

How To Have A Devotional Time With Jesus

Scripture Reference – Ephesians chapter 1:1-14

How Are We Blessed With Every Spiritual Blessing In Christ?

- 1) We were chosen by him before the foundation of the world! (Verse 1:4)
- 2) We have been predestined to be adopted as sons of God through Jesus! (Verse 1:5)
- 3) We are redeemed through the blood of Jesus! (Verse 1:7)
- 4) We are forgiven through the blood of Jesus! (Verse 1:7)
- 5) We have an inheritance through Jesus! (Verse 1:11)
- 6) We have been sealed with the Holy Spirit as a guarantee of our coming inheritance! (Verse 1:13-14)

Romans 1:1-6 – We are called to belong to Jesus!

Romans 8:28-30 – If we are called according to God's purpose, we are destined to be conformed to the Image of Jesus!

_____ to you and _____ from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. (Vs 2) Who has blessed us in Christ with _____ spiritual blessing in the heavenly places. (Vs 3) He chose us before the _____ of the world that we should be holy and blameless before him. (Vs 4) In love he _____ us for _____ as sons through Jesus Christ. (Vs 4-5) In him we have _____ through his blood, the _____ of our trespasses. (Vs 7) In him we have obtained an _____. (Vs 11) In him you also, when you _____ the word of truth, the _____ of your salvation, and _____ in him, were _____ with the promised _____, who is the _____ of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his _____. (Vs 13-14)

1 – **M** (Meaning) What is the meaning of this passage?

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3 – **P** (Prayer) Ask God for help to adjust to the meaning of this passage.

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Scripture Reference – Ephesians chapter 1:15-23

What Is the Hope That God Has Called Us To?

- 1) **The Lord gives us the Spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Jesus!** (*Verse 1:17*)
- 2) **We have great riches through our inheritance as saints!** (*Verse 1:18*)
- 3) **We have the immeasurable greatness of God's power: the same that raised Jesus from the dead and seated Him at God's right hand in the heavenly places!** (*Verse 1:19-20*)
- 4) **Jesus was seated far above all rule, authority, power, rule and name for us the church as His body!** (*Verse 1:21-22*)

Romans 1:1-6 – *We are called to belong to Jesus!*

Romans 8:28-30 – *If we are called according to God's purpose, we are destined to be conformed to the Image of Jesus!*

Paul said to the Ephesians who are faithful in Christ Jesus that he does cease to give _____ for you, _____ you in my prayers, (Vs 16) God gives us the Spirit of wisdom and revelation in the _____ of him. (Vs 17) The eyes of our heart are enlightened that we may know the _____ to which he has called you, what are the _____ of the glorious _____ in the saints, (Vs 18) and what is the immeasurable greatness of his _____ toward us who believe, according to the working of his great _____ that he worked in Christ when he _____ him from the dead and _____ him at his right hand in the heavenly places, (Vs 19-20) far above _____ rule and authority and _____ and dominion, and _____ every name that is named, not only in this _____ but also in the one to come. (Vs 21) And he put _____ things under his _____ and gave him as _____ over all things to the church, which is his _____, the fullness of him who fills all in all. (Vs 22-23)

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Scripture Reference – Ephesians chapter 2:1-10

How Were We Dead, But Now Alive?

- 1) We were dead in our trespasses and sins! (Verse 2:1)
- 2) We were following the course of this world! (Verse 2:2)
- 3) But God was rich in mercy! (Verse 4)
- 4) He made us alive, raised up and seated with Christ! (Verses 5-6)
- 5) We have been saved by his grace! (Verse 8)
- 6) We are created in Christ for good works! (Verse 10)

Romans 1:1-6 – We are called to belong to Jesus!

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Before we came to Christ, we were _____ in the trespasses and sins following the _____ of this world. We were following the spirit that is now at work in the _____ . We were by nature children of _____ , like the rest of mankind. We have been _____ together with Christ. We have been _____ with him and _____ with him in the heavenly places. For by _____ we have been saved through _____. We are his _____, created in Christ Jesus for _____. God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

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Scripture Reference – Ephesians chapter 2:11-3:6

How Are God's People Now Both Jew and Gentile?

