

## Ch. 7 Embracing Biblical Methods

### Handbook Scripture Verses

#### **WEEK ONE (Jan. 9), Handbook pp.65-70**

##### **Romans 15:4-5**

**4** For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.

**5** May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had,

##### **Proverbs 10:17**

**17**

Whoever heeds discipline shows the way to life, but whoever ignores correction leads others astray.

##### **Proverbs 12:1**

**12**

Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but whoever hates correction is stupid.

##### **Proverbs 13:18**

**18**

Whoever disregards discipline comes to poverty and shame, but whoever heeds correction is honored.

##### **Proverbs 15:5**

**5**

A fool spurns a parent's discipline, but whoever heeds correction shows prudence.

##### **Proverbs 15:10**

**10**

Stern discipline awaits anyone who leaves the path; the one who hates correction will die.

##### **Proverbs 15:12**

**12**

Mockers resent correction, so they avoid the wise.

##### **Proverbs 15:32**

## **32**

Those who disregard discipline despise themselves, but the one who heeds correction gains understanding.

### **2 Timothy 3:15-17**

**15** and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

**16** All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, **17** so that the servant of God[a] may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

### **Leviticus 19:17**

**17** “Do not hate a fellow Israelite in your heart. Rebuke your neighbor frankly so you will not share in their guilt.

### **Psalms 141:5**

#### **5**

Let a righteous man strike me—that is a kindness; let him rebuke me—that is oil on my head. My head will not refuse it, for my prayer will still be against the deeds of evildoers.

### **Proverbs 3:11-12**

#### **11**

My son, do not despise the Lord’s discipline, and do not resent his rebuke,

#### **12**

because the Lord disciplines those he loves, as a father the son he delights in.[a]

### **Proverbs 13:1**

#### **13**

A wise son heeds his father’s instruction, but a mocker does not respond to rebukes.

### **Proverbs 15:31**

#### **31**

Whoever heeds life-giving correction will be at home among the wise.

### **Proverbs 17:10**

#### **10**

A rebuke impresses a discerning person more than a hundred lashes a fool.

**Proverbs 19:25**

**25**

Flog a mocker, and the simple will learn prudence; rebuke the discerning, and they will gain knowledge.

**Proverbs 25:12**

**12**

Like an earring of gold or an ornament of fine gold is the rebuke of a wise judge to a listening ear.

**Proverbs 27:5**

**5**

Better is open rebuke than hidden love.

**Ecclesiastes 7:5**

**5**

It is better to heed the rebuke of a wise person than to listen to the song of fools.

**Luke 17:3**

**3** So watch yourselves.

"If your brother or sister[a] sins against you, rebuke them; and if they repent, forgive them.

**Revelation 3:19**

**19** Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest and repent.

**Proverbs 1:8**

**8**

Listen, my son, to your father's instruction and do not forsake your mother's teaching.

**Proverbs 4:10**

**10**

Listen, my son, accept what I say, and the years of your life will be many.

**Proverbs 27:9**

**9**

Perfume and incense bring joy to the heart, and the pleasantness of a friend springs from their heartfelt advice.

### **Proverbs 23:15-26**

**15**

My son, if your heart is wise, then my heart will be glad indeed;

**16**

my inmost being will rejoice when your lips speak what is right.

**17**

Do not let your heart envy sinners, but always be zealous for the fear of the Lord.

**18**

There is surely a future hope for you, and your hope will not be cut off.

**19**

Listen, my son, and be wise, and set your heart on the right path:

**20**

Do not join those who drink too much wine or gorge themselves on meat,

**21**

for drunkards and gluttons become poor, and drowsiness clothes them in rags.

**22**

Listen to your father, who gave you life, and do not despise your mother when she is old.

**23**

Buy the truth and do not sell it— wisdom, instruction and insight as well.

**24**

The father of a righteous child has great joy; a man who fathers a wise son rejoices in him.

**25**

May your father and mother rejoice; may she who gave you birth be joyful!

**26**

My son, give me your heart and let your eyes delight in my ways,

### **Psalm 50:16-17**

**16** But to the wicked person, God says:

“What right have you to recite my laws or take my covenant on your lips?

**17**

You hate my instruction and cast my words behind you.

### **Proverbs 1:8**

**8**

Listen, my son, to your father's instruction and do not forsake your mother's teaching.

**Proverbs 4:11**

**11**

I instruct you in the way of wisdom and lead you along straight paths.

