



# The Prayer Courses

## Talking With Your Heavenly Father

# **Talking With Your Heavenly Father Textbook**

## **Week One Day One**

### **Welcome**

#### **Ignore Past Failures**

You and all kinds of other people have probably tried to help solve your problem with life; now you are looking to HELP eMagazine as a source of help. You may be wondering what kind of help we can possibly offer. You probably have been treated a lot of different ways, as you reached out for help.

#### **Ignore Past Attempts**

Some may have spoken to you as friends who felt they knew what you needed. Others may have approached you as being superior or judges over you and thought you should be able to simply “get over it.” “Experts” may have taken you through systems that appeared to be real answers and solutions. But, even though the things they offered you made sense, you appeared to be too weak or inadequate to live up to their advice.

#### **Ignore Past Weaknesses**

You probably have tried to help yourself by putting out all kinds of efforts. You probably have reasoned, got determined, pressured, condemned, and done all kinds of things to yourself. But, neither you nor anyone else has been able to bring complete, permanent, and transforming help to you.

### **Who Do We Think We Are?**

#### **Truth Gets Results**

This is going to sound strange; but, we know we can't help you. This is because we weren't able to help ourselves; however, we know Jesus Who proved to be powerful, loving, caring, and wise enough to do what no one else could do for us. We are coming to you as people who are just like you; the difference is that we had what you have and now can share with you how we got rid of it.

#### **Results Is What We Are All Looking For**

We don't feel superior to you; we aren't coming to you as “know it all's.” We just want to share with you how Jesus helped us; we know how much pain and suffering you are going through. We all go through it before Jesus provides His help. The way we got the provisions of your heavenly Father through Jesus was, by people being willing to share Jesus' powerful help with us.

# **Pointing The Way**

## **Jesus Has A Plan**

There were certain steps we have had to take in order to get the help we needed. Jesus has a system He uses to help us all; and He wants to share these steps and that system with you. It isn't our "expert" opinion that we are presenting; instead, Jesus is helping us simply share our life with you. He is making available to you the things that have worked for us. We KNOW they will work just as well for you as they worked for us, because Jesus loves you just as much as He loves us. You are just as important to Him as we are; He wasn't any more desirous to set us free from our difficulties than He is for you.

## **We Know What We Are Talking About**

### **Results Brings Excitement**

The reason we are so excited and so desirous to share these things with you, is because of the incredible results we have personally experienced ourselves. At this point, it would be extremely difficult to help you see ALL the benefits and blessings that have come our way through Jesus; but, we will be sharing these miracles as we go along.

### **Jesus Replaces Pain With Joy And Happiness**

The most important and greatest miracle we want to share with you, right now, is the fact that we have been SET FREE from the issues that Jesus will be assisting you with. Those things that were causing us to suffer like you are suffering are being removed from our lives. AND, Jesus has been replacing those difficulties with things that have brought us wonderful experiences that bring the happiness and joy we have always wanted.

### **The Bible Is Jesus' Training Manual**

Jesus will be showing and teaching you principles straight from the Bible. He will be showing us certain verses that you need to consider and talk to Him about. He will show them to you; then you will be able to discuss them with your heavenly Father through prayer. So, now that we have looked at these beginning principles, let's pray and ask Jesus to install them in our lives.

## **Talking With Your Heavenly Father Workbook Week One Day One**

### **Welcome**

#### **Ignore Past Failures**

Jesus, the thing that hurt me was, I and all kinds of other people tried to help solve my problem with life. Now that I am looking to HELP eMagazine as a source of help, I am wondering what kind of help it can possibly offer. Since I have been treated a lot of different ways, as I reached out for help, it is difficult for me to believe ANYTHING can help me.

## **Ignore Past Attempts**

Jesus, help me see that as some spoke to me as a friend who felt they knew what I needed, they failed because they were using the wrong system. Others approached me as being superior or judges over me and thought I should be able to simply “get over it;” but, they didn’t understand the intensity of my problem. “Experts” have taken me through systems that appeared to be real answers and solutions. But, even though the things they offered me made sense, I appeared to be too weak or inadequate to live up to their advice.

## **Ignore Past Weaknesses**

Jesus, I tried to help myself by putting out all kinds of efforts. I have reasoned, got determined, pressured, condemned, and done all kinds of things to myself. But, neither I nor anyone else has been able to bring complete, permanent, and transforming help to me.

# **Who Do We Think We Are?**

## **Truth Gets Results**

Jesus, help it not sound strange when Your people tell me that they can’t help me. Help me understand that this is because they weren’t able to help themselves. Help me see that they are simply offering You, Who proved to be powerful, loving, caring, and wise enough to do what no one else could do for them. Show me that they are coming to me as people who are just like me; the difference is that they HAD what I HAVE and now can share with me how they got rid of it.

## **Results Is What We Are All Looking For**

Jesus, show me they don’t feel superior to me; they aren’t coming to me as “know it all’s.” Help me receive them as people who want to share with me how You helped them; help me see that they know how much pain and suffering I am going through. Teach me that we all go through this kind of pain before You provide Your help. Show me that the way they got the provisions of their heavenly Father through You was, by people being willing to share Your powerful help with them. Help me be willing to get Your help through these people who have yielded to You.

# **Pointing The Way**

## **Jesus Has A Plan**

Jesus, teach me that there are steps I must take to get the help I need. You have a system You use to help me; and You want to share these steps and system with me. Help me see that it isn’t coming from human’s “expert” opinion; instead, You are helping people simply share their life with me.

You are making available to me the things that have worked for others. Help me KNOW that they will work just as well for me as they worked for them. Show me that this is because You love me just as much as You love them. Help me feel that I am just as important to You as they are; You aren't any more desirous to set them free from their difficulties than You are for me.

## **We Know What We Are Talking About**

### **Results Brings Excitement**

Jesus, make it clear to me that the reason they are so excited and so desirous to share these things with me, is because of the incredible results they have personally experienced themselves. Even though it would be extremely difficult to help me see ALL the benefits and blessings that have come their way through You, help me be looking for these miracles as I go along.

### **Jesus Replaces Pain With Joy And Happiness**

Jesus, help me see that the most important and greatest miracle they want to share with me, right now, is the fact that they have been SET FREE. They have been freed from the issues that You will be assisting me with. Help me understand that those things that were causing them to suffer like I am suffering, are being removed from their lives. AND, You have been replacing these difficulties with things that have brought them wonderful experiences. These experiences are bringing them the happiness and joy we all have always wanted. Help me accept this into my heart, so I can experience the happiness and joy You have brought into their lives.

### **The Bible Is Jesus' Training Manual**

Jesus, as You show and teach me principles straight from the Bible, help me honor, respect, and put my complete trust in its truths. As You show me certain verses that I need to consider and talk to You about, help me see how to receive those truths into my life. As You show them to me, help me discuss them with my heavenly Father through prayer.

# **Talking With Your Heavenly Father Textbook**

## **Week One Day Two**

### **Get Excited**

**James 1:2-4 (NIV)** Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

### **They're Killing Me!**

#### **See Your Problem As A Life-Class**

Right now you are probably seeing your problems and issues as being things that are trying to destroy you. They may be causing you to feel weak, defeated, and like a failure. But, Jesus wants you to understand that we had these same types of problems that you have and God made them our strengths. Jesus, helped us look at them as life-classes; they were used to teach us how to win over life's issues. He helped us use the breakthroughs we got through winning over them to teach us how to help lots of other people.

#### **See Yourself As Similar To Everyone Else**

Jesus, helped us work very hard to provide these things for you because we remember how much these things hurt us. That memory of pain has built a lot of love, compassion, and understanding in us. Since Jesus helped us see these issues and problems as life-classes, we allowed Him to teach us incredible principles through them. In other words, all that suffering and failure has been turned into a motivation and a training that we now are able to share with you.

### **Be Able To Grow Strong**

#### **You Are Not A Victim**

Those things that currently look like they are taking you down, Jesus is able to use to help you learn how to win over and defeat. Power from God will pour into you and make you able to beat things that looked like they were beating you. The reason we know this is true is because it happened to us. Jesus used our situations of life to practice on so we could learn powerful spiritual principles. Once we stopped seeing ourselves as victims, we were able to become victors.

#### **There Is Nothing To Fear**

We hoped bad things wouldn't happen to us; because, if it did, we only knew how to try to weather the storm. We didn't know that we were empowered to HANDLE the storm. We now have a confidence and esteem that came out of a battle that we were able to win. We were able to move from great weakness, pain, defeat, sorrow, and doubt, into a power and victory we NEVER thought possible. We were in a condition that seemed to make it impossible for us to be able to do anything about our situation; but, we were wrong! Jesus taught us how to take the impossible and make it possible.

# **Be Able To Get A New Opinion**

## **Things Are Different Now**

We didn't see any hope for being able to be helped; but, Jesus started speaking to our damaged heart and causing it to hope again, believe again, try again, and look to the future again. It wasn't easy; we had to reach out at a time when we didn't feel like doing anything. It looked like this condition was going to be our way of life for the rest of our life.

## **We Have Jesus**

Jesus offered us a system that helped us open our heart and pour out all the pain, failure, weakness, and doubt. He allowed us to tell Him all about what we were going through. He entered into a communication with us that not only listened and sympathized with us, He started giving us ideas, feelings, and power to get help with all that pain, failure, weakness, and doubt.

## **Prayer**

### **God Responds To Our Prayers**

This process called prayer was and still is the spiritual procedure that God provided us that gave us all the results we have today. It was and is the way for us to open our heart and tell God all about how we felt, what we thought, and what we would like to have happen to us. It was and is so powerful that it gradually healed every area of our heart; and, it started to bring great events into our life.

### **God Provides Prayer Examples**

We tried to get this type of healing by talking to our friends, counselors, or thinking it through in our mind. However, none of these methods were as powerful and effective as prayer. Jesus is going to be offering you some prayer examples for you to use to talk to your heavenly Father with. They are prayers God handpicked from David and other great people of prayer to put in His Bible.

### **Jesus Will Guide Our Prayers**

Jesus will be using David's prayer examples to help you see HOW to pray and WHAT to pray to your heavenly Father. He will be using the book of James as our guide for selecting these prayers. James was trained by Jesus personally; he was used by God to write the book of James in the Bible; and, he is a great teacher who yielded to the powerful influence of the Holy Spirit. So, let's move on into our workbook and get started praying about those things we have learned so far.

# Talking With Your Heavenly Father Workbook

## Week One Day Two

### Get Excited

Jesus, help me realize that I am facing a life-class that is giving me an opportunity to learn how to win at life. Help me to be so excited about this opportunity that I **consider it pure joy, whenever I face trials of many kinds**, help me **know that the testing of my faith develops perseverance**. Then help me understand that **perseverance must finish its work so that I may be mature and complete, not lacking anything (James 1:2-4)**.

### They're Killing Me!

#### See Your Problem As A Life-Class

Jesus, most of the time I see my problems and issues as being things that are trying to hurt or destroy me. They cause me to feel weak, defeated, and like a failure. Help me understand that others have had these same types of problems; and, You made them their strengths. You helped them look at them as life-classes; they were used to teach them how to win over life's issues. You helped them use the breakthroughs they got through winning over life's issues to help others. Help me see the challenges in my life as life-classes; use them to teach me how to win.

#### See Yourself As Similar To Everyone Else

Jesus, I thank You for helping people work very hard to provide these things for me. They do it because they remember how much these things hurt them. You used that memory of pain to build a lot of love, compassion, and understanding in them. Since You helped them see these issues and problems as life-classes, they allowed You to teach them incredible principles through these challenges. Help me be able to turn all my suffering and failure into a motivation and a training that I will be able to share with others.

### Be Able To Grow Strong

#### You Are Not A Victim

Jesus, teach me that those things that currently look like they are taking me down, You are able to use to help me learn how to win over and defeat. Show me that power from God will pour into me and make me able to beat things that looked like they were beating me. Help me see that the reason I can know this is true is because it has happened to others. You used their situations of life to help them practice on; and, you did it so they could learn powerful spiritual principles. Teach me that once I stop seeing myself as a victim, I will be able to become a victor.



## **There Is Nothing To Fear**

Jesus, in the past, I hoped bad things wouldn't happen to me; because, if it did, I only knew how to try to weather the storm. I didn't know that I had been empowered to HANDLE the storm. I now have a confidence and esteem that came out of a battle that I was able to win. You are empowering me to move from great weakness, pain, defeat, sorrow, and doubt, into a power and victory I NEVER thought possible. I have been in conditions that seemed to make it impossible for me to be able to do anything about them; but, I was wrong! You are teaching me how to take the impossible and make it possible.