- 1) Previously Gentiles were alienated without hope and without God! (Verses 2:11-12)
- 2) They have been brought near by the blood of Christ! (Verse 13)
- 3) Both Jew and Gentile in Christ are part of the one new man! (Verses 14-15)
- 4) Both have been reconciled to God in the body of Jesus at the cross! (Verses 16-17)
- 5) Both have access to God through one Spirit! (Verse 18)
- 6) The Gentiles now are members of God's family! (Verse 19)
- 7) Both Jew and Gentile are built on the foundation of the apostles, prophets and Jesus as the Cornerstone of God's dwelling place! (Verses 2:20-3:6)

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Romans 8:28-30 – If we are called according to God's purpose, we are destined to be conformed to the Image of Jesus!

In the past the Gentiles were alienated from the _____ of Israel (vs 12) ...having no _____ and without _____ in the world. We have been brought near by the _____ of Christ. (vs 13) For He himself is our _____, who has made us both _____. (vs 14) He has reconciled us both to God in one _____ through the _____. (vs 16) We both have access by one _____ to the Father. (vs 18) We are fellow citizens with the _____ and members of the _____ of God. (vs 19) We are built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets with Jesus Christ Himself being the _____. (vs 20) This mystery is that the Gentiles are _____, members of the _____, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the Gospel. (vs 3:6)

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Scripture Reference – Ephesians chapter 3 (vs 7-21)

How Is The Gospel The Unsearchable Riches Of Christ?

- 1) It was hidden but now it is manifested through the church! (Verses 7-10)
- 2) The eternal purpose of God was manifested through Jesus! (Verse 11)
- 3) We can now enter God's presence through the faithfulness of Jesus! (Verses 12-13)
- 4) We can now have His strength for life! (Verses 14-16)
- 5) We are now to be rooted and grounded in love! (Verses 17)
- 6) We are to understand the depth of the love of Christ! (Verses 18-19)
- 7) All glory is to Christ now forever and ever! (Verses 20-21)

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Of this _____ I was made a minister... (vs 3:7) to preach to the _____ the unsearchable riches of Christ,...(vs 3:8) and to bring to light for _____ what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God...(vs 3:9) ...so that through the _____ the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. (vs 3:10) This was according to the _____ purpose that he realized in Christ Jesus our Lord. (vs 3:11) In whom we have _____ and _____ with confidence through our faith in him. (vs 3:12) ...that according to his riches of his glory, he may grant you to be _____ with _____ through his Spirit in your inner being,... (vs 3:16) ... that you being rooted and grounded _____. (vs 3:17) ...may have strength to comprehend...and to know the _____ of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. (vs 3:19) Now to him who is able to do far more _____ than all that we ask or think according to the _____ at work within us,... (vs 3:20) to him be _____ in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen. (vs 3:21)

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Having A Devotional Time With Jesus

Scripture Reference – Ephesians chapter 4 (4:1-32)

Where Do We Go After Understanding Our New Identity in Christ?

- 1) **Walk worthy!** (Verses 1-2)
- 2) **Remember you are part of His body!** (Verses 3-14)
- 3) **Let's grow in our new self!** (Verses 15-21)
- 4) **Let's build each other up!** (Verses 22-33)

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...walk in a manner _____ of the calling to which you have been called, (vs 1) with all humility and gentleness, ... eager to maintain the _____ of the Spirit in the bond of peace. (vs 3) There is _____ body and _____ Spirit --- just as you were called to the _____ hope that belongs to your call--
- _____ Lord, _____ faith, _____ baptism, (vs 6) ... And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to _____ the saints for the work of the ministry, for _____ up the body of Christ, (vs 12)... so that we may no longer be children, _____ to and _____ by the waves and carried about by every _____ of doctrine, by human cunning, (vs 14) ... we are to grow up in every way into him who is the _____, into Christ, (vs 15) ... makes the body grow so that it _____ in love. (vs 16) ... you must no longer _____ as the Gentiles do in the _____ of their minds. (vs 17) They are _____ in their understanding, _____ from the life of God because of the _____ that is in them, due to their _____ of heart. (vs 18) ... But that is not the way your learned _____! (vs 20) ... put off your old _____ ... to be renewed in the _____ of your minds,... to put on the new _____ (vs 22 & 23) ... for we are _____ one of another. (vs 25) Be angry and do not _____; (vs 26) Let the thief no longer _____, but rather let him labor, doing _____ work ... that he may have something to _____ with anyone in need. (vs 28) ... And do not _____ the Holy Spirit of God (vs 30) ... Let all _____ and _____ and _____ and _____ and _____ be put away from you, along with all _____. (vs 31) Be _____ to one another, tenderhearted, _____ one another, as God in Christ forgave you. (vs 32)

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Scripture Reference – Ephesians chapter 5 (5:1-33)

How Should We Live?