**Proverbs 8:10**

**10**

Choose my instruction instead of silver, knowledge rather than choice gold,

**Proverbs 8:33**

**33**

Listen to my instruction and be wise; do not disregard it.

**Proverbs 13:13**

**13**

Whoever scorns instruction will pay for it, but whoever respects a command is rewarded.

**Proverbs 13:20**

**20**

Walk with the wise and become wise, for a companion of fools suffers harm.

**Proverbs 16:21**

**21**

The wise in heart are called discerning, and gracious words promote instruction.**[a]**

**Proverbs 16:23**

**23**

The hearts of the wise make their mouths prudent, and their lips promote instruction.**[a]**

**Proverbs 19:20**

**20**

Listen to advice and accept discipline, and at the end you will be counted among the wise.

**Proverbs 19:27**

**27**

Stop listening to instruction, my son, and you will stray from the words of knowledge.

**Ephesians 6:4**

**4** Fathers,[a] do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

**Psalms 19:11**

**11**

By them your servant is warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

**Psalms 81:8-9**

**8**

Hear me, my people, and I will warn you— if you would only listen to me, Israel!

**9**

You shall have no foreign god among you; you shall not worship any god other than me.

**Ecclesiastes 4:13**

**13** Better a poor but wise youth than an old but foolish king who no longer knows how to heed a warning.

**Jeremiah 22:21**

**21**

I warned you when you felt secure, but you said, 'I will not listen!' This has been your way from your youth; you have not obeyed me.

**Ezekiel 3:18-21**

**18** When I say to a wicked person, 'You will surely die,' and you do not warn them or speak out to dissuade them from their evil ways in order to save their life, that wicked person will die for[a] their sin, and I will hold you accountable for their blood. **19** But if you do warn the wicked person and they do not turn from their wickedness or from their evil ways, they will die for their sin; but you will have saved yourself.

**20** "Again, when a righteous person turns from their righteousness and does evil, and I put a stumbling block before them, they will die. Since you did not warn them, they will die for their sin. The righteous things that person did will not be remembered, and I will hold you accountable for their blood. **21** But if you do warn the righteous

person not to sin and they do not sin, they will surely live because they took warning, and you will have saved yourself.”

### **Nehemiah 9:29-37**

**29** “You warned them in order to turn them back to your law, but they became arrogant and disobeyed your commands. They sinned against your ordinances, of which you said, ‘The person who obeys them will live by them.’ Stubbornly they turned their backs on you, became stiff-necked and refused to listen. **30** For many years you were patient with them. By your Spirit you warned them through your prophets. Yet they paid no attention, so you gave them into the hands of the neighboring peoples. **31** But in your great mercy you did not put an end to them or abandon them, for you are a gracious and merciful God.

**32** “Now therefore, our God, the great God, mighty and awesome, who keeps his covenant of love, do not let all this hardship seem trifling in your eyes—the hardship that has come on us, on our kings and leaders, on our priests and prophets, on our ancestors and all your people, from the days of the kings of Assyria until today. **33** In all that has happened to us, you have remained righteous; you have acted faithfully, while we acted wickedly. **34** Our kings, our leaders, our priests and our ancestors did not follow your law; they did not pay attention to your commands or the statutes you warned them to keep. **35** Even while they were in their kingdom, enjoying your great goodness to them in the spacious and fertile land you gave them, they did not serve you or turn from their evil ways.

**36** “But see, we are slaves today, slaves in the land you gave our ancestors so they could eat its fruit and the other good things it produces. **37** Because of our sins, its abundant harvest goes to the kings you have placed over us. They rule over our bodies and our cattle as they please. We are in great distress.

### **Acts 20:31**

**31** So be on your guard! Remember that for three years I never stopped warning each of you night and day with tears.

### **Hebrews 12:25**

**25** See to it that you do not refuse him who speaks. If they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, how much less will we, if we turn away from him who warns us from heaven?

**(End of Week One)**

## **WEEK TWO (Jan. 16), Handbook pp. 73-80**

### **Galatians 6:7-8**

**7** Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. **8** Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.

### **Deuteronomy 6:1-2**

**6** These are the commands, decrees and laws the Lord your God directed me to teach you to observe in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess, **2** so that you, your children and their children after them may fear the Lord your God as long as you live by keeping all his decrees and commands that I give you, and so that you may enjoy long life.

### **Psalms 34:11-16**

**11**

Come, my children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

**12**

Whoever of you loves life and desires to see many good days,

**13**

keep your tongue from evil and your lips from telling lies.