## **Be Able To Get A New Opinion**

### **Things Are Different Now**

Jesus, there have been times when I didn't see any hope for being able to be helped; but, You started speaking to my damaged heart and causing it to hope again, believe again, try again, and look to the future again. It isn't easy; I have to reach out at a time when I don't feel like doing anything. It looks like the condition is going to be my way of life for the rest of my life.

## **We Have Jesus**

Jesus, help me see that You are offering me a system that helps me open my heart and pour out all the pain, failure, weakness, and doubt. Show me that You allow me to tell You all about what I am going through. You are willing to enter into a communication with me that not only listens and sympathizes with me, You will start giving me ideas, feelings, and power to get help with all that pain, failure, weakness, and doubt.

## **Prayer**

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Jesus, teach me that this process called prayer is the spiritual procedure that God provided for me; it is the procedure that has given me all the results I have so far. It was and is the way for me to open my heart and tell God all about how I feel, what I think, and what I would like to have happen to me. It is so powerful that it will gradually heal every area of my heart; and, it has already started to bring great events into my life.

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Jesus, I tried to get this type of healing by talking to my friends, counselors, or thinking it through in my mind. However, teach me that none of these methods are as powerful and effective as prayer. You are going to be offering me some prayer examples for me to use to talk to my heavenly Father with. Help me understand that they are prayers God handpicked from David and other great people of prayer to put in His Bible.

## **Jesus Will Guide Our Prayers**

Jesus, use David's prayer examples to help me see HOW to pray and WHAT to pray to my heavenly Father. Use the Book of James as my guide for selecting these prayers. Help me understand that James was trained by You personally; he was used by God to write the Book of James in the Bible; and, he is a great teacher who yielded to the powerful influence of the Holy Spirit. Give me a total respect for this Book as being You speaking through him.

# Talking With Your Heavenly Father Textbook

## Week One Day Three

### Knowledge, Understanding, And Wisdom

**James 1:5 (NIV)** If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ASK God, Who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. To have a knowledge of God's truth is to be aware of what He said. To have an understanding of God's truth is to have the true meaning of what He said. To have wisdom of God's truth is to know how to apply what God meant to your life. You can't understand the meaning until you know what the truth is. You can't wisely apply it to your life, if you don't know what God's truth means.

### God-Wisdom

#### It Is A Supernatural Wisdom

The wisest people in all the world do not know anything in comparison to God. He has knowledge, foreknowledge of the future, understanding, and wisdom that are greater than all humans put together. Jesus, is helping us discover that God is willing to help us live on the basis of His information, His understanding of how things really are, and His abilities to take all that information and understanding and apply it wisely to our lives.

#### It Is A Life-Transforming Wisdom

Jesus is helping us find out that all we have to do is start asking God for these things; and, if we do, He will respond to us by giving them to us. Jesus is helping us discover that taking classes and getting trained helps us be able to do things we weren't able to do before. After training, people are able to be doctors, pilots, teachers, scientists, and all kinds of other professions. We can allow ourselves to be trained by God; and, we will learn how to live successful, victorious lives as doctors, pilots, teachers, scientists, and all kinds of other professions.

### Getting Permission

#### Why Do We Need To Pray For Wisdom?

If someone does something to us without our permission, we are offended; we feel like our rights have been violated by that person. God made us like that because He wants us to be free individuals that are able to decide the course of our own destiny. He waits until we give Him permission BEFORE He starts supplying His information, understanding, and wisdom to us.

#### Why Do We Need To Want Wisdom?

You are entering into a program with HELP eMagazine and with Jesus that spends a lot of time trying to help you see how wonderful the things of God are. Rather than you being told what to think, what to believe, and what to do, Jesus and the Bible will be trying to help you WANT to receive what God has to offer. Jesus will be providing you with prayers you can use to let God know you want His help. When you pray and ask for something, you are giving God YOUR permission to provide you with those things BECAUSE YOU WANT THEM.

# God's Generosity

## Your Prayers Limit God's Generosity

One of the reasons we suffer and lose at life, and, one of the reasons it seems like God isn't willing to do anything about it is, because we haven't given Him permission to do those things for us. What God actually does is, put together major systems, provisions, and supplies; but, they are only available to those who ask for them.

## It's All Free

Only having to ask for the provisions of God makes them free; but, having to ask for them makes them permission based. If the only people who get all the provisions of God are people who ask for them, then the only people who have them are people who want them. Once we start praying and asking God for things, we find God to be very generous, loving, and understanding.

## Your Free Will Limits God's Generosity

The next issue is what to ask for; we need to realize that another reason we suffer with issues like life difficulties is because we don't have the information, understanding, and wisdom from God that we need. He HAS the solutions in the Bible that COULD solve all these problems in our life. But, because God made us free individuals, we are allowed, by God, to make our own decisions to study or not study, none of HIS THINGS will be forced on us.

## God's Free Will Limits His Generosity

Our body, the world, and the devil may try to force things on us; but, God never will. He could force His generosity on us, trick us into accepting it, or scare us into taking it. But, His attitudes are good, pure, honoring, and loving in His relationship with us. He has given us free, individual rights that HE never will take away. Even though He has incredible solutions in His Word that could bless us beyond our wildest dreams, our right to be free as an individual is one of His top priorities.

# Talking With Your Heavenly Father Workbook

## Week One Day Three

## Knowledge, Understanding, And Wisdom

Jesus, I **lack wisdom**, and, I now **ASK God, Who gives generously to me without finding fault, and I believe it will be given to me (James 1:5)**. Teach me that to have a knowledge of God's truth is to be aware of what He said. To have an understanding of God's truth is to have the true meaning of what He said. And, to have wisdom of God's truth is to know how to apply what God meant to your life. Show me that I can't understand the meaning until I know what the truth is. And, I can't wisely apply it to my life, if I don't know what God's truth means. Thank You for Your knowledge, understanding, and wisdom.

# God-Wisdom

## It Is A Supernatural Wisdom

Jesus, make it clear to me that the wisest people in all the world do not know anything in comparison to God. Help me understand that He has knowledge, foreknowledge of the future, understanding, and wisdom that are greater than all humans put together. Let me discover that God is willing to help me live on the basis of His information, His understanding of how things really are, and His abilities to take all that information and understanding and apply it wisely to my life. So, I ask You to fill me with Your knowledge, understanding, and wisdom on a continuous basis. I ask for it to flow into me like a river all day long every day.

## It Is A Life-Transforming Wisdom

Jesus, help me find out that all I have to do is start asking God for these things; and, if I do, He will respond to me by giving them to me. Help me discover that taking classes and getting trained help me be able to do things I wasn't able to do before. Show me that after training, people are able to be doctors, pilots, teachers, scientists, and all kinds of other professions. Show me that I can allow myself to be trained by God; and, I will learn how to live a successful, victorious life as a righteous doctor, pilot, teacher, scientist, or any other kind of profession.

## Getting Permission

### Why Do We Need To Pray For Wisdom?

Jesus, if someone does something to me without my permission, I am offended; I feel like my rights have been violated by that person; I am thankful that God made me like that. I am thankful that He did it because He wants me to be a free individual that is able to decide the course of my own destiny. Make it clear to me that He waits until I give Him permission BEFORE He starts supplying His information, understanding, and wisdom to me.

### Why Do We Need To Want Wisdom?

Jesus, as I enter into a program with HELP eMagazine and with You that spends a lot of time trying to help me see how wonderful the things of God are, help me appreciate it. Rather than me being told what to think, what to believe, and what to do, You and the Bible will be trying to help me WANT to receive what God has to offer. Help me appreciate the fact that You will be providing me with prayers I can use to let God know I want His help. Show me that when I pray and ask for something, I am giving God MY permission to provide me with those things BECAUSE I WANT THEM.

# **God's Generosity**

## **Your Prayers Limit God's Generosity**

Jesus, help me understand that one of the reasons I suffer and lose at life, and, one of the reasons it seems like God isn't willing to do anything about it is, because I haven't given Him permission to do those things for me. Teach me that what God actually does is, put together major systems, provisions, and supplies; but, they are only available to me if I ask for them.

## **It's All Free**

Jesus, teach me that by only having to ask for the provisions of God makes them free; but, having to ask for them makes them permission based. Help me understand that if the only people who get all the provisions of God are people who ask for them, then the only people who have them are people who want them. Help me start praying and asking God for things, so I can find God to be very generous, loving, and understanding.

## **Your Free Will Limits God's Generosity**

Jesus, as I enter into the next issue, teach me what to ask for; help me realize that another reason I suffer with issues like life difficulties is because I don't have the information, understanding, and wisdom from God that I need. Make it clear to me that He HAS the solutions in the Bible that COULD solve all these problems in my life. But, because God made me a free individual, I am allowed, by God, to make my own decisions to study or not study, none of HIS THINGS will be forced on me.

## **God's Free Will Limits His Generosity**

Jesus, my body, the world, and the devil may try to force things on me; but, help me realize that God never will. Help me understand that He could force His generosity on me, trick me into accepting it, or scare me into taking it. But, His attitudes are good, pure, honoring, and loving in His relationship with me. Help me never forget that He has given me free, individual rights that HE never will take away. Teach me that even though He has incredible solutions in His Word that could bless me beyond my wildest dreams, my right to be free as an individual is one of His top priorities.

# Talking With Your Heavenly Father Textbook

## Week One Day Four

### Getting Knowledge, Understanding, And Wisdom

**James 1:5 (NIV)** If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ASK God, Who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. Knowledge comes through studying the Bible; understanding comes through allowing the Holy Spirit to give you the meaning of each verse; and wisdom comes through asking for it.

### Making A Way For Knowledge, Understanding, And Wisdom

#### 1. By Identifying False Knowledge, Understanding, And Wisdom

We have all allowed books, magazines, videos, music, and people teach us things that we now accept as life-principles. We have been basing our life on certain beliefs that we have accepted as the right way to live our life. One of the first things you need to do is start challenging that belief system to see if it is helping or hurting you.

#### 2. By Praying Against False Knowledge, Understanding, And Wisdom

If you ask God, He will give you an ability that will help you be able to wisely examine all your belief systems. By praying for wisdom, you will be able to see the principles for life from a very powerful position. Wisdom from God will help you see what is helping you and what principles are hurting you.

#### 3. By Being Empowered To Resist Current Input

As a young person, you may not have had a choice as to who told you what to do, what to believe, and what to base your life on; but, now you do. Who are you going to allow to teach you, lead you, and structure you? You may feel like it doesn't matter who you listen to as long as they aren't talking about God and the things of God. But, there can be little comments, references, interjections, and attitudes that contaminate leader's, teacher's, or trainer's instructions. Let's see how to start praying for wisdom like the verse in James 1:5 is telling us to do.

### Getting Them By Choosing Who Counsels Or Teaches You

#### 1. Pray A Prayer That Closes Doors

**Psa 1:1 (NIV)** Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the WICKED or stand in the way of SINNERS or sit in the seat of MOCKERS.

One of the ways to pray for wisdom is to pray Psalms 1:1; it will give you vital issues to pray that will protect you from bad influences on your knowledge, understanding, and wisdom. This prayer may not seem like it is going to do much to help you be able to be healed from the problems of life; but, it is. You are getting God's power to close the door of your mind and heart to influences from people whose philosophies have or are hurting you.

## 2. Pray A Prayer That Opens Doors

Now let's take a look at the prayer that helps you get the right information to guide you, the kind of understanding that frees you, and the wisdom that heals you. **Psa 1:2 (NIV) But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on His law he meditates day and night.** None of us start off with a great delight in the principles of the Lord. We don't realize that these principles are going to set us free from our problems with life. But, as we see how wonderful our life becomes through the knowledge, understanding, and wisdom of God, we start wanting to meditate on them day and night.

## A Desire For Knowledge, Understanding, And Wisdom

### Building A Desire For Prayer

**Psa 1:3 (NIV) He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers.**

This verse describes the way God always treats you; He simply tells you, as a free individual, why you should be willing to ask for His help. He tries to help you start thinking about and meditating on the things that He has to offer you. He is trying to get you excited that His principles make you like a tree that is planted by streams of water. If you are willing to ask for His help in assisting you to start meditating on His principles day and night, it will be like life-giving water flowing into a tree's roots, into its trunk, into its branches, and then into its leaves. It will be like having a source of life that is unlimited and constantly available to you.

