all mine enemies be ashamed and sore vexed: let them return *and* be ashamed suddenly.

### PROVERBS 1:29-33

For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the LORD:

<sup>30</sup>They would none of my counsel: they despised all my reproof.

<sup>31</sup>Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices.

<sup>32</sup>For the turning away of the simple shall slay them, and the prosperity of fools shall destroy them.

<sup>33</sup>But whoso hearkeneth unto me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil.

**A PLAN FOR EVERY MAN ||** If we listen for truth in God's Word and live out that truth, we find peace and are untroubled by fear. When we act out of fear or lust, the consequences are often severe. Fortunately, God has a plan for each of us, and God does not abandon us even when we abandon him in moments of weakness. God was still blessing Abram after he lied about Sarai being his sister. God heard the cry of the psalmist. And when we confess our sins—lying, cheating, lusting—God hears us and restores us.

### GENESIS 16:1-18:15

Now Sarai Abram's wife bare him no children: and she had an handmaid, an Egyptian, whose name was Hagar.

<sup>2</sup>And Sarai said unto Abram, Behold now, the LORD hath restrained me from bearing: I pray thee, go in unto my maid; it may be that I may obtain children by her. And Abram hearkened to the voice of Sarai.

<sup>3</sup>And Sarai Abram's wife took Hagar her maid the Egyptian, after Abram had dwelt ten years in the land of Canaan, and gave her to her husband Abram to be his wife.

<sup>4</sup>And he went in unto Hagar, and she conceived: and when she saw that she had conceived, her mistress was despised in her eyes.

<sup>5</sup>And Sarai said unto Abram, My wrong *be* upon thee: I have given my maid into thy bosom; and when she saw that she had

conceived, I was despised in her eyes: the LORD judge between me and thee.

<sup>6</sup>But Abram said unto Sarai, Behold, thy maid *is* in thy hand; do to her as it pleaseth thee. And when Sarai dealt hardly with her, she fled from her face.

<sup>7</sup>And the angel of the LORD found her by a fountain of water in the wilderness, by the fountain in the way to Shur.

<sup>8</sup>And he said, Hagar, Sarai's maid, whence camest thou? and whither wilt thou go? And she said, I flee from the face of my mistress Sarai.

<sup>9</sup>And the angel of the LORD said unto her, Return to thy mistress, and submit thyself under her hands.

<sup>10</sup>And the angel of the LORD said unto her, I will multiply thy seed exceedingly, that it shall not be numbered for multitude.

<sup>11</sup>And the angel of the LORD said unto her,