**14**

Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

**15**

The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are attentive to their cry;

**16**

but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil, to blot out their name from the earth.

### **Psalms 78:1-4**

**1**

My people, hear my teaching; listen to the words of my mouth.

**2**

I will open my mouth with a parable; I will utter hidden things, things from of old—

**3**

things we have heard and known, things our ancestors have told us.

**4**

We will not hide them from their descendants; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, his power, and the wonders he has done.

**Psalm 86:11**

**11**

Teach me your way, Lord, that I may rely on your faithfulness; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name.

**Psalm 90:12**

**12**

Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.

**Psalm 119[a]**

**⌘ Aleph**

**1**

Blessed are those whose ways are blameless, who walk according to the law of the Lord.

**2**

Blessed are those who keep his statutes and seek him with all their heart—

**3**

they do no wrong but follow his ways.

**4**

You have laid down precepts that are to be fully obeyed.

**5**

Oh, that my ways were steadfast in obeying your decrees!

**6**

Then I would not be put to shame when I consider all your commands.

**7**

I will praise you with an upright heart as I learn your righteous laws.

**8**

I will obey your decrees; do not utterly forsake me.

**⌘ Beth**

**9**

How can a young person stay on the path of purity? By living according to your word.

**10**

I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands.

**11**

I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.

**12**

Praise be to you, Lord; teach me your decrees.

**13**

With my lips I recount all the laws that come from your mouth.

**14**

I rejoice in following your statutes as one rejoices in great riches.

**15**

I meditate on your precepts and consider your ways.

**16**

I delight in your decrees; I will not neglect your word.

⸚ **Gimel**

**17**

Be good to your servant while I live, that I may obey your word.

**18**

Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law.

**19**

I am a stranger on earth; do not hide your commands from me.

**20**

My soul is consumed with longing for your laws at all times.

**21**

You rebuke the arrogant, who are accursed, those who stray from your commands.

**22**

Remove from me their scorn and contempt, for I keep your statutes.

**23**

Though rulers sit together and slander me, your servant will meditate on your decrees.

**24**

Your statutes are my delight; they are my counselors.

⸚ **Daleth**

**25**

I am laid low in the dust; preserve my life according to your word.

**26**

I gave an account of my ways and you answered me;      teach me  
your decrees.

**27**

Cause me to understand the way of your precepts,      that I may  
meditate on your wonderful deeds.

**28**

My soul is weary with sorrow;      strengthen me according to your  
word.

**29**

Keep me from deceitful ways;      be gracious to me and teach me  
your law.

**30**

I have chosen the way of faithfulness;      I have set my heart on  
your laws.

**31**

I hold fast to your statutes, Lord;      do not let me be put to shame.

**32**

I run in the path of your commands,      for you have broadened my  
understanding.

⌈ **He**

**33**

Teach me, Lord, the way of your decrees,      that I may follow it to  
the end.**[b]**

**34**

Give me understanding, so that I may keep your law      and obey it  
with all my heart.

**35**

Direct me in the path of your commands,      for there I find delight.

**36**

Turn my heart toward your statutes      and not toward selfish gain.

**37**

Turn my eyes away from worthless things;      preserve my life  
according to your word.**[c]**

**38**

Fulfill your promise to your servant,      so that you may be feared.

**39**

Take away the disgrace I dread,      for your laws are good.

**40**

How I long for your precepts!      In your righteousness preserve my  
life.

⌋ **Waw**

**41**

May your unfailing love come to me, Lord, your salvation,  
according to your promise;

**42**

then I can answer anyone who taunts me, for I trust in your  
word.

**43**

Never take your word of truth from my mouth, for I have put my  
hope in your laws.

**44**

I will always obey your law, for ever and ever.

**45**

I will walk about in freedom, for I have sought out your precepts.

**46**

I will speak of your statutes before kings and will not be put to  
shame,

**47**

for I delight in your commands because I love them.

**48**

I reach out for your commands, which I love, that I may meditate  
on your decrees.

† **Zayin**

**49**

Remember your word to your servant, for you have given me  
hope.

**50**

My comfort in my suffering is this: Your promise preserves my  
life.

**51**

The arrogant mock me unmercifully, but I do not turn from your  
law.

**52**

I remember, Lord, your ancient laws, and I find comfort in them.

**53**

Indignation grips me because of the wicked, who have forsaken  
your law.

**54**

Your decrees are the theme of my song wherever I lodge.

**55**

In the night, Lord, I remember your name, that I may keep your  
law.

**56**

This has been my practice: I obey your precepts.