### Resisting A Desire For Prayer

**Psa 1:4 (NIV) Not so the wicked! They are like chaff that the wind blows away.** Few of us consider ourselves or our friends to be wicked; but, what we have to understand is that our own personal beliefs often hurt us and those around us; and, that is wicked. Even when we hurt ourselves and others ignorantly or accidentally the damage is just as painful and destructive; that brings wicked results.

Refusing, resisting, or neglecting prayer leaves us with things in our lives that are wicked. We need to see that prayer for God's principles help us not do wicked things ignorantly or accidentally. Another wicked act can be all those GOOD things we DON'T do for ourselves and others. That can be because we DON'T have and share the principles of God because we don't pray for them. Prayer helps us get rid of wicked things done wrong; and, it helps us with things we could have done right, if we had prayed.

### Those Who Don't Want To Pray

**Psa 1:5 (NIV) Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.** The next thing to understand is that some people make a final decision about the issues of living a life that hurts themselves and others; they WANT to mistreat themselves, others, and God's plan. These are PEOPLE that God calls "**the wicked**" or "**sinner**s." They aren't doing things accidentally or ignorantly, they are doing them on purpose. Those who don't mean to hurt themselves and others are different from those who accept a life of doing bad things. Unlike you, they don't want to be set free from their condition.



## **Praying, Benefits; Failing To Pray, Hurts**

**Psa 1:6 (NIV) For the LORD watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.** “The way of the righteous” is simply a way brought about by a DESIRE to be helped by God. And, that desire is expressed by you praying and inviting God into your life.

You are on **the way** or path **of the righteous** because you have a WILLINGNESS to pray and ask God for His help. He doesn't expect you to start DOING righteous things by healing and changing yourself. He knows that He is going to have to help you with that; but, He insists on waiting until you invite Him into EACH situation. At this point, He is just looking for a “want” in you that inspires you to keep DESIRING, STUDYING, PRAYING, and asking for His help. **The way** or lifestyle **of the wicked** is a person who refuses to DESIRE, STUDY, and PRAY to be helped.

## **Talking With Your Heavenly Father Workbook Week One Day Four**

### **Getting Knowledge, Understanding, And Wisdom**

**James 1:5 (NIV) If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ASK God, Who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him.** Jesus, teach me that knowledge comes through studying the Bible, understanding comes through allowing the Holy Spirit to give me the meaning of each verse, and wisdom comes through asking for it. Empower me to do these three things.

### **Making A Way For Knowledge, Understanding, And Wisdom**

#### **1. By Identifying False Knowledge, Understanding, And Wisdom**

Jesus, I have allowed books, magazines, videos, music, and people to teach me things that I now accept as life-principles. I have been basing my life on certain beliefs that I have accepted as the right way to live my life. Empower me to start challenging that belief system to see if it is helping or hurting me.

#### **2. By Praying Against False Knowledge, Understanding, And Wisdom**

Jesus, I ask You to give me an ability that will help me be able to wisely examine all my belief systems. I now pray for wisdom so I will be able to see the principles for life from a very powerful position. Let the wisdom from God empower me to see what is helping me and what principles are hurting me.

### 3. By Being Empowered To Resist Current Input

Jesus, as a young person, I didn't have a choice as to who told me what to do, what to believe, and what to base my life on; but, now I do. Guide me in who I am going to allow to teach me, lead me, and structure me. Teach me that it matters who I listen to even though they aren't talking about God and the things of God. Show me that there can be little comments, references, interjections, and attitudes that contaminate leader's, teacher's, or trainer's instructions. Let me see how to start praying for wisdom like the verse in James 1:5 is telling me to do.

## Getting Them By Choosing Who Counsels Or Teaches You

### 1. Pray A Prayer That Closes Doors

Jesus, show me that I am **blessed** because I don't walk in the counsel of the WICKED or stand in the way of SINNERS or sit in the seat of MOCKERS (Psa 1:1).

Let Psalms 1:1 give me vital issues to pray that will protect me from bad influences in my knowledge, understanding, and wisdom. Help me see that even though this prayer may not seem like it is going to do much to help me be able to be healed from the problems of life, it will. Show me that getting God's power to close the door of my mind and heart to influences from people whose philosophies have or are hurting me, is very important.

### 2. Pray A Prayer That Opens Doors

Jesus, help me take a look at the prayer that takes me into getting the right information to guide me, the kind of understanding that frees me, and the wisdom that heals me. I confess with my mouth and believe in my heart that my **delight is in the law of the LORD, and on His law I meditate day and night** (Psa 1:2).

I didn't start off with a great delight in the principles of the Lord. I didn't realize that these principles were going to set me free from my problems with life. But, now that I do, help me see how wonderful my life becomes through the knowledge, understanding, and wisdom of God. Then let that help me start wanting to meditate on them day and night.

# A Desire For Knowledge, Understanding, And Wisdom

## Building A Desire For Prayer

Jesus, show me that I am **like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever I do prospers (Psa 1:3).**

Teach me that this verse describes the way God always treats me; He simply tells me, as a free individual, why I should be willing to ask for His help. He tries to help me start thinking about and meditating on the things that He has to offer me. Since He is trying to get me excited that His principles make me like a tree that is planted by streams of water, help me see it clearly. I now ask for His help in assisting me to start meditating on His principles day and night. Let it be like life-giving water flowing into a tree's roots, into its trunk, into its branches, and then into its leaves. Let it be like having a source of life that is unlimited and constantly available to me.

## Resisting A Desire For Prayer

Jesus, show me that it is **not so the wicked! They are like chaff that the wind blows away (Psa 1:4).** I don't consider myself or my friends to be wicked; but, help me understand that my own personal beliefs often hurt me and those around me; and, that is wicked. Help me see that even when I hurt myself and others ignorantly or accidentally the damage is just as painful and destructive; and, that brings wicked results.

Teach me that refusing, resisting, or neglecting prayer leaves me with things in my life that are wicked. Help me see that prayer for God's principles help me not do wicked things ignorantly or accidentally. Make it clear to me that another wicked act can be all those GOOD things I DON'T do for myself and others. Show me that, that can be because I DON'T have and share the principles of God because I don't pray for them. Teach me that prayer helps me get rid of wicked things I do that are wrong; and, it helps me with things I could have done that were right, if I had prayed.

## Those Who Don't Want To Pray

Jesus, teach me who the wicked and sinners are. Help me not be one of those who are **the wicked** that **will not stand in the judgment, nor a sinner in the assembly of the righteous (Psa 1:5).** Help me understand that some people make a final decision about the issues of living life. They decide to live a life that hurts themselves and others. Show me that they WANT to mistreat themselves, others, and God's plan. Help me understand that these are PEOPLE that God calls **"the wicked"** or **"sinners."** Make it clear to me that they aren't doing things accidentally or ignorantly; they are doing them on purpose. Help me see that because I don't mean to hurt myself and others that makes me different. I am different from those who accept a life of doing bad things. Show me that unlike me, they don't want to be set free from their condition; but, I do.

## Praying, Benefits; Failing To Pray, Hurts

Jesus, I thank You that **the LORD watches over the way of the righteous**, help me always keep in mind that **the way of the wicked will perish (Psa 1:6)**. Teach me that “the way of the righteous” is simply a way brought about by a DESIRE to be helped by God. And, that desire is expressed by me praying and inviting God into my life.

Make it clear to me that I am on **the way** or path **of the righteous** because I have a WILLINGNESS to pray and ask God for His help. Teach me that He doesn’t expect me to start DOING righteous things by healing and changing myself. He knows that He is going to have to help me with that; but, help me keep in mind that He insists on waiting until I invite Him into EACH situation. At this point, He is just looking for a “want” in me that inspires me to keep DESIRING, STUDYING, PRAYING, and asking for His help. Show me that **the way** or lifestyle **of the wicked** is a person who refuses to DESIRE, STUDY, and PRAY to be helped. Keep me from ever becoming that kind of person.

# Talking With Your Heavenly Father Textbook

## Week One Day Five

### Knowledge, Understanding, And Wisdom

**James 1:5 (NIV)** If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, Who gives GENEROUSLY to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. **John 8:32 (NIV)** Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free. God's knowledge is the power to know a truth from God; God's understanding is the power to be able to know what that truth means; and God's wisdom is the power to know HOW to apply that truth to your life. Then, if you choose to apply that truth to your life, you will be set free by knowing, understanding, and applying it.

### Truth

#### True Knowledge Works

Jesus is still leading us through the issues of knowledge, understanding, and wisdom. Knowledge is one of the words the Bible uses for truth; if you know something but it isn't true, then the Bible doesn't consider it as knowledge. Once you get the truth about an issue, you can use that "knowledge" to better your life.

#### World Knowledge Doesn't Work

Biblical knowledge is always information that is telling you how things really are (the truth). The misinformation that we often start our lives with is proven to be false because it doesn't work the way it is supposed to. Truth gives the desired results because it is knowledge that tells you how things really work. You can base your life on that kind of knowledge because it is the truth.

#### True Understanding Is Based On True Knowledge

So, Jesus isn't just talking about any kind of information; He is telling us about reliable information that does what it says it will do. The next issue is for you to be able to obtain the MEANING that, that knowledge is trying to present. If you get the TRUE meaning to TRUE knowledge, then you have what the Bible calls "understanding." But if you think a Biblical truth or Biblical knowledge means one thing and it really means something else, then you still don't have understanding. The word "understanding" in the Bible is you being able to understand the true meaning that it is trying to help you get from some of its knowledge.

#### True Wisdom Is Based On True Understanding

Wisdom is the ability to take information (KNOWLEDGE) that you UNDERSTAND the meaning to and be able to WISELY apply it to your life. First, you get true knowledge as you study these Bible verses. Second, you gradually start understanding their true meaning, as you read through these comments that Jesus is explaining to you. Then you pray a prayer that asks God to help you get this TRUTH into your life. Wisdom is the system God uses to help you get His power and healing into your life.

# **Biblical TRUTH**

## **Bible Knowledge, Understanding, And Wisdom--Heal**

You get more and more of God's wisdom as you learn how and what to pray. Wisdom has to do with the ability to apply true knowledge and true understanding to the full aspects of your life. Because the Bible only deals with truth, the results you get from this kind of knowledge, understanding, and wisdom is healing for the difficulties you are experiencing with life.

## **Biblical Purposes And Procedures**

As you read your Bible, it will be working on six aspects of your life. It will be telling you how wonderful, powerful, and loving God and His provisions are. It will be trying to help you **DESIRE** to be close to God and His provisions. As you **STUDY** it, it will be teaching you truths that you never knew before. It will be teaching you how to **PRAY**, what to **PRAY**, and why you should **PRAY**. It will be helping you **BELIEVE** that everything it says is true. It will be helping you see the importance of sharing these wonderful things with others by giving you **GOD'S LOVE**. And, it will be teaching you how to live on the basis of the fact that God **DID** answer your prayers and **DID** install these truths in you. This will be done by you taking **FAITH-ACTION**.

## **Wisdom Is Made Up Of Six Things**

If you want to apply one of God's truths to your life, the first thing wisdom will lead you into is to **DESIRE** it. If you don't want it, God won't give it to you.

Next, wisdom will lead you into **STUDYING** so you can find the truth you need in the Bible. If you don't know that, that truth exists, what it says, and what it means, you can't take the next step and **PRAY** for it to be installed in your life.

It is important to always keep in mind that when you **PRAY**, you are inviting God into that specific situation; if you don't pray and ask for it, He won't help you with it.

After praying for it, you must know when Jesus answered your prayer and gave it to you. So, you ask Jesus to give you His faith to **BELIEVE** you have that truth installed in your life.

After that, you must **LOVE** others enough to be willing to share it with them. If you are selfish, none of these six things will work.

Finally, you must start using that truth Jesus installed in your life by taking **FAITH-ACTION**. That is you living on the basis of the fact that you have that truth setting you free.

## **The World's System**

### **SELF-Help Rather Than GOD-Help**

Most of the systems of the world require **YOU** to help yourself. They tell **YOU** how **YOU** should be thinking; they tell **YOU** how **YOU** should be feeling; they tell **YOU** how **YOU** should be acting; and, they tell **YOU** how to talk and what to say. That is why they are called **SELF-help** books and seminars. The only world system that doesn't put all the pressure on **YOU** is the medical system.

## **Mood Altering Medications**

Mood altering drugs are used to modify your way of life; but, they lack the ability to be flexible so you can react differently during different situations. Mood altering drugs hold a person to one condition; if you are being medicated to relax, then when you need to be excited and happy, you can't respond. If you are being medicated so as to be more excited, when you need to calm down, you aren't able to change.

