

The background of the entire page is a photograph of a mountain range. The mountains are layered, with the closest peaks in sharp focus and the ones further away becoming increasingly hazy and blue, creating a sense of depth and tranquility. The sky is a pale, clear blue.

"IT TAKES 21 DAYS TO FORM A HABIT, GOOD OR BAD."

21 DAYS

OF SCRIPTURE READING & DEVOTIONS

**WRITTEN BY
HIGH SCHOOLERS & YOUNG ADULTS**

DAY #1 – COLOSSIANS 1:9-14

Colossians 1:9-14

⁹ And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, ¹⁰ so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; ¹¹ being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy; ¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. ¹³ He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Paul, in his opening remarks to the Christians in Colossae, wanted to make it clear to them that he was constantly praying for them (vs. 3 & 9). Paul prayed and asked God that they may be “filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding.” Knowing God’s will brings spiritual wisdom and understanding in all areas of life. How does someone know God’s will? They spend time with God. They are daily camping out within the pages of Scripture, they are fighting sin, they are communicating to the Lord on a daily basis through prayer. Paul shared that, “so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord”. What does that mean?

- “bearing fruit” (vs. 10)
- “increasing in the knowledge of God” (vs. 10)
- “being strengthened” (vs. 11)
- “giving thanks” (vs. 12)

These four things, Paul wrote, represent a life that is lived in a manner worthy of the Lord. Christians are called to bear fruit, meaning to exhibit and show tangible ways that we are constantly being sanctified. You might think of the fruit of the spirit from Galatians 5. That’s a good start but it goes deeper than that. A healthy Christian will produce spiritual fruit. We’re called to increase in the knowledge of God. This is done by spending time in His Word and with God himself. We’re called to be strengthened in our Christian walk so that we can endure the trials and tribulations of life with all patience and joy. Lastly, we’re charged to give thanks. To give thanks to the Father for all He has done for us. One of the many things He has done is letting us share in the inheritance of the saints. What is that? Being redeemed. Eternity in Heaven. Being children of light instead of children of darkness.

Is your life lived in a manner that is worthy of the gospel? Is your conduct in life a good representation to someone of someone who follows Jesus well? Are you bearing spiritual fruit? Are you spiritually healthy? Are you growing in your knowledge of God and His Word? Are you constantly being strengthened as a Christian? I won’t ever get strong muscles if I don’t spend time in the gym and lift heavy things and push my body. You won’t ever get strong spiritual muscles if you don’t get into the spiritual gym and get that work done. Lastly, are you constantly giving thanks to God? Is your life a life of thanksgiving? May we all live our lives in a manner worthy of this glorious gospel.

DAY #2 – COLOSSIANS 1:15-23

Colossians 1:15-23

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. ¹⁶ For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. ¹⁷ And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross. ²¹ And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²² he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, ²³ if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.

Paul, after telling us we have redemption and the forgiveness of sins through Christ answers the question, “Who is Jesus?” with five profound statements about our Lord and Savior.

- *“He is the image of the invisible God” (vs. 15)*
- *“the firstborn of all creation” (vs. 15)*
- *“all things were created through him and for him” (vs. 16)*
- *“in him all things hold together” (vs. 17)*
- *“And he is the head of the body, the church” (vs. 18)*

Paul urges us to take a fresh look at Jesus because seeing Him for who He truly is changes everything. Instead of beginning with the dangers of false teaching, Paul wants us to embrace and experience the glory of Jesus. He knows that once we see Jesus clearly, many of our problems will resolve themselves. Until we grasp the supremacy of Jesus, nothing else will really matter.

Jesus is the image of the invisible God, making the unseen visible. He is not just another created being; He is supreme over all creation. As the firstborn, He holds the highest rank, ruling over everything. Not only that, but He is also the Creator. Everything exists through Him and for Him, from the most powerful angel to the tiniest insect. He not only made the universe but continues to sustain it. Every atom, every law of nature holds together because of Him. If He stopped sustaining, everything would cease to exist.

Yet, Jesus is not just supreme and powerful, He is also our Savior. He is the head of the church, the one who reconciles us to God through His death and resurrection. He has solved our greatest problems: sin and death. One day, all things will be fully submitted to Him, either in willing worship or forced submission. The right response is to trust Him completely, to stand firm in faith, and never shift from the hope of the gospel. May we never take Him for granted or settle for anything less than His glory. Lord, help us to see Jesus clearly, to marvel at Him, and to worship Him alone. Amen.

DAY #3 – MATTHEW 7:24-27

Matthew 7:24-27

²⁴ “Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵ And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. ²⁶ And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. ²⁷ And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it.”

Jesus gave the two ways that we can live our lives. We all want to build our lives on a solid foundation, one that can withstand the storms of life. Jesus made it clear in Matthew 7:24–27 that the key to this is simple: hear His words and obey them. Those who build their lives on His teaching stand firm when trials come, while those who ignore His words collapse under pressure. The difference isn't just in hearing, it's in doing. A life rooted in God's Word is a life that endures.

So how do we build on the rock? We commit to hearing, reading, studying, and meditating on Scripture daily. More than that, we put it into practice. James 1 reminds us not to be hearers only, but doers of the Word. When life's hardships come, God's truth will sustain us, strengthen us, and keep us from falling. His promises will uphold us when lies and discouragement threaten to shake our faith.

Lord, help us to be both hearers and doers of your Word. May it be our daily practice to meditate on your truth and live it out. For those facing trials right now, may your Word sustain them and give them strength. None of us knows what tomorrow holds, but we know that if we stand on your Word, we will not be shaken. Thank you, God, for giving us the foundation we need to endure. Amen.

DAY #4 – GENESIS 3

Genesis 3

3 Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?" ² And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³ but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'" ⁴ But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. ⁵ For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. ⁷ Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

⁸ And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" ¹⁰ And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." ¹¹ He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" ¹² The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." ¹³ Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

¹⁴ The Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. ¹⁵ I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel." ¹⁶ To the woman he said, "I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be contrary to your husband, but he shall rule over you." ¹⁷ And to Adam he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; ¹⁸ thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. ¹⁹ By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return." ²⁰ The man called his wife's name Eve, because she was

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