**7 Heth**

**57**

You are my portion, Lord; I have promised to obey your words.

**58**

I have sought your face with all my heart; be gracious to me according to your promise.

**59**

I have considered my ways and have turned my steps to your statutes.

**60**

I will hasten and not delay to obey your commands.

**61**

Though the wicked bind me with ropes, I will not forget your law.

**62**

At midnight I rise to give you thanks for your righteous laws.

**63**

I am a friend to all who fear you, to all who follow your precepts.

**64**

The earth is filled with your love, Lord; teach me your decrees.

**7 Teth**

**65**

Do good to your servant according to your word, Lord.

**66**

Teach me knowledge and good judgment, for I trust your commands.

**67**

Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I obey your word.

**68**

You are good, and what you do is good; teach me your decrees.

**69**

Though the arrogant have smeared me with lies, I keep your precepts with all my heart.

**70**

Their hearts are callous and unfeeling, but I delight in your law.

**71**

It was good for me to be afflicted so that I might learn your decrees.

**72**

The law from your mouth is more precious to me than thousands of pieces of silver and gold.

› **Yodh**

**73**

Your hands made me and formed me;            give me understanding to learn your commands.

**74**

May those who fear you rejoice when they see me,            for I have put my hope in your word.

**75**

I know, Lord, that your laws are righteous,            and that in faithfulness you have afflicted me.

**76**

May your unfailing love be my comfort,            according to your promise to your servant.

**77**

Let your compassion come to me that I may live,            for your law is my delight.

**78**

May the arrogant be put to shame for wronging me without cause;            but I will meditate on your precepts.

**79**

May those who fear you turn to me,            those who understand your statutes.

**80**

May I wholeheartedly follow your decrees,            that I may not be put to shame.

› **Kaph**

**81**

My soul faints with longing for your salvation,            but I have put my hope in your word.

**82**

My eyes fail, looking for your promise;            I say, "When will you comfort me?"

**83**

Though I am like a wineskin in the smoke,            I do not forget your decrees.

**84**

How long must your servant wait?            When will you punish my persecutors?

**85**

The arrogant dig pits to trap me,            contrary to your law.

**86**

All your commands are trustworthy; help me, for I am being  
persecuted without cause.

**87**

They almost wiped me from the earth, but I have not forsaken  
your precepts.

**88**

In your unfailing love preserve my life, that I may obey the  
statutes of your mouth.

↳ **Lamedh**

**89**

Your word, Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens.

**90**

Your faithfulness continues through all generations; you  
established the earth, and it endures.

**91**

Your laws endure to this day, for all things serve you.

**92**

If your law had not been my delight, I would have perished in my  
affliction.

**93**

I will never forget your precepts, for by them you have preserved  
my life.

**94**

Save me, for I am yours; I have sought out your precepts.

**95**

The wicked are waiting to destroy me, but I will ponder your  
statutes.

**96**

To all perfection I see a limit, but your commands are boundless.

↳ **Mem**

**97**

Oh, how I love your law! I meditate on it all day long.

**98**

Your commands are always with me and make me wiser than my  
enemies.

**99**

I have more insight than all my teachers, for I meditate on your  
statutes.

**100**

I have more understanding than the elders, for I obey your  
precepts.

**101**

I have kept my feet from every evil path so that I might obey  
your word.

**102**

I have not departed from your laws, for you yourself have taught  
me.

**103**

How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my  
mouth!

**104**

I gain understanding from your precepts; therefore I hate every  
wrong path.

׃ **Nun**

**105**

Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

**106**

I have taken an oath and confirmed it, that I will follow your  
righteous laws.

**107**

I have suffered much; preserve my life, Lord, according to your  
word.

**108**

Accept, Lord, the willing praise of my mouth, and teach me your  
laws.

**109**

Though I constantly take my life in my hands, I will not forget  
your law.

**110**

The wicked have set a snare for me, but I have not strayed from  
your precepts.

**111**

Your statutes are my heritage forever; they are the joy of my  
heart.

**112**

My heart is set on keeping your decrees to the very end. **[d]**

ׁ **Samekh**

**113**

I hate double-minded people, but I love your law.

**114**

You are my refuge and my shield; I have put my hope in your  
word.

**115**

Away from me, you evildoers, that I may keep the commands of my God!

**116**

Sustain me, my God, according to your promise, and I will live; do not let my hopes be dashed.

**117**

Uphold me, and I will be delivered; I will always have regard for your decrees.