## **God's System**

### **Prayer Gets God's Knowledge, Understanding, And Wisdom**

God's system is to provide you with a prayer plan; this is a way for you to give Him permission to help you get into a normal way of life. You get His power, love, help, and healing so you can react to life the way you need to. You and Jesus work together to address the issues of life. Prayer invites your heavenly Father into your life so you and He can form a close relationship. In response to your prayers, He will not only provide you with healing for your struggles with life, He will offer to become your closest friend.

### **Comparing The Two Systems**

The next set of prayers, you and Jesus will be working on, will help you see the difference between the way the world system thinks and works, and the way God thinks and works. You will be able to decide whether you want to keep your old training or pray for God's new way of life.

## **Talking With Your Heavenly Father Workbook Week One Day Five**

### **Knowledge, Understanding, And Wisdom**

Jesus, I **lack wisdom**, I now ask for more of it from **God, Who gives GENEROUSLY to all without finding fault, and it will be given to me (James 1:5)**. I now confess with my mouth and believe in my heart that I have **the truth** from James 1:5, **and the truth will set me free (John 8:32)**. I now ask for God's knowledge that is the power to know a truth from Him; I ask for God's understanding that is the power to be able to know what that truth means; and I ask for God's wisdom that is the power to know HOW to apply that truth to my life. I now choose to apply that truth to my life; and, I am now being set free by knowing, understanding, and applying it.

# Truth

## True Knowledge Works

Jesus, continue to lead me through the issues of knowledge, understanding, and wisdom. Teach me that knowledge is one of the words the Bible uses for truth; if I know something but it isn't true, then the Bible doesn't consider that I have knowledge. Help me see that once I get the truth about an issue, I can use that "knowledge" to better my life.

## World Knowledge Doesn't Work

Jesus, make it clear to me that Biblical knowledge is always information that is telling me how things really are (the truth). The misinformation that I started my life with proved to be false because it didn't work the way it was supposed to. Help me know that truth gives the desired results because it is knowledge that tells me how things really work. Help me base my life on that kind of knowledge because it is the truth.

## True Understanding Is Based On True Knowledge

Jesus, help me understand that You aren't just talking about any kind of information; You are telling me about reliable information that does what it says it will do. Teach me that the next issue is for me to be able to obtain the MEANING that, that knowledge is trying to present.

Jesus, show me that if I get the TRUE meaning to TRUE knowledge, then I have what the Bible calls "understanding." But if I think a Biblical truth or Biblical knowledge means one thing and it really means something else, then I still don't have understanding. Teach me that the word "understanding," in the Bible, is me being able to understand the true meaning that it is trying to help me get from some of its knowledge.

## True Wisdom Is Based On True Understanding

Jesus, teach me that wisdom is the ability for me to take information (KNOWLEDGE) that I UNDERSTAND the meaning to and be able to WISELY apply it to my life. Make it clear to me that first, I get true knowledge as I study these Bible verses. Second, I gradually start understanding their true meaning, as I read through these comments that You are explaining to me. Then I pray a prayer that asks God to help me get this TRUTH into my life. Help me understand that wisdom is the system God uses to help me get His power and healing into my life.



# **Biblical TRUTH**

## **Bible Knowledge, Understanding, And Wisdom--Heal**

Jesus, teach me that I get more and more of God's wisdom as I learn how and what to pray. Make it clear to me that wisdom has to do with the ability to apply true knowledge and true understanding to the full aspects of my life. Help me always know that the Bible only deals with truth. Help me see that the results I get from this kind of knowledge, understanding, and wisdom is healing for the difficulties I am experiencing with life.

## **Biblical Purposes And Procedures**

Jesus, as I read my Bible, let it help me with six aspects of my life. As it tells me how wonderful, powerful, and loving God and His provisions are, help me yield. As it tries to help me DESIRE to be close to God and His provisions, fill me with that desire. As I STUDY it, let it teach me truths that I never knew before. As it teaches me how to PRAY, what to PRAY, and why I should PRAY, let me pray with skill. Let it help me BELIEVE that everything it says is true. Let it help me see the importance of sharing these wonderful things with others by giving me GOD'S LOVE. And, let it teach me how to live on the basis of the fact that God DID answer my prayers and DID install these truths in me. Teach me that this will be done by me taking FAITH-ACTION.

## **Wisdom Is Made Up Of Six Things**

Jesus, teach me these six principles of wisdom. Teach me that if I want to apply one of God's truths to my life, the first thing wisdom will lead me into is to DESIRE it. If I don't want it, God won't give it to me.

Show me that next, it will lead me into STUDYING so I can find the truth I need in the Bible. If I don't know that truth exists, what it says, and what it means, I can't take the next step and PRAY for it to be installed in my life.

Help me always keep in mind that when I PRAY, I am inviting God into that specific situation; if I don't pray and ask for it, He won't help me with it.

Help me see that after praying for it, I must know when You answered my prayer and gave it to me. Help me then ask You to give me Your faith to BELIEVE I have that truth installed in my life.

After that, help me LOVE others enough to be willing to share it with them. Keep me from being selfish; because, none of these six things will work, if I am selfish.

Make it clear to me that finally, I must start using that truth You installed in my life by taking FAITH-ACTION. Teach me that FAITH-ACTION is me living on the basis of the fact that I have that truth setting me free.

# **The World's System**

## **SELF-Help Rather Than GOD-Help**

Jesus, most of the systems of the world required ME to help MYSELF. They told ME how I should be thinking; they told ME how I should be feeling; they told ME how I should be acting; and, told ME how to talk and what to say. Help me understand that, that is why they are called SELF-help books and seminars. But, help me understand that there is a world system that doesn't put all the pressure on me; it is the medical system.

## **Mood Altering Medications**

Jesus, help me understand that mood altering drugs are used to modify my way of life; but, they lack the ability to be flexible so I can react differently during different situations. Mood altering drugs hold me to one condition; if I am being medicated to relax, then when I need to be excited and happy, I can't respond. If I am being medicated so as to be more excited, when I need to calm down, I am not able to change.

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## **Prayer Gets God's Knowledge, Understanding, And Wisdom**

Jesus, give me God's system so it can provide me with a prayer plan. Let this be a way for me to give Him permission to help me get into a normal way of life. Let me get His power, love, help, and healing so I can react to life the way I need to. Help me work together with You, Jesus, to address the issues of life. Help me always understand that prayer invites my heavenly Father into my life so He and I can form a close relationship. In response to my prayers, show me that He will not only provide me with healing for my struggles with life, He will offer to become my closest friend.

## **Comparing The Two Systems**

Jesus, get me ready to learn about the next set of prayers. Get me ready to start working on those that will help me see the difference between the way the world system thinks and works, and the way God thinks and works. Help me be able to want to NOT keep my old training; help me want to pray for God's new way of life.

# Talking With Your Heavenly Father Textbook

## Week Two Day One

### Knowledge, Understanding, And Wisdom

**James 1:5 (NIV)** If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, Who gives GENEROUSLY to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. A lot of people are filled with and even have degrees in world knowledge. They understand what the world is trying to say to them and what it means to them. And, they know how to apply this world training to their every day lives. But, they have NEVER asked God for His knowledge, understanding, and wisdom.

### Human Wisdom VS. God's Wisdom

**Atheism And Agnosticism Are Vile**

**Psa 14:1 (NIV)** For the director of music. [A prayer] of David. The fool says in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, their deeds are vile; there is no one who does good. The world system tries to remove God from everything. Since God is the only One Who represents good and calls doing bad things, evil, those who want to justify hurting themselves and others, try to do away with God. They teach us that we don't need God in order to succeed at life. But the results of our life are telling us that, that is not true.

**Distracting People Is Vile And Corrupt**

The world tries to keep your attention only on those things you can see. However, there is one thing you will always be able to see through God...results. The rejection of God's existence is why we have so much hatred, killing, and pain. God wants to help you break away from all these failures and suffering. The results you get from your heavenly Father will help you KNOW for sure that He is here with you. He will set you free from the lifestyle of the corrupt and vile.

**Praying For Your Focus And Attention**

These prayers from the Psalms will help you find out how wonderful God really is. It is wise to get His help; and, it is foolish to reject His existence. When you pray to your heavenly Father and ask Him to help you take advantage of His existence and love, He will help you see clearly what is real and what isn't. You can ask Him to help you keep praying for His help rather than just depending on yourself.

### A Prayer To Seek God

**Moving Into The Light Of Truth**

**Psa 14:2 (NIV)** The LORD looks down from heaven on the sons of men to see if there are any who understand, any who seek God. You are starting to get God's KNOWLEDGE, UNDERSTANDING, and WISDOM; this is what your heavenly Father is looking for. Ask Him to continue giving you more and more of His knowledge, understanding, and wisdom; this will become the great turning point in your life.

## **Waiting To See What You Decide**

**The LORD looks down from heaven:** You have a pretty good idea what the world says about how to solve your problems. They have FLOODED you with all their opinions, beliefs, systems, and principles. God is looking down at you seeing whether or not you are willing to let them go.

**To see if there are any who understand, any who seek God:** The answers for winning over your difficulties with life flow into your heart and mind, as you seek God. You will see a real difference, when you start turning these things over to Him. When you ask Him to please fill your heart and mind with His knowledge, understanding, and wisdom, you will get your feet set on a healing path.

## **Praying For Training**

### **Trained For Getting And Giving Help**

**Psa 14:3 (NIV) All have turned aside, they have together become corrupt; there is no one who does good, not even one.** If your house catches on fire, aren't you glad someone took out the time, put in the effort, and spent the money to be train on how to put out fires? When we read the words, **they have together become corrupt** we think of corruption as DOING something bad, like setting a house on fire. But, God is concerned that **there is no one who does good**. It's good that the fireman didn't set your house on fire; but, it is doing good when they learn how to put the fire out.

### **The More You Get, The More You Can Give**

It's wonderful that you are turning to God and getting your needs met; but, you are also learning how to help others. Those who aren't willing to turn to Jesus for His help, never get helped and never learn how to help others; that's bad. You are learning how to GET and SHARE things that are God-sized, supernatural, and FREE. Most of the help the world gives you is expensive, they can only deal with one "help" issue at a time, and, you would have to go through a lot of educational training, degrees, and professional development to be able to share this help with others.

## **Praying To Be Helped And To Help**

### **You Have What Everyone Has**

**ALL have turned aside:** You aren't needing to pray a special prayer that is unique to you; we have ALL gone down this road. If you are a person who feels like you are pretty good, or, if you feel like you are the worst person in the world, you just need to realize that we are all people who hurt ourselves and other people. See these underlined words in the verse **"all have turned aside, they have together become corrupt; there is no one who does good, not even one"**? "Turned aside," to "become corrupt," and to not do "good," means every one of us has done corrupt things. We have ALL done things that have hurt us and those who are around us...EVERYONE!

### **We Are All The Same**

It is good to find out that you aren't any worse than anyone else. But, it is also good to find out that everyone needs what you need. So, as YOU get helped, you have learned and received what everyone else needs. The more breakthroughs you get in your life, the more breakthroughs you will be able to help others get through Jesus. Jesus is teaching you how to win at life so you can help others win at life. Even though others may be going through things somewhat different from what you went through, the principles are the same for them as they were for you.

# Praying Is Calling On The Lord

## Praying To See The Facts

**Psa 14:4 (NIV) Will evildoers never learn--those who devour My people as men eat bread and who do not call on the LORD?** The first thing you need to do is look at things from your own perspective. People have hurt you, they have led you down bad paths, they have encouraged you to do things that damaged you, and they have let you down. Whether they did it on purpose or accidentally, their deeds have still caused you to suffer. That realization helps you see why YOU need to ask God to help YOU not be like them. This realization takes us all out of the group of “evildoers” who never learn.

## Praying To Understand Evil

When we USE people to help us get extreme pleasure in our bodies, we are hurting them in ways we don't understand. When we USE people to try to get our own needs met, we hurt them. We can do “evil” and don't even realize how much we are damaging others and ourselves. The way we all get to the place where our lives are pretty messed up is by doing things that WE think are okay. But, even though we are ignorant of the “evil” that is in those deeds, we and our friends still get hurt by them. If you ask God to help you not be like these people in Psalms 14:4 who never learn, you join the group who do “call on the Lord.”