- 1) **Live in love!** (Verses 1-2)
- 2) **Live in the light!** (Verses 3-14)
- 3) **Allow the Spirit to control you constantly discerning God's will!** (Verses 15-21)
- 4) **Husbands and wives, have a love-respect relationship!** (Verses 22-33)

Romans 1:1-6 – We are called to belong to Jesus!

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...And walk in _____, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. (vs 2) But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even _____ among you... (vs 3) ... Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be _____. (vs 4) ... for because of these things the wrath of God comes on the sons of _____. (vs 6) ... Walk as children of _____ (vs 8) (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to _____ what is _____ to the Lord. (vs 10) ... for anything that becomes _____ is light. (vs 14) ... Look _____ (vs 15) then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the _____ use of the time, because the days are _____. (vs 16) Therefore do not be _____, but _____ what the will of the Lord is. (vs 17) And do not get drunk with _____, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the _____, (vs 18) ... making _____ to the Lord with your heart, (vs 19) giving _____ always and for _____ to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, (vs 20) _____ to one another out of _____ for Christ. (vs 21) Wives, _____ to your own husbands, as to the Lord. (vs 22) ... even as Christ is the _____ of the church, (vs 23) ... Husbands, _____ your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, (vs 25) ... In the same way husbands should _____ their wives as their own bodies. (vs 28) ... because we are members of his _____. (vs 30) ...and I am saying that it _____ to Christ and the church. (vs 32) However, let each one of you _____ his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she _____ her husband. (vs 33)

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Scripture Reference – Ephesians chapter 6 (5:1-24)

How To Be Strong In The Lord?

- 1) How families and servant relationships should be because we are in Christ! (Verses 1-9)
- 2) Be strong by putting on God's armor! (Verses 10-17)
- 3) Be strong by praying! (Verses 18-24) (Saints, Boldness to make the Gospel known)

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Children _____ your parents in the Lord. (Vs 1) Honor your father and mother ... that it may _____ with you and that you may live long in the land. (Vs 2-3) Fathers do not _____ your children to _____, ... (Vs 4) Bondservants, _____ your earthly masters with fear and trembling ..., as you would Christ, ... doing the will of God from the _____, (Vs 5-6) rendering service as to the Lord and not to _____, (Vs 7) knowing that whatever good anyone does, this he will receive back from the _____, (Vs 8) ... Finally be strong in the Lord and in the _____ of his _____. (Vs 10) Put on the _____ armor of God, that you may be able to _____ against the _____ of the devil. (Vs 11) For we do not wrestle against _____ and _____ but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the _____ over this _____, against the spiritual forces of _____ in the heavenly places. (Vs 12) Therefore take up the _____ armor of God, that you may be able to _____ in the _____ day, ... (Vs 13) Stand therefore, having fastened on the _____ of _____, and having put on the breastplate of _____, (Vs 14) and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the _____ given by the gospel of peace. (Vs 15) ... take up the shield of _____, (Vs 16) ... and take the _____ of _____, and _____ of the Spirit, which is the _____ of God, (Vs 17) _____ at all times in the Spirit, with all _____ and _____. To that end keep _____ with all _____, making supplication for all the saints, (Vs 18) and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth _____ to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, (Vs 19) ... that I may declare it _____ as I ought to speak. (Vs 20) ... _____ be with all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with love _____. (Vs 24)

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Scripture Reference – 2 Timothy chapter 3:16-17; 2 Peter 3:16-18

How Do I Read The Bible?

- 1) It has God's authority because God inspired it! (2 Tim. 3:16; 2 Peter 3:16)—"All Scripture is breathed out by God..."
- 2) It can only be understood by God's help! (2 Peter 1:19-21)—"...no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation."
- 3) It explains itself! (Luke 24:44-47)
- 4) God's word is summarized in what Jesus has done for us! (2 Tim. 3:15; John 1:1,14; Luke 24:44-47)
- 5) Listen to the words (subject, verb and commands) of Scripture! (Mat. 5:18)
- 6) Listen to the context! Chapters and verses were not part of the original text.
- 7) Listen to the themes! (Rom. 10:11; John 7:37-38)
- 8) Long to grow in relationship with Jesus! (2 Cor. 3:18; 1 Peter 2:2-3; 2 Peter 3:18)

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_____ Scripture is breathed out by _____ and is profitable for _____, for _____, for _____, and for _____ in righteousness, (2 Tim. 3:16) that the _____ of God may be _____, equipped for every _____ . (2 Tim. 3:17) ...There are some things in them that are hard to _____, which the ignorant and unstable _____ to their own destruction, as they do the other Scriptures. (2 Peter 3:16) You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, take care that you are not _____ with the error of lawless people and lose your own stability. (2 Peter 3:17) But _____ in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the _____ both now and to the day of eternity. Amen. (2 Peter 3:18)

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How To Have A Devotional Time With Jesus

Scripture Reference – Mathew chapter 6:9-13

How Do I Pray?