**118**

You reject all who stray from your decrees, for their delusions come to nothing.

**119**

All the wicked of the earth you discard like dross; therefore I love your statutes.

**120**

My flesh trembles in fear of you; I stand in awe of your laws.

» **Ayin**

**121**

I have done what is righteous and just; do not leave me to my oppressors.

**122**

Ensure your servant's well-being; do not let the arrogant oppress me.

**123**

My eyes fail, looking for your salvation, looking for your righteous promise.

**124**

Deal with your servant according to your love and teach me your decrees.

**125**

I am your servant; give me discernment that I may understand your statutes.

**126**

It is time for you to act, Lord; your law is being broken.

**127**

Because I love your commands more than gold, more than pure gold,

**128**

and because I consider all your precepts right, I hate every wrong path.

» **Pe**

**129**

Your statutes are wonderful; therefore I obey them.

**130**

The unfolding of your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.

**131**

I open my mouth and pant, longing for your commands.

**132**

Turn to me and have mercy on me, as you always do to those who love your name.

**133**

Direct my footsteps according to your word; let no sin rule over me.

**134**

Redeem me from human oppression, that I may obey your precepts.

**135**

Make your face shine on your servant and teach me your decrees.

**136**

Streams of tears flow from my eyes, for your law is not obeyed.

⚡ **Tsadhe**

**137**

You are righteous, Lord, and your laws are right.

**138**

The statutes you have laid down are righteous; they are fully trustworthy.

**139**

My zeal wears me out, for my enemies ignore your words.

**140**

Your promises have been thoroughly tested, and your servant loves them.

**141**

Though I am lowly and despised, I do not forget your precepts.

**142**

Your righteousness is everlasting and your law is true.

**143**

Trouble and distress have come upon me, but your commands give me delight.

**144**

Your statutes are always righteous; give me understanding that I may live.

⚡ **Qoph**

**145**

I call with all my heart; answer me, Lord, and I will obey your decrees.

**146**

I call out to you; save me and I will keep your statutes.

**147**

I rise before dawn and cry for help; I have put my hope in your word.

**148**

My eyes stay open through the watches of the night, that I may meditate on your promises.

**149**

Hear my voice in accordance with your love; preserve my life, Lord, according to your laws.

**150**

Those who devise wicked schemes are near, but they are far from your law.

**151**

Yet you are near, Lord, and all your commands are true.

**152**

Long ago I learned from your statutes that you established them to last forever.

↯ **Resh**

**153**

Look on my suffering and deliver me, for I have not forgotten your law.

**154**

Defend my cause and redeem me; preserve my life according to your promise.

**155**

Salvation is far from the wicked, for they do not seek out your decrees.

**156**

Your compassion, Lord, is great; preserve my life according to your laws.

**157**

Many are the foes who persecute me, but I have not turned from your statutes.

**158**

I look on the faithless with loathing, for they do not obey your word.

**159**

See how I love your precepts; preserve my life, Lord, in  
accordance with your love.

**160**

All your words are true; all your righteous laws are eternal.

⚔ **Sin and Shin**

**161**

Rulers persecute me without cause, but my heart trembles at  
your word.

**162**

I rejoice in your promise like one who finds great spoil.

**163**

I hate and detest falsehood but I love your law.

**164**

Seven times a day I praise you for your righteous laws.

**165**

Great peace have those who love your law, and nothing can make  
them stumble.

**166**

I wait for your salvation, Lord, and I follow your commands.

**167**

I obey your statutes, for I love them greatly.

**168**

I obey your precepts and your statutes, for all my ways are  
known to you.

⚔ **Taw**

**169**

May my cry come before you, Lord; give me understanding  
according to your word.

**170**

May my supplication come before you; deliver me according to  
your promise.

**171**

May my lips overflow with praise, for you teach me your decrees.

**172**

May my tongue sing of your word, for all your commands are  
righteous.

**173**

May your hand be ready to help me, for I have chosen your  
precepts.

**174**

I long for your salvation, Lord, and your law gives me delight.

**175**

Let me live that I may praise you, and may your laws sustain me.

**176**

I have strayed like a lost sheep. Seek your servant, for I have not forgotten your commands.

**Proverbs 1:8-9**

**8**

Listen, my son, to your father's instruction and do not forsake your mother's teaching.

**9**

They are a garland to grace your head and a chain to adorn your neck.

**Proverbs 3:1**

**3**

My son, do not forget my teaching, but keep my commands in your heart,

**Proverbs 4:2-4**

**2**

I give you sound learning, so do not forsake my teaching.