# Praying For Desire

## Praying To Take Advantage Of The Pain

**Psa 14:5 (NIV) There they are, overwhelmed with dread, for God is present in the company of the righteous.** Whether or not you feel “overwhelmed with dread,” the pain you ARE feeling from your issues with life is because you need Jesus' help. Feeling dread is like being hungry or thirsty, there is this pain telling you that you need food or liquids. But, as you eat and drink, the pain goes away. That is the way it works with the pain that comes from your struggles with life. There is this pain in your heart and life that is trying to tell you that you need Jesus to help you. Then, as you get the help you need, Jesus will help you get rid of the pain. **God is present in the company of the righteous.**

## Praying About Your Deeds

**Psa 14:6 (NIV) You evildoers frustrate the plans of the poor, but the LORD is their refuge.** God loves us; He just doesn't like some of the things we are doing. There are things we think, feel, say, do, and believe that are doing damage to us and our friends. We need to ask God to show us what we are doing that is damaging us and those around us. We need to ask Him to show us how to yield to the changes He wants to make in us. He needs to help us start being a blessing and a help to people who are poor, weak, and suffering.

# Talking With Your Heavenly Father Workbook

## Week Two Day One

### Knowledge, Understanding, And Wisdom

Jesus, I **lack wisdom** in many different situations. I now **ask God, Who gives GENEROUSLY to all without finding fault, and** I believe specific wisdom for each situation **will be given to me (James 1:5)**. I am filled with and even have training in world knowledge. I understand what the world is trying to say to me and what it means to me. And, I know how to apply this world training to my everyday life. Help me always be asking God for His knowledge, understanding, and wisdom.

### Human Wisdom VS. God's Wisdom

#### Atheism And Agnosticism Are Vile

Jesus, help me take this prayer from **David** and apply it to my life. **The fool says in his heart, "There is no God."** Help me not be an atheist, who make this statement. And, help me not be an agnostic who says they don't know whether or not You exist. Help me see that **they are corrupt, their deeds are vile; there is no one who does good (Psa 14:1)**.

Jesus, the world system has tried to remove God from everything in my life. Since God is the only One Who represents good and calls doing bad things, evil, help me see that it has caused them and me to want to justify hurting myself and others. And, it has caused them and me to try to do away with God. They taught me that I don't need God in order to succeed at life. But the results of my life are telling me that, that is not true.

#### Distracting People Is Vile And Corrupt

Jesus, the world has tried to keep my attention only on those things I can see. However, help me understand that there is one thing I will always be able to see through God and that is results. Teach me that the rejection of God's existence is why there is so much hatred, killing, and pain. Help me break away from all these failures and suffering. Let the results I get from my heavenly Father help me **KNOW** for sure that He is here with me. Help me be set free from the lifestyle of the corrupt and vile.

## Praying For Your Focus And Attention

Jesus, let these prayers from the Psalms help me find out how wonderful God really is. Show me that it is wise to get His help, and, it is foolish to reject His existence. I now pray to You, my heavenly Father, and I ask You to help me take advantage of Your existence and love. Help me see clearly what is real and what isn't. I ask You to help me keep praying for Your help rather than just depending on myself.

## A Prayer To Seek God

### Moving Into The Light Of Truth

**The LORD looks down from heaven on the sons of men to see if there are any who understand, any who seek God (Psa 14:2).** Jesus, I thank you that I am starting to get God's KNOWLEDGE, UNDERSTANDING, and WISDOM. Help me see that this is what my heavenly Father is looking for. I now ask You, heavenly Father, to continue giving me more and more of Your knowledge, understanding, and wisdom; let this be the great turning point in my life.

### Waiting To See What You Decide

**The LORD looks down from heaven:** Jesus, I have a pretty good idea what the world has to say about how to solve my problems. They have FLOODED me with all their opinions, beliefs, systems, and principles. As God looks down at me to see whether or not I am willing to let them go, help me let every one of them go.

**To see if there are any who understand, any who seek God:** Jesus, teach me that the ANSWERS for how to win over my difficulties with life will start to flow into my heart and mind, as I seek God. Show me that I will see a real difference, when I start turning these things over to Him. I now ask You, heavenly Father to please fill my heart and mind with Your knowledge, understanding, and wisdom; let them get my feet set on a healing path.

## Praying For Training

### Trained For Getting And Giving Help

Jesus, help me accept the fact that **all have turned aside, they have together become corrupt; there is no one who does good, not even one (Psa 14:3).** If my house catches on fire, I am glad someone took out the time, put in the effort, and spent the money to be train on how to put out fires. When I read the words, **they have together become corrupt**, I typically think of corruption as me DOING something bad, like setting a house on fire. But, help me see that God is concerned about the fact that **there is no one who does good.** Teach me that it's good that I don't set people's houses on fire; but, it DOING GOOD when I learn things like how to put fires out.

## The More You Get, The More You Can Give

Jesus, help me see that it's wonderful that I am turning to God and getting my needs met; but, show me that I am also learning how to help others. Those who aren't willing to turn to You for Your help, never get helped and never learn how to help others; help me see that, that is bad. Empower me to learn how to GET and SHARE things that are God-sized, supernatural, and FREE. Most of the help the world gives is expensive; they can only deal with one "help" issue at a time; and, I would have to go through a lot of educational training, degrees, and professional development to be able to share this help with others. Teach me Your way of healing and training so I can be a living example of Your mighty power and love.

## Praying To Be Helped And To Help

### You Have What Everyone Has

**ALL have turned aside:** Jesus, teach me that I am not needing to pray a special prayer that is unique to me; everyone goes down this road. When I feel like I am a person who is pretty good, or, when I feel like a person who is the worst person in the world, help me realize that I am a person who hurts myself and other people. Help me understand these underlined words in the verse "**ALL have turned aside, they have together become corrupt; there is no one who does good, not even one.**" Make it clear to me that "turned aside," to "become corrupt," and to not do "good," means I have done corrupt things. The word "ALL" includes me!

### We Are All The Same

Jesus, it is good to find out that I am not any worse than anyone else. But, it is also good to find out that everyone needs what I need. Teach me that, as I get helped, I have learned and received what everyone else needs. The more breakthroughs I get in my life, the more breakthroughs I will be able to help others get. You are teaching me how to win at life so I can help others win at life through You. Show me that even though others may be going through things somewhat different from what I went through, the principles are always the same for them as they were for me.

## Praying Is Calling On The Lord

### Praying To See The Facts

**Will evildoers never learn--those who devour My people as men eat bread and who do not call on the LORD (Psa 14:4)?** Jesus, help me not continue to be an evil doer. Help me learn how to get rid of every aspect of evil in my life. Help me look at things from my own perspective and learn. People have hurt me, they have led me down bad paths, they have encouraged me to do things that damaged me, and they have let me down. Whether they did it on purpose or accidentally, their deeds have still caused me to suffer. Let that realization help me see why I need to ask God to help ME not be like them. Let this realization take me out of the group of "evildoers" who never learn.



## Praying To Understand Evil

Jesus, teach me that when I USE people to help me get extreme pleasure in my body, I am hurting them in ways I don't understand. When I USE people to try to get my own needs met, I hurt them. Show me that I can do "evil" and not even realize how much I am damaging others and myself. Help me understand that the way I got to the place where my life was pretty messed up was by doing things that I thought were okay. But, even though I was ignorant of the "evil" that was in those deeds, I and my friends still got hurt by them. Help me not be like these people in Psalms 14:4 who never learn; help me join the group who do "call on the Lord."

## Praying For Desire

### Praying To Take Advantage Of The Pain

**There they are, overwhelmed with dread, for God is present in the company of the righteous (Psa 14:5).** Jesus, whether or not I feel "overwhelmed with dread," the pain I AM feeling from my issues with life is because I need Your help. Teach me that feeling dread is like being hungry or thirsty, there is this pain telling me that I need food or liquids. But, as I eat and drink, the pain goes away. Teach me that this is the way it works with the pain that comes from my struggles with life. Help me see that there is this pain in my heart and life that is trying to tell me that I need You to help me. Then, as I get the help I need, let it get rid of the pain. Show me that this is because **God is present in the company of the righteous.**

### Praying About Your Deeds

**You evildoers frustrate the plans of the poor, but the LORD is their refuge (Psa 14:6).** Jesus, help me see the pain and suffering of those less fortunate than me. Show me that God loves me; He just doesn't like some of the things I am doing. Teach me that there are things I think, feel, say, do, and believe that are doing damage to me and my friends. Show me what I am doing that is damaging me and those around me. Show me how to yield to the changes You want to make in me. Help me start being a blessing and a help to people who are poor, weak, and suffering.

# Talking With Your Heavenly Father Textbook

## Week Two Day Two

### Consistent Faith

**James 1:5-8 (NIV)** If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, Who gives GENEROUSLY to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind.

**That man should not think he will receive ANYTHING from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does.** Along with God's knowledge, understanding, and wisdom is faith.

But, it has to be the kind of faith that Jesus gives us. An on-again-off-again faith won't produce any results from God.

### Learning To Trust God

#### You Have A Faith-Filter

Like all the rest of us, you come to God with a "faith-filter." We all start with an exclusive faith in ourselves; that means we believe we are our best friend and have our best interests in mind. Even if we do put our faith and trust in someone else, we do so because we BELIEVE and have decided they will do what we think is best for us. We are constantly evaluating all outside sources through this filter. We listen to a person, examine what they have said, and then decide whether or not WE THINK they and their words are good for us. If a person has a history of usually doing and saying things we agree with and want for our life, we put a certain amount of our faith and trust in them.

#### You Have A God-Given Free Will

God created you to be in charge of your own life; He wants you to be able to stand back and evaluate each and every situation, philosophy, ideology, principle, and person and then decide whether or not you accept it or them. At this point, you are actually evaluating God and His principles; you are running all of these things Jesus is exposing you to in HELP eMagazine and the Bible through your "faith-filter." Because Jesus and the Bible are only sharing God with you, you are deciding whether or not you like those things being offered. It is your God-given right to decide; but, your decision will give you certain RESULTS. Just like all of your decisions you have made up to this point have given you certain results, so will your current and future decisions.

#### Getting What You Want

The question you are probably trying to answer is, can and will God provide you with the things you want? Jesus is taking you through the Bible and allowing it to show you what God is like and what He has to offer. God doesn't expect you to BLINDLY trust or have faith in Him. He is the One Who invented the concept of free will; it would have been easy for Him to create you with no ability to exercise or even want a free will. He knows that you and He cannot be true friends, if you are forced into the relationship. Love between you and Him has to be based on freedom of will for both of you. He loves you because He WANTS TO; now He wants you to be able to love, trust, and have faith in Him because YOU WANT TO.

# Looking For A Trustworthy Source

## Who Is REALLY Trustworthy?

Even though you “believe” you have your best interests in mind, you may have beliefs, concepts, philosophies, and ideas that are not serving your best interests. You need to find a source of knowledge, understanding, and wisdom that can be TOTALLY trusted or believed in. You need to find a true friend who is able to show you the right direction to go; none of us know everything.

## What Do You NOT Know?

You may NOT know how to fly a plane; but, if you choose the right pilot, they will be able to get you to your destination safely. There are a lot of things you don’t know how to do for yourself. But, if you choose the right information source, service, or person, it or they will see to it that you get what you need. This is what these studies and prayers are all about...finding the right source. BUT, finding the right source involves finding one that respects you, is honest with you, doesn’t have a hidden agenda, honors your rights, wishes, wants, and decisions, and a lot of other things. It must be a source that knows what the truth is, understands what it means, and knows how to apply it.

## Results Based Faith

### By Selecting The Right Source

Who loves you more than you love yourself? Jesus and the Bible are saying that God does. But, that concept has to be run through your “faith-filter.” You have the right; and, us cooperating with Jesus have the obligation to help you see the truth in that concept. If you are going to relax in the Bible and God’s care, then you are going to have to be sure it and He are trustworthy. God loves you more than you love yourself; He knows everything; and He has the power to make everything work out for your good. But, you have to be CONVINCED that He is your very best source.

### By Starting To Get Results

You are being provided with prayers that bring RESULTS; and, those results are for helping you start to trust God and His information. If you get results from these prayers and you explain them away by giving the credit to yourself, other sources, or to luck, then faith can't be developed between you and God. He is working miracles in your life; but, you would be refusing to see them.

## Relation Based Faith

### Through A Love Relationship

Love is the most important attitude a person can have for another person. If they love you, then they will NOT do anything to hurt you on purpose. Truth is another very important issue because it keeps a person who loves you from making mistakes. God is love and truth; He loves you so much that He sent Jesus to earth to show you His sacrificial love for you. Jesus explained all the truth about the fact that your heavenly Father knows everything, sees your future clearly, has all power and authority, and wants the very best for you. Your heavenly Father is a better source of life-principles for you than any other source; and, He is willing to prove it by establishing a loving relationship with you.