- 1) It involves acknowledging God as our Father because of what Christ has done for us! (Verse 6:9; Gal. 4:6)—“Our Father in heaven...”
- 2) It involves praise because the Lord is to be honored! (Verse 6:9)—“...hallowed be your name.”
- 3) It involves asking the Lord to take care of our needs! (Verse 6:11)—“Give us this day our daily bread...”
- 4) It involves confession of our sins, asking for forgiveness and forgiving others! (Verse 6:12,14-15; Rom. 3:23; 1 John 1:8; Dan. Chapter 9)
- 5) It involves asking the Lord for help to overcome temptation and evil! (Mat. 6:13; 1 Cor. 10:13)
- 6) It involves intercession for other believers and for those yet to come to Christ! (Verse 6:10; 2 Thess. 3:1)
- 7) It involves dependence on the Spirit of God for how and what to pray for! (Rom. 8:26-27; Jude 1:20; Rev. 2:7,11,17,29; 3:6,13,22)

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Our _____ in heaven, _____ be your name. (Math. 6:9) Your _____ come, your _____ be done, on earth as it is in heaven. (Math. 6:10) Give us this day our _____, (Math. 6:11) and forgive us our _____, as we also have forgiven our _____. (Math. 6:12) And lead us not into _____, but _____ us from evil. (Verse 6:13) For if you _____ others their _____, your heavenly Father will also _____ you, (Math. 6:14) but if you do not forgive others their _____, neither will your Father _____ your trespasses. (Math. 6:15)

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Scripture Reference – Ephesians chapter 5:17-18

How Can I Be Filled With The Spirit?

- 1) It involves surrendering to God's Will! (Verse 5:17; Col. 3:1-2)—a command, plural, passive & present tense
- 2) It means being controlled by God's Spirit! (Verse 5:18) (Live by-Gal. 5:25, Walk by-Gal. 5:16, being led by-Gal. 5:18, keep in step with-Gal. 5:25)
- 3) It involves having peace in the heart ... by acknowledging the solidarity we have as members of the body of Christ. Peace and love remind ourselves and each other that we are ONE in Christ. (Verse Col. 3:15)
- 4) It involves praying with God's leadership! (Jude 1:20-21)

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Therefore do not be _____, but understand what the _____ of the Lord is. (Verse Eph. 5:17) And do not get _____ with wine, for that is debauchery, but be _____ with the Spirit, (Verse Eph. 5:18) ... But I say, _____ by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. (Verse Gal. 5:16) ... If we _____ by the Spirit, let us _____ with the Spirit. (Verse Gal. 5:25) ... And let the _____ of Christ _____ in your hearts, to which indeed you were _____ in one body. And be thankful. (Verse Col. 3:15) ... But you, beloved, _____ yourselves up in your most holy faith and _____ in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, _____ for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life. (Verse Jude 1:20-21)

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How To Have A Devotional Time With Jesus – Conclusion

Life is now no longer about you and me. It is about Jesus and his plan for your life. To grow in Jesus, we must die to ourselves! We are called to serve Jesus by serving together with his people laying down our preferences and wishes for the greater good of his family. We are also called to serve those in this world who have not yet found their identity in Jesus by telling them of what he has done for us and them through our life and words. Listen to Luke 9:23b-26: ***“...If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it. For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses or forfeits himself? For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words, of him will the Son of Man be ashamed when he comes in his glory and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels.”*** To deny ourselves, is what we are talking about here: dying to our wishes and preferences because we owe everything to Jesus for forgiving us in his death, burial and resurrection on our behalf! We are also told in this verse that in love for what Jesus has done we are to be willing to suffer the consequences of this new direction. May Jesus bless you in your new journey!

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For further reading:

- “I Am A Church Member” by Thom S. Rainer published by B&H Publishing Group ©2013
- whatdoesthescpturesay.com
- bfm.sbc.net/bfm2000/