**3**

For I too was a son to my father, still tender, and cherished by my mother.

**4**

Then he taught me, and he said to me, "Take hold of my words with all your heart; keep my commands, and you will live.

**Proverbs 6:20**

**20**

My son, keep your father's command and do not forsake your mother's teaching.

**Proverbs 6:23**

**23**

For this command is a lamp, this teaching is a light, and correction and instruction are the way to life,

**Proverbs 9:9-12**

**9**

Instruct the wise and they will be wiser still; teach the righteous and they will add to their learning.

**10**

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

**11**

For through wisdom[**a**] your days will be many, and years will be added to your life.

**12**

If you are wise, your wisdom will reward you; if you are a mocker, you alone will suffer.

### **Proverbs 13:14**

**14**

The teaching of the wise is a fountain of life, turning a person from the snares of death.

### **Isaiah 48:17-19**

**17**

This is what the Lord says— your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: "I am the Lord your God, who teaches you what is best for you, who directs you in the way you should go.

**18**

If only you had paid attention to my commands, your peace would have been like a river, your well-being like the waves of the sea.

**19**

Your descendants would have been like the sand, your children like its numberless grains; their name would never be blotted out nor destroyed from before me."

### **2 Timothy 3:16**

**16** All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,

### **1 Kings 8:23-53**

**23** and said:

"Lord, the God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth below—you who keep your covenant of love with your servants who continue wholeheartedly in your way. **24** You have kept your promise to your servant David my father; with your mouth you have promised and with your hand you have fulfilled it—as it is today.

**25** "Now Lord, the God of Israel, keep for your servant David my father the promises you made to him when you said, 'You shall never

fail to have a successor to sit before me on the throne of Israel, if only your descendants are careful in all they do to walk before me faithfully as you have done.' **26** And now, God of Israel, let your word that you promised your servant David my father come true.

**27** "But will God really dwell on earth? The heavens, even the highest heaven, cannot contain you. How much less this temple I have built!

**28** Yet give attention to your servant's prayer and his plea for mercy, Lord my God. Hear the cry and the prayer that your servant is praying in your presence this day. **29** May your eyes be open toward this temple night and day, this place of which you said, 'My Name shall be there,' so that you will hear the prayer your servant prays toward this place. **30** Hear the supplication of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray toward this place. Hear from heaven, your dwelling place, and when you hear, forgive.

**31** "When anyone wrongs their neighbor and is required to take an oath and they come and swear the oath before your altar in this temple, **32** then hear from heaven and act. Judge between your servants, condemning the guilty by bringing down on their heads what they have done, and vindicating the innocent by treating them in accordance with their innocence.

**33** "When your people Israel have been defeated by an enemy because they have sinned against you, and when they turn back to you and give praise to your name, praying and making supplication to you in this temple, **34** then hear from heaven and forgive the sin of your people Israel and bring them back to the land you gave to their ancestors.

**35** "When the heavens are shut up and there is no rain because your people have sinned against you, and when they pray toward this place and give praise to your name and turn from their sin because you have afflicted them, **36** then hear from heaven and forgive the sin of your servants, your people Israel. Teach them the right way to live, and send rain on the land you gave your people for an inheritance.

**37** "When famine or plague comes to the land, or blight or mildew, locusts or grasshoppers, or when an enemy besieges them in any of their cities, whatever disaster or disease may come, **38** and when a prayer or plea is made by anyone among your people Israel—being aware of the afflictions of their own hearts, and spreading out their hands toward this temple— **39** then hear from heaven, your dwelling

place. Forgive and act; deal with everyone according to all they do, since you know their hearts (for you alone know every human heart), **40** so that they will fear you all the time they live in the land you gave our ancestors.

**41** “As for the foreigner who does not belong to your people Israel but has come from a distant land because of your name— **42** for they will hear of your great name and your mighty hand and your outstretched arm—when they come and pray toward this temple, **43** then hear from heaven, your dwelling place. Do whatever the foreigner asks of you, so that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your own people Israel, and may know that this house I have built bears your Name.

**44** “When your people go to war against their enemies, wherever you send them, and when they pray to the Lord toward the city you have chosen and the temple I have built for your Name, **45** then hear from heaven their prayer and their plea, and uphold their cause.