### Through A Truthful Relationship

God will not move away from the truth even in a small way. And, He will not mislead you, confuse you, just tell you what you want to hear, or force you to accept the truth. If you are willing to have a relationship that is **TOTALLY** based on truth, then God is the One you should establish a relationship with. If you are easily offended by the truth, if you just want to feel good about yourself, if you are willing to be ignorant about some facts, then God is not a good fit for you. If you want to have a relationship with God, then you have to be truthful with Him; and, you have to be willing to hear the truth from Him.

### Through A Power Relationship

Is there anything you can't do for yourself? Is there anything that you know can't be handled by any other humans for you? Have you ever run into an impossible situation? Are you aware that humans are **MUCH** weaker, limited, and handicapped than God? You need a source of help that has the full potential of God. **Mat 28:18 (NIV) Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me."** **Mark 10:27 (NIV) Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God."** What a great source of help and relationship! This is a power-relationship that can't be beat.

## Talking With Your Heavenly Father Workbook Week Two Day Two

### Consistent Faith

Jesus, **if I lack wisdom** in any area of my life, help me be sure to **ask God, Who gives GENEROUSLY to all without finding fault, and it will be given to me. But when I ask, empower me to believe and not doubt, because if I doubt I am like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. In that case, I should not think I will receive ANYTHING from the Lord; I would be a double-minded man, unstable in all I do (James 1:5-8).** Teach me that along with God's knowledge, understanding, and wisdom is faith. But, it has to be the kind of faith that You give me. Show me that an on-again-off-again faith won't produce any results from God.

### Learning To Trust God

#### You Have A Faith-Filter

Jesus, I came to God with a "faith-filter." I started with an exclusive faith in myself; I believed I was my best friend and had my best interests in mind. If I did put my faith and trust in someone else, I did it because I believed and decided they would do what I thought was best for me. I have been constantly evaluating all outside sources through this filter. I listen to a person, examine what they have said, and then decide whether or not I think they and their words are good for me. Help me give up this faith-filter and join You in guiding me to the right and best sources for my life.

## **You Have A God-Given Free Will**

Jesus, I thank You for creating me to be in charge of my own life; I am glad You want me to be able to stand back and evaluate each and every situation, philosophy, ideology, principle, and person and then decide whether or not I accept it or them. However, help me stop evaluating God and His principles; give me faith to believe these things You are exposing me to in HELP eMagazine and the Bible. Help me trust You and the Bible for deciding whether or not I like those things I am being offered. It is my God-given right to decide; but, my decision is to put my full trust and faith in You for the right RESULTS. I now put my faith and trust in You for my current and future decisions.

## **Getting What You Want**

Jesus, the question I sometimes am trying to answer is, can and will God provide me with the things I want? Take me through the Bible and let it show me what God is like and what He has to offer. Teach me that God doesn't expect me to BLINDLY trust or have faith in Him. He is the One Who invented the concept of free will; it would have been easy for Him to create me with no ability to exercise or even want a free will. He knows that He and I cannot be true friends, if I am forced into the relationship. Let me see that love between Him and me has to be based on freedom of will for both of us. Show me that He loves me because He WANTS TO; now help me be able to love, trust, and have faith in Him because I WANT TO.

## **Looking For A Trustworthy Source**

### **Who Is REALLY Trustworthy?**

Jesus, teach me that even though I "believe" I have my own best interests in mind, I may have beliefs, concepts, philosophies, and ideas that are not serving my best interests. Help me find a source of knowledge, understanding, and wisdom that can be TOTALLY trusted or believed in. Help me find a true friend who is able to show me the right direction to go; help me realize that I don't know everything.

### **What Do You NOT Know?**

Jesus, teach me the principle that I may NOT know how to fly a plane; but, if I choose the right pilot, they will be able to get me to my destination safely. Help me see that there are a lot of things I don't know how to do for myself. But, if I choose the right information source, service, or person, it or they will see to it that I get what I need. Teach me that this is what these studies and prayers are all about...finding the right source. BUT, make it clear to me that finding the right source involves finding one that respects me, is honest with me, doesn't have a hidden agenda, honors my rights, wishes, wants, and decisions, and a whole lot of other things. It must be a source that knows what the truth is, understands what it means, and knows how to apply it.

## **Results Based Faith**

### **By Selecting The Right Source**

Jesus, make it clear to me that You are the One Who loves me more than I love myself. And, You and the Bible are saying that God loves me more than I love myself. But, typically that concept would have to be run through my “faith-filter.” Teach me that I have the right; and, Your people cooperating with You have the obligation to help me see the truth in that concept. Help me relax in the Bible and God’s care; help me be sure it and He are trustworthy. Help me be convinced that God loves me more than I love myself; He knows everything; and He has the power to make everything work out for my good. Empower me to believe and be **CONVINCED** that He is my very best source.

### **By Starting To Get Results**

Jesus, help me see that I am being provided with prayers that bring **RESULTS**; and, those results are for helping me start to trust God and His information. As I get results from these prayers, if I explain them away by giving the credit to myself, other sources, or to luck, then faith can't be developed between me and God. He would be working miracles in my life; but, I would be refusing to see them. Help me see and appreciate **EVERY** miracle God sends my way.

## **Relation Based Faith**

### **Through A Love Relationship**

Jesus, teach me that love is the most important attitude I can have for another person. If I love them and they love me, we will **NOT** do anything to hurt each other on purpose. Also, teach me that truth is another very important issue because it keeps those who love me from making mistakes. Since God is love and truth, He loves me so much that He sent You to earth to show me Your sacrificial love for me. Jesus, reveal all the truth about the fact that my heavenly Father knows everything, sees my future clearly, has all power and authority, and wants the very best for me. I confess with my mouth and believe in my heart that my heavenly Father is a better source of life-principles for me than any other source; and, He’s willing to prove it by having a loving relationship with me.

### **Through A Truthful Relationship**

Jesus, help me be convinced that God will not move away from the truth even in a small way. And, He will not mislead me, confuse me, just tell me what I want to hear, or force me to accept the truth. I am willing to have a relationship that is **TOTALLY** based on truth. So, help me accept that God is the One I should establish a relationship with. Help me not be easily offended by the truth; help me not just want to feel good about myself; help me not be willing to be ignorant about some facts; let God and I be a good fit for each other. Since I want to have a relationship with God, help me always be truthful with Him; and, help me be willing to hear the truth from Him.

## Through A Power Relationship

Jesus, there are a lot of things I can't do for myself. There are a lot of things I know can't be handled by any other humans for me. I have run into a lot of impossible situations. And, I am aware that humans are MUCH weaker, limited, and handicapped than God. Help me get Him as my source so I will have the full potential of God. **Mat 28:18 (NIV) Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me."** Help me put my full faith in Your authority rather than any other source. **Mark 10:27 (NIV) Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God."** I ask for this great source of help and relationship. I accept the fact that this is a power-relationship that can't be beat.

# Talking With Your Heavenly Father Textbook

## Week Two Day Three

### Consistent Faith

**James 1:5-8 (NIV)** If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, Who gives GENEROUSLY to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That man should not think he will receive ANYTHING from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does.

### Faith In The Fact That God Is Faithful

#### A Prayer Of Appreciation

**Psa 9:1b (NIV)** A psalm of David:

**I will praise You, O LORD, with ALL my heart; I will tell of ALL Your wonders.** David is a man who has experienced a lot of results; he started out at a very young age with a tremendous amount of appreciation for the wonderful things God was doing for him. A lot of the miracles, help, and blessings God does for you are somewhat small. God doesn't want to overwhelm you with things that are so big they FORCE you to believe and trust Him.

It is important for you to be able to see the small miracles from God just as much as you see the big ones. You will never be able to feel God's love for you, if you miss seeing ALL the things He is doing for you. This process of NOTICING and APPRECIATING these miracles will take you into your healing from the struggles with life; AND, it will take you into a wonderful relationship with your heavenly Father.

### Faith In Self Or Faith In God

#### No Prayers Of Promise

**Psa 9:2 (NIV)** **I will be glad and rejoice in You; I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High.** There are two ways of looking at this prayer David prayed to God. We could see him saying that he was going to use his determination and will-power to make sure he praised God. When we make a promise like that, that is when we end up disappointing ourselves and feeling like we have failed God. If you make God promises, then YOU have to do what it takes to keep them. If you fail to keep your promises, then it is YOU who broke your promises.

#### A Prayer Of Proclamation

The other way of seeing this prayer is to see David PROCLAIMING his faith. He is proclaiming his faith in God's ability and faithfulness to EMPOWER him to remember and express appreciate and praise Him. A promise is faith in our own strength, determination, efforts, and abilities to **"be glad and rejoice."** A proclamation of faith in God's power is you saying: **"I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High** because I know You will empower me to do it."



## Building Confidence In God

### A Prayer Of Appreciation

**Psa 9:3 (NIV) My enemies turn back; they stumble and perish before You.** It may seem strange to tell God all He has done for you; but, this is a part of strengthening your faith and helping it be consistent. When you start laying out all the things you have NOTICED that God has done for you and mentioning them to Him, God responds to this list by sending you power and excitement in you and your faith. Start making a daily list of all the things you have noticed that God did for you that day. Then when you have your time of prayer, use that list to tell God how much you appreciate all of it. That will help you pray a prayer of appreciation to your heavenly Father.

### A Prayer Of God-Confidence

**Psa 9:4 (NIV) For You have upheld my right and my cause; You have sat on Your throne, judging righteously.** God judges righteously; that means He always does what is right, good, best, and loving. This is based on His complete knowledge of everything past, present, and future concerning everyone and everything. However, for us to get His benefits from His incredible knowledge, we have to do two important things: (1) we have to ask and (2) we have to ask in faith. These two things aren't all that is needed; but, they are priority issues.

One of the major things that damages our CONSISTENT faith is caused by our inadequate, limited knowledge. We compare what God does with what WE THINK we know. God may do things or allow things that we don't agree with; that offends our "faith-filter." We evaluate the situation using our limited knowledge of what we think; and then we face a choice. Are we going to have faith in our knowledge, abilities, and skills; or, are we going to trust God's incredible knowledge, abilities, and skills? Do we believe HE is more qualified and loves us more than we love ourselves?

### A Prayer Based On Your Studies Of History

**Psa 9:5-6 (NIV) You have rebuked the nations and destroyed the wicked; You have blotted out their name for ever and ever. Endless ruin has overtaken the enemy, You have uprooted their cities; even the memory of them has perished.** As you read the Old Testament and learn more about God and all the things He has done in the past, you will get to know Him better. The Bible will help you learn a lot about God's character and attitudes. David had done a lot of reading and studying the Bible and had a lot of knowledge about the things God had done in the past. This HISTORICAL knowledge helped him have a lot more faith in God than just from his own personal experiences.

## Confessing With Your Mouth And Believing In Your Heart

### A Proclamation Of Truth About God

**Psa 9:7-8 (NIV) The LORD reigns forever; He has established His throne for judgment. He will judge the world in righteousness; He will govern the peoples with justice.** Things have happened to you that haven't been fair; people and circumstances have mistreated you and set you up for a certain amount of pain, suffering, and failure. But, you are now starting to ask for help, righteousness (things that are good for you and those around you), and justice (fair treatment).

David's prayer of proclamation describes the kind of rule, leadership, authority, and principles God operates by. He had decades of experiences with God and knew Him better than you do. His prayer is giving you a chance to look through David's eyes and see God the way he experienced Him. His prayer is telling you what you can expect as you continue to develop your relationship with God.

### **A Prayer From Experience**

**Psa 9:9-10 (NIV) The LORD is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble. Those who know Your name will trust in You, for You, LORD, have never forsaken those who seek You.** This is what you are going to find out about God; all through the Bible you will hear this same thing from those who put consistent faith in Him. Your experiences will build a faith inside you that will become strong and never wavering. But, in the meantime, these friends of yours, like David, will help you trust Him based on their experiences.

### **A Prayer Of Confession Of Faith**

**Psa 9:11-12 (NIV) Sing praises to the LORD, enthroned in Zion; proclaim among the nations what He has done. For He Who avenges blood remembers; He does not ignore the cry of the afflicted.** You are getting an opportunity to see how much your faith and trust will grow in God. David prayed and sang songs of faith in God; he expressed how he felt about the way God treated him over the years of his life. David saw a lot of battles and a lot of abuse against him and the people around him. He knew, from years of experience, that God always comes through for those who cry out for His help. What David got is what you are growing into through your experiences with God.