**46** “When they sin against you—for there is no one who does not sin—and you become angry with them and give them over to their enemies, who take them captive to their own lands, far away or near; **47** and if they have a change of heart in the land where they are held captive, and repent and plead with you in the land of their captors and say, ‘We have sinned, we have done wrong, we have acted wickedly’; **48** and if they turn back to you with all their heart and soul in the land of their enemies who took them captive, and pray to you toward the land you gave their ancestors, toward the city you have chosen and the temple I have built for your Name; **49** then from heaven, your dwelling place, hear their prayer and their plea, and uphold their cause. **50** And forgive your people, who have sinned against you; forgive all the offenses they have committed against you, and cause their captors to show them mercy; **51** for they are your people and your inheritance, whom you brought out of Egypt, out of that iron-smelting furnace.

**52** “May your eyes be open to your servant’s plea and to the plea of your people Israel, and may you listen to them whenever they cry out to you. **53** For you singled them out from all the nations of the world to be your own inheritance, just as you declared through your servant Moses when you, Sovereign Lord, brought our ancestors out of Egypt.”

### **Daniel 9:4-19**

**4** I prayed to the Lord my God and confessed:

“Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with those who love him and keep his commandments, **5** we have sinned and done wrong. We have been wicked and have rebelled; we have turned away from your commands and laws. **6** We have not listened to your servants the prophets, who spoke in your name to our kings, our princes and our ancestors, and to all the people of the land.

**7** “Lord, you are righteous, but this day we are covered with shame—the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem and all Israel, both near and far, in all the countries where you have scattered us because of our unfaithfulness to you. **8** We and our kings, our princes and our ancestors are covered with shame, Lord, because we have sinned against you. **9** The Lord our God is merciful and forgiving, even though we have rebelled against him; **10** we have not obeyed the Lord our God or kept the laws he gave us through his servants the prophets. **11** All Israel has transgressed your law and turned away, refusing to obey you.

“Therefore the curses and sworn judgments written in the Law of Moses, the servant of God, have been poured out on us, because we have sinned against you. **12** You have fulfilled the words spoken against us and against our rulers by bringing on us great disaster. Under the whole heaven nothing has ever been done like what has been done to Jerusalem. **13** Just as it is written in the Law of Moses, all this disaster has come on us, yet we have not sought the favor of the Lord our God by turning from our sins and giving attention to your truth. **14** The Lord did not hesitate to bring the disaster on us, for the Lord our God is righteous in everything he does; yet we have not obeyed him.

**15** “Now, Lord our God, who brought your people out of Egypt with a mighty hand and who made for yourself a name that endures to this day, we have sinned, we have done wrong. **16** Lord, in keeping with all your righteous acts, turn away your anger and your wrath from Jerusalem, your city, your holy hill. Our sins and the iniquities of our ancestors have made Jerusalem and your people an object of scorn to all those around us.

**17** “Now, our God, hear the prayers and petitions of your servant. For your sake, Lord, look with favor on your desolate sanctuary. **18** Give ear, our God, and hear; open your eyes and see the desolation of the city that bears your Name. We do not make requests of you because we are righteous, but because of your great mercy. **19** Lord, listen! Lord, forgive! Lord, hear and act! For your sake, my God, do not delay,

because your city and your people bear your Name.”

**Nehemiah 9:5-37**

**5** And the Levites—Jeshua, Kadmiel, Bani, Hashabneiah, Sherebiah, Hodiah, Shebaniah and Pethahiah—said: “Stand up and praise the Lord your God, who is from everlasting to everlasting.**[a]**”

“Blessed be your glorious name, and may it be exalted above all blessing and praise. **6** You alone are the Lord. You made the heavens, even the highest heavens, and all their starry host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. You give life to everything, and the multitudes of heaven worship you.

**7** “You are the Lord God, who chose Abram and brought him out of Ur of the Chaldeans and named him Abraham. **8** You found his heart faithful to you, and you made a covenant with him to give to his descendants the land of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Jebusites and Girgashites. You have kept your promise because you are righteous.

**9** “You saw the suffering of our ancestors in Egypt; you heard their cry at the Red Sea.**[b]** **10** You sent signs and wonders against Pharaoh, against all his officials and all the people of his land, for you knew how arrogantly the Egyptians treated them. You made a name for yourself, which remains to this day. **11** You divided the sea before them, so that they passed through it on dry ground, but you hurled their pursuers into the depths, like a stone into mighty waters. **12** By day you led them with a pillar of cloud, and by night with a pillar of fire to give them light on the way they were to take.

**13** “You came down on Mount Sinai; you spoke to them from heaven. You gave them regulations and laws that are just and right, and decrees and commands that are good. **14** You made known to them your holy Sabbath and gave them commands, decrees and laws through your servant Moses. **15** In their hunger you gave them bread from heaven and in their thirst you brought them water from the rock; you told them to go in and take possession of the land you had sworn with uplifted hand to give them.

**16** “But they, our ancestors, became arrogant and stiff-necked, and they did not obey your commands. **17** They refused to listen and failed to remember the miracles you performed among them. They became stiff-necked and in their rebellion appointed a leader in order to return

to their slavery. But you are a forgiving God, gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love. Therefore you did not desert them, **18** even when they cast for themselves an image of a calf and said, 'This is your god, who brought you up out of Egypt,' or when they committed awful blasphemies.

**19** "Because of your great compassion you did not abandon them in the wilderness. By day the pillar of cloud did not fail to guide them on their path, nor the pillar of fire by night to shine on the way they were to take. **20** You gave your good Spirit to instruct them. You did not withhold your manna from their mouths, and you gave them water for their thirst. **21** For forty years you sustained them in the wilderness; they lacked nothing, their clothes did not wear out nor did their feet become swollen.

**22** "You gave them kingdoms and nations, allotting to them even the remotest frontiers. They took over the country of Sihon[c] king of Heshbon and the country of Og king of Bashan. **23** You made their children as numerous as the stars in the sky, and you brought them into the land that you told their parents to enter and possess. **24** Their children went in and took possession of the land. You subdued before them the Canaanites, who lived in the land; you gave the Canaanites into their hands, along with their kings and the peoples of the land, to deal with them as they pleased. **25** They captured fortified cities and fertile land; they took possession of houses filled with all kinds of good things, wells already dug, vineyards, olive groves and fruit trees in abundance. They ate to the full and were well-nourished; they reveled in your great goodness.

**26** "But they were disobedient and rebelled against you; they turned their backs on your law. They killed your prophets, who had warned them in order to turn them back to you; they committed awful blasphemies. **27** So you delivered them into the hands of their enemies, who oppressed them. But when they were oppressed they cried out to you. From heaven you heard them, and in your great compassion you gave them deliverers, who rescued them from the hand of their enemies.

**28** "But as soon as they were at rest, they again did what was evil in your sight. Then you abandoned them to the hand of their enemies so that they ruled over them. And when they cried out to you again, you heard from heaven, and in your compassion you delivered them time after time.

**29** “You warned them in order to turn them back to your law, but they became arrogant and disobeyed your commands. They sinned against your ordinances, of which you said, ‘The person who obeys them will live by them.’ Stubbornly they turned their backs on you, became stiff-necked and refused to listen. **30** For many years you were patient with them. By your Spirit you warned them through your prophets. Yet they paid no attention, so you gave them into the hands of the neighboring peoples. **31** But in your great mercy you did not put an end to them or abandon them, for you are a gracious and merciful God.

**32** “Now therefore, our God, the great God, mighty and awesome, who keeps his covenant of love, do not let all this hardship seem trifling in your eyes—the hardship that has come on us, on our kings and leaders, on our priests and prophets, on our ancestors and all your people, from the days of the kings of Assyria until today. **33** In all that has happened to us, you have remained righteous; you have acted faithfully, while we acted wickedly. **34** Our kings, our leaders, our priests and our ancestors did not follow your law; they did not pay attention to your commands or the statutes you warned them to keep. **35** Even while they were in their kingdom, enjoying your great goodness to them in the spacious and fertile land you gave them, they did not serve you or turn from their evil ways.

**36** “But see, we are slaves today, slaves in the land you gave our ancestors so they could eat its fruit and the other good things it produces. **37** Because of our sins, its abundant harvest goes to the kings you have placed over us. They rule over our bodies and our cattle as they please. We are in great distress.

### **John 17**

**17** After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed:

“Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. **2** For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. **3** Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. **4** I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do. **5** And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began.

**6** “I have revealed you[**a**] to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. **7** Now they know that everything you have given me

comes from you. **8** For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. **9** I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. **10** All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them. **11** I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of **[b]** your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one. **12** While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by **[c]** that name you gave me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled.

**13** "I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them. **14** I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. **15** My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. **16** They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. **17** Sanctify them by **[d]** the truth; your word is truth. **18** As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. **19** For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.

**20** "My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, **21** that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. **22** I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one— **23** I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

**24** "Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world.

**25** "Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me. **26** I have made you **[e]** known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them."

### **John 11:41-42**

**41** So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said,

“Father, I thank you that you have heard me. **42** I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me.”