## **From Need To Results**

### **A Prayer For Deliverance**

**Psa 9:13-14 (NIV) O LORD, see how my enemies persecute me! Have mercy and lift me up from the gates of death, that I may declare Your praises in the gates of the Daughter of Zion and there rejoice in Your salvation.** David wasn't praying about problems with life; he was praying about people who were persecuting him. But, your prayer and his prayer will be able to have very similar structure and characteristics to them. You can say things like: "O Lord, see how I suffer from struggles with life! Have mercy and lift me up from the gates of death, that I may declare Your praises and rejoice in Your salvation."

### **A Prayer After Deliverance**

**Psa 9:15-18 (NIV) The nations have fallen into the pit they have dug; their feet are caught in the net they have hidden. The LORD is known by His justice; the wicked are ensnared by the work of their hands. The wicked return to the grave, all the nations that forget God. But the needy will not always be forgotten, nor the hope of the afflicted ever perish.**

Always keep in mind that we accidentally and ignorantly DO wicked things; but, that doesn't make us **the wicked**. **The wicked** are people who do bad things to themselves and others and have dedicated themselves to it. You have been made the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. **2 Cor 5:21 (NIV) God made Him Who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.** You have been set free from all wickedness in your record with God.

### **Keep Appealing To God For More Deliverance**

**Psa 9:19-20 (NIV) Arise, O LORD, let not man triumph; let the nations be judged in Your presence. Strike them with terror, O LORD; let the nations know they are but men.** Even though David's main issues were with wicked, evil people and may not necessarily fit your exact difficulties in life, these prayers are still presented to you as guides for YOUR problems. God wants you to take them and reword them so that the principle of the prayer is the same but better fits your situation. You might reword this prayer this way: "Arise, O Lord, don't let my difficulties with life triumph over me."

## **Talking With Your Heavenly Father Workbook**

### **Week Two Day Three**

### **Consistent Faith**

Jesus, I keep struggling with a **lack of wisdom**. I keep getting into situations where I don't know what to do; but, I keep **asking God, Who gives GENEROUSLY to all without finding fault, and it will keep being given to me. But when I ask, help me believe and not doubt, because if I doubt I am like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. I should not think I will receive ANYTHING from the Lord; I would be a double-minded man, unstable in all I do (James 1:5-8).**

### **Faith In The Fact That God Is Faithful**

#### **A Prayer Of Appreciation**

#### **Psa 9:1b (NIV) A psalm of David:**

Jesus, **I will praise You, O LORD, with ALL my heart; I will tell of ALL Your wonders.** Like David, make me into a person who experiences a lot of results; he started out at a very young age with a tremendous amount of appreciation for the wonderful things God was doing for him. Let me catch up with him by realizing that a lot of the miracles, help, and blessings God does for me have been and are somewhat small. Since God doesn't want to overwhelm me with things that are so big they **FORCE** me to believe and trust Him, let me see them all and spend a lot of time praising You for them.

Help me see how important it is for me to be able to see the small miracles from God just as much as I see the big ones. Show me that I will never be able to feel God's love for me, if I miss seeing **ALL** the things He is doing for me. Make it clear to me that this process of **NOTICING** and **APPRECIATING** these miracles will take me into being healed from the struggles with life; **AND**, it will take me into a wonderful relationship with my heavenly Father.

# Faith In Self Or Faith In God

## No Prayers Of Promise

Jesus, **I will be glad and rejoice in You; I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High (Psa 9:2).** Teach me that there are two ways of looking at this prayer David prayed to God. I could see him saying that he was going to use his determination and will-power to make sure he praised God. But, show me that when I make a promise like that, that is when I end up disappointing myself and feeling like I have failed God. Teach me that if I make God promises, then I have to do what it takes to keep them. If I fail to keep my promises, then it is ME who broke my promises.

## A Prayer Of Proclamation

Jesus, teach me that there is another way of seeing this prayer. It is to see David PROCLAIMING his faith in God's ability and faithfulness. It is an ability and faithfulness to EMPOWER him to remember and express appreciate and praise Him. Teach me that a promise is faith in my own strength, determination, efforts, and abilities to **"be glad and rejoice."** A proclamation of faith in God's power is me saying: **"I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High** because I know You will empower me to do it."

# Building Confidence In God

## A Prayer Of Appreciation

Jesus, because of You, **my enemies turn back; they stumble and perish before You (Psa 9:3).** It sometimes seems strange to tell God all He has done for me; but, help me see that this is a part of strengthening my faith and helping it be consistent. Help me start laying out all the things I have NOTICED that God has done for me and mentioning them to Him. Help understand that God will respond to this list by sending me power and excitement in me and my faith. Help me start making a daily list of all the things I have noticed that God did for me that day. Then when I have my time of prayer, help me use that list to tell God how much I appreciate all of it. Let that help me pray a prayer of appreciation to my heavenly Father.

## A Prayer Of God-Confidence

Jesus, **You have upheld my right and my cause; You have sat on Your throne, judging righteously (Psa 9:4).** Make it clear to me that God judges righteously; and, that means He always does what is right, good, best, and loving. Teach me that this is based on His complete knowledge of everything past, present, and future concerning everyone and everything. However, for me to get His benefits from His incredible knowledge, I have to do two important things: (1) I have to ask and (2) I have to ask in faith. Even though these two things aren't all that is needed, help me make them priority issues.

Jesus, teach me that one of the major things that damages my CONSISTENT faith is caused by my inadequate, limited knowledge. I compare what God does with what I THINK I know. God may do things or allow things that I don't agree with; that offends my "faith-filter." I evaluate the situation using my limited knowledge of what I think; and then I face a choice. Help me NOT have faith in my knowledge, abilities, and skills. Help me trust God's incredible knowledge, abilities, and skills. I now confess with my mouth and believe in my heart that HE is more qualified and loves me more than I love myself.

### **A Prayer Based On Your Studies Of History**

Jesus, **You have rebuked the nations and destroyed the wicked; You have blotted out their name for ever and ever. Endless ruin has overtaken the enemy, You have uprooted their cities; even the memory of them has perished (Psa 9:5-6).** Help me read the Old Testament and learn more about God and all the things He has done in the past; let me get to know Him better through it. Let the Bible help me learn a lot about God's character and attitudes. David had done a lot of reading and studying the Bible and had a lot of knowledge about the things God had done in the past. This HISTORICAL knowledge helped him have a lot more faith in God than just from his own personal experiences. Let that happen to me; help me put myself into those situations in the Bible and SEE what incredible things You have done there.

## **Confessing With Your Mouth And Believing In Your Heart**

### **A Proclamation Of Truth About God**

Jesus, You, **The LORD, reign forever; You have established Your throne for judgment. You will judge the world in righteousness; You will govern the people with justice (Psa 9:7-8).** Things have happened to me that haven't been fair; people and circumstances have mistreated me and set me up for a certain amount of pain, suffering, and failure. But, help me start to ask for help, righteousness (things that are good for me and those around me), and justice (fair treatment).

Jesus, make my prayer be like David's prayer; let me start proclaiming and describing the kind of rule, leadership, authority, and principles God operates by. Like David, give me decades of experiences with God and know Him better than I do now. Let David's prayer give me a chance to look through his eyes and see God the way he experienced Him. Let his prayer tell me what I can expect as I continue to develop my relationship with God.

## A Prayer From Experience

Jesus, You are a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble. Those who know **Your name will trust in You, for You, LORD, have never forsaken those who seek You (Psa 9:9-10).** Let me find this out about God; all through the Bible let me hear this same thing from those who put consistent faith in Him. Let my experiences build a faith inside me that will become strong and never wavering. But, in the meantime, let these friends of mine, like David, help me trust Him based on their experiences.

## A Prayer Of Confession Of Faith

Jesus, I sing praises to You, LORD, enthroned in Zion; I proclaim among the nations what You have **done. For You Who avenge blood remembers; You do not ignore the cry of the afflicted (Psa 9:11-12).** Jesus, thank You for giving me this opportunity to see how much my faith and trust will grow in God. As David prayed and sang songs of faith in God, he expressed how he felt about the way God treated him over the years of his life. As David saw a lot of battles and a lot of abuse against him and the people around him, he knew, from years of experience, that God always comes through for those who cry out for His help. Help me get what David got, as I grow through my experiences with God.

## From Need To Results

### A Prayer For Deliverance

Jesus, my LORD, see how my enemies persecute me! Have mercy and lift me up from the **gates of death, that I may declare Your praises in the gates of the Daughter of Zion and there rejoice in Your salvation (Psa 9:13-14).** Even though David wasn't praying about problems with life, and even though he was praying about people who were persecuting him, help me see I can pray his prayers because they have very similar structure and characteristics to them. Show me that I can say things like: "O Lord, see how I suffer from struggles with life! Have mercy and lift me up from the gates of death, that I may declare Your praises and rejoice in Your salvation."

### A Prayer After Deliverance

Jesus, just like the nations have fallen into the pit they have dug; their feet are caught in the **net they have hidden**, show me that You work the same miracles for me. You, my LORD, are known by Your justice; **the wicked are ensnared by the work of their hands. The wicked return to the grave, all the nations that forget You. But the needy like me will not always be forgotten, nor the hope of the afflicted like me will ever perish (Psa 9:15-18).**

Help me keep in mind that I accidentally and ignorantly DO wicked things; but, that doesn't make me **the wicked**. **The wicked** are people who do bad things to themselves and others and have dedicated themselves to it. I have been made the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. **2 Cor 5:21 (NIV) God made Him Who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God**. Keep me always aware that I have been set free from all wickedness in my record with God.

### **Keep Appealing To God For More Deliverance**

**Arise, O LORD, let not man triumph; let the nations be judged in Your presence. Strike them with terror, O LORD; let the nations know they are but men (Psa 9:19-20)**. Jesus, even though David's main issues were with wicked, evil people and may not necessarily fit my exact difficulties in life, help me see that these prayers are still presented to me as guides for MY problems. Help me take them and reword them so that the principle of the prayers are the same but better fit my situation. Help me see how to reword prayers like this: "Arise, O Lord, don't let my difficulties with life triumph over me."

# Talking With Your Heavenly Father Textbook

## Week Two Day Four

### Consistent Faith

**James 1:5-8 (NIV)** If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, Who gives GENEROUSLY to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That man should not think he will receive ANYTHING from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does.

### Dealing With Doubting

#### A Double-Minded Person

When you walk, you take one foot and put it in front of the other and consistently follow that procedure. If you took one step forward and then one step backward, you wouldn't make any progress. Faith is like filling your glass with water; doubt is like pouring it out. Believing something and then doubting that it is true, keeps you from making progress with God. You are being double-minded when you believe and trust Him one moment and then doubt and distrust Him the next.

#### Consistent Faith

God's type of believing is the ability to find the truth about something and not let misinformation confuse you about it. We have already learned that we have to ask God for things or He won't give them to us. Now we are learning that we have to have consistent faith with that prayer. God knows that we can't have consistent faith on our own. So, it is time to pray; and, by us praying and asking for consistent faith, we are giving Him permission to produce it in us. Now we are getting from God another one of His requirements in the prayer process, consistent faith.

#### Doubting God's Existence Or Honesty

You are learning about and praying for being able to have a stable and constant trust in your heavenly Father. Just like everything else in Christianity, God isn't expecting you to PRODUCE consistent faith; but, He IS wanting you to know consistent faith is vital for you getting your prayers answered. Once you understand that, He simply wants you to start "doing what it takes" for getting HIM to install it in you. If God didn't exist or He wasn't honest, Christianity couldn't be based on God answering your prayers.



# Mandatory Requirements

## Required And Provided

**Heb 11:6 (NIV) And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to Him must believe (1) that He exists and (2) that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him.** If faith were something you had to produce, then the above Scripture would cut us all off. When the Bible tells you that you **must believe** these two things, God is just letting you know how things work in REAL LIFE. God knows you wouldn't be willing to pray to a god you didn't believe existed. He also knows you wouldn't pray to a god who wasn't honest. But, how are you going to find out whether or not He exists or is honest, if you can't interact with Him and experience Him for yourself?

## Faith Through God's Creation

**Rom 1:18 (NIV) The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them.** If a person looks at the sky, the stars, and the mountains, they can see the beauty of all God created. If they look at the bugs, all the animals, reptiles, fish, and birds, they can see that there are huge gaps between EVERY TYPE of bug, animal, reptile, fish, and bird. In other words, evolution or any other godless explanation for all of creation would make one gradual change so that everything would all be connected from the first cell of life to the most complex being.

## Faith Through The Good News Message

**Rom 10:17 (NIV) Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.** When someone presented the good news message to you, the ONLY way it made sense to you was because Jesus spoke through that **message** and produced faith in you. **John 6:44 (NIV) No one can come to Me unless the Father Who sent Me draws him, and I will raise him up at the last day.** Even before Jesus produced faith in you through the good news message, your heavenly Father drew you into faith. That helped you be able to listen to the message in the first place.

## Two Requirement And Two Provisions

**Anyone who comes to Him must believe that He exists:** This is God's requirement; but, His creation's incredible beauty, complexity, and powerful proof PRODUCES faith in us for believing in God's existence. **Anyone who comes to Him must believe...that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him:** When you heard the good news message and Jesus spoke faith into you, you were able to believe in your heart that God raised Jesus from the dead. And, you were empowered to confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord (Rom 10:8-10). This proved to you that God **rewards those who earnestly seek Him.**

# Faith Grows Through Our Cooperation

## It Is Available For All To See

**Rom 1:20 (NIV)** For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities--His eternal power and divine nature--have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse. If a person wants to, they can grow in faith in the existence of God just by looking at creation. God is saying that He will reveal His existence to anyone willing to look at it with honesty. He will speak through it and create faith in His existence to all who will sincerely examine it. This will satisfy the first part of Hebrews 11:6 in anyone's life.

## It Is Free To Choose

**Rom 1:21 (NIV)** For although they KNEW God, they neither glorified Him as God nor gave thanks to Him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. Once we start seeing God in His creation, we can see through it how wonderful, loving, and generous He is. Then once we pray The Lord's Prayer and obey Romans 10:8-10, it is easy to see how great He is to us as a person. We are born again into being a child of God, a member of His family, and a citizen of His eternal Kingdom.

# World Wisdom Kills True Faith

## Faith In The Crowd

**Rom 1:22 (NIV)** Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools. Some people base their importance and value on the crowd; they live their life based on what "most people" think. Even though their friends are suffering emotionally, getting addicted, getting divorced, having financial difficulties, having major relationship problems, and are failing in a lot of the areas of their life, they go ahead and pattern their life after them and their advice.

## Faith In Things

Just because people claim to be wise, claim to be experts, have degrees, or hold powerful positions doesn't mean they aren't foolish in their decisions. People of the world think that gaining, money, possessions, positions, power, prestige, popularity, pleasure, and accomplishments prove that they are wise, experts, and leaders. BUT, **Mark 8:36 (NIV)** What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul?

The results of the Christian life is far superior to the life found by the majority of the people around you who aren't Christians. Consistent faith through taking a good look at God's creation will give you a wisdom that will change your life for the good. He has done a beautiful job of providing you a world that is wonderful to live on. And He is leading you into relationships that are meaningful and awesome. You will find that loving people rather than loving things will transform your way of life.

# Talking With Your Heavenly Father Workbook

## Week Two Day Four

### Consistent Faith

Jesus, since I have prayed about my **lack of wisdom**, and since I asked **God, Who gives GENEROUSLY to all without finding fault**, help me know that **it has been given to me**. **When I ask** for things like this, help me always **believe and not doubt**, because if I **doubt** I will be **like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind**. I should not think I will receive **ANYTHING from the Lord**; I would be a **double-minded man, unstable in all I do** (James 1:5-8).

### Dealing With Doubting

#### A Double-Minded Person

Jesus, use the example of when I walk, I take one foot and put it in front of the other and consistently follow that procedure. If I take one step forward and then one step backward, I wouldn't make any progress. Show me that faith is like filling my glass with water; doubt is like pouring it out. Make it clear to me that believing something and then doubting that it is true, keeps me from making progress with God. I am being double-minded when I believe and trust Him one moment and then doubt and distrust Him the next.

#### Consistent Faith

Jesus, teach me that God's type of believing is the ability to find the truth about something and not let misinformation confuse me about it. You have already taught me that I have to ask God for things or He won't give them to me. Now teach me that I have to have consistent faith with that prayer. Since God knows that I can't have consistent faith on my own, help me pray and ask for consistent faith. Help me give God permission to produce it in me. Through this prayer, help me get consistent faith from God, which is another one of His requirements in the prayer process.

#### Doubting God's Existence Or Honesty

Jesus, You are teaching me about and helping me pray for being able to have a stable and constant trust in my heavenly Father. Show me that just like everything else in Christianity, God isn't expecting me to **PRODUCE** consistent faith; but, He **IS** wanting me to know consistent faith is vital for me getting my prayers answered. Help me start "doing what it takes" for getting **HIM** to install it in me. Make it clear to me that if God didn't exist or He wasn't honest, Christianity couldn't be based on God answering my prayers.

# Mandatory Requirements

## Required And Provided

Jesus, make it clear to me that **without faith it is impossible to please God, because if I come to Him I MUST believe (1) that He exists and (2) that He rewards me when I earnestly seek Him (Heb 11:6).** Help me understand that if faith were something I had to produce, then Hebrews 11:6 would cut me off, because I wouldn't be able to do it. When the Bible tells me that I **must believe** these two things, teach me that God is just letting me know how things work in REAL LIFE. God knows I wouldn't be willing to pray to a god I didn't believe existed. He also knows I wouldn't pray to a god who wasn't honest. Help me always KNOW He exists and is honest by interacting with Him and experiencing Him for myself.

## Faith Through God's Creation

Jesus, help me understand that **the wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them (Rom 1:18).** If I look at the sky, the stars, and the mountains, I can see the beauty of all God has created. If I look at the bugs, all the animals, reptiles, fish, and birds, I can see that there are huge gaps between EVERY TYPE of bug, animal, reptile, fish, and bird.

Jesus, since evolution or any other godless explanation for all of creation would make one gradual change so that everything would all be connected from the first cell of life to the most complex being, I see all these gaps between ALL God's creatures as proof. Let my heart embrace God's existence through all these individual things He has created.

## Faith Through The Good News Message

Jesus, since **faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of You, the Christ (Rom 10:17)**, help me learn from that experience. Teach me that when someone presented the good news message to me, the ONLY way it made sense to me was because You spoke through that **message** and produced faith in me; thank You for that. Since **no one can come to You unless the Father Who sent You draws him, and You will raise him up at the last day (John 6:44)**, make it clear to me that even before You produced faith in me through the good news message, my heavenly Father drew me into faith. That helped me be able to listen to the message in the first place.

## Two Requirement And Two Provisions

**Anyone who comes to Him must believe that He exists:** Jesus, this is God's requirement; but, His creation's incredible beauty, complexity, and powerful proof PRODUCES faith in me for believing in God's existence.

**Anyone who comes to Him must believe...that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him:** When I heard the good news message and You spoke faith into me, I was able to believe in my heart that God raised You from the dead. And, I was empowered to confess with my mouth that You are Lord (Rom 10:8-10). This proved to me that God **rewards those who earnestly seek Him.**

## Faith Grows Through Our Cooperation

### It Is Available For All To See

Jesus, help me understand that **since the creation of the world, God's invisible qualities--His eternal power and divine nature--have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that I am without excuse (Rom 1:20).** Help me grow in faith in the existence of God just by looking at creation. God is saying that He will reveal His existence to me by me being willing to look at it with honesty. He has spoken through it and has created faith in His existence in me as I sincerely examined it. This satisfied the first part of Hebrews 11:6 in my life; and, I thank You for that.

### It Is Free To Choose

Jesus, help me not be one of those who, **although they KNEW God, they neither glorified Him as God nor gave thanks to Him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.** Help me continue seeing God in His creation; help me continue seeing through it how wonderful, loving, and generous He is. Once I prayed The Lord's Prayer and obeyed Romans 10:8-10, it was easy to see how great He is to me as a person. I was born again into being a child of God, a member of His family, and a citizen of His eternal Kingdom. I praise You for all these wonderful faith-building experiences.

## World Wisdom Kills True Faith

### Faith In The Crowd

Jesus protect me from all those who **claim to be wise, and have become fools (Rom 1:22).** Help me not base my importance and value on the crowd; help me not live my life based on what "most people" think. My worldly friends are suffering emotionally, getting addicted, getting divorced, having financial difficulties, having major relationship problems, and are failing in a lot of the areas of their life. Help me not pattern my life after them and their advice.

## Faith In Things

Jesus, make it clear to me that just because people claim to be wise, claim to be experts, have degrees, or hold powerful positions doesn't mean they aren't foolish in their decisions. Before I came to You, I thought that gaining, money, possessions, positions, power, prestige, popularity, pleasure, and accomplishments prove that I and others were wise, experts, and leaders. BUT, help me understand the principle in **Mark 8:36 (NIV): "What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul?"**

Jesus, help me always keep in mind that the results of the Christian life are far superior to the life found by the majority of the people around me who aren't Christians. Make it clear to me that consistent faith through taking a good look at God's creation will give me a wisdom that will change my life for the good. He has done a beautiful job of providing me a world that is wonderful to live on. And He is leading me into relationships that are meaningful and awesome. Help me find that loving people rather than loving things will transform my way of life.

# **Talking With Your Heavenly Father Textbook**

## **Week Two Day Five**

### **Consistent Faith**

**James 1:6-8 (NIV)** But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does.

#### **Consistent Faith By Looking At Creation**

##### **Really LOOK At Creation**

**Psa 104:1-5 (NIV)** Praise the LORD, O my soul. O LORD my God, You are very great; You are clothed with splendor and majesty. He wraps Himself in light as with a garment; He stretches out the heavens like a tent and lays the beams of His upper chambers on their waters. He makes the clouds His chariot and rides on the wings of the wind. He makes winds His messengers, flames of fire His servants. He set the earth on its foundations; it can never be moved.

##### **See God In Creation**

All we have to do is stop taking all of the things in creation for granted. If we open our eyes, we can see the beauty of God and all His greatness. God's creation is both beautiful and efficient; it is well organized and very functional. It is just a matter of seeing your heavenly Father in all that you are experiencing. Take out time to look at its beauty and functionality; AND THEN, spend some time thanking and praising Him for it all.

#### **Consistent Faith By Seeing God's Control**

##### **God Is In Control Of The Earth**

**Psa 104:6-9 (NIV)** You covered it [the earth] with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains. But at your rebuke the waters fled, at the sound of Your thunder they took to flight; they flowed over the mountains, they went down into the valleys, to the place You assigned for them. You set a boundary they cannot cross; never again will they cover the earth.

##### **God Punishes And Protects**

This is talking about the great flood during Noah's time. This is where mankind was so evil that they had to be destroyed. There God demonstrated that He is in total control over the earth. The reason why humans can't destroy it, we don't have total disaster, or some object from space annihilate it and us is because God is protecting us. Through earth quakes, meteorites, plagues, pestilence, tornadoes, hurricanes, tsunamis, drought, and floods we can see that things could easily get out of control; but they don't. We need to take out time to thank God for keeping the whole human race protected and surviving. We need to thank Him for the privilege of being here so we can get to know Him and all His greatness.

# Consistent Faith By Seeing God's Ecosystem

## It All Works With Interdependence

**Psa 104:10-13 (NIV)** He makes springs pour water into the ravines; it flows between the mountains. They give water to all the beasts of the field; the wild donkeys quench their thirst. The birds of the air nest by the waters; they sing among the branches. He waters the mountains from His upper chambers; the earth is satisfied by the fruit of His work.

## It All Works Through Advanced Planning

Wikipedia says an ecosystem is: “a community of living organisms in conjunction with the nonliving components of their environment (things like air, water, and mineral soil), interacting as a system. These biotic [living] and abiotic [nonliving] components are regarded as linked together through nutrient cycles and energy flows.” If life tried to exist on a dead earth, the nutrients that came from former life dying and decaying wouldn't be available. When scientists look at this earth with all its resources, it is because God put them in it at creation. It appears to be much older than it is because it was created as if it had been here a long time. That made it be ready to support life.

## An Old-New Earth

### Starting From Adult Life

**Psa 104:14-15 (NIV)** He makes grass grow for the cattle, and plants for man to cultivate-- bringing forth food from the earth: wine that gladdens the heart of man, oil to make his face shine, and bread that sustains his heart. After six days of creation, grass now comes from a seed and grows from immaturity to an adult plant. Now, babies are born as infants and grow into mature adults. BUT, Adam and Eve didn't; the garden of Eve didn't, the earth didn't, and all the nutrients that the plants fed on didn't. It all started from an adult earth, adult humans, adult trees, adult animals, birds, bugs, and reptiles.

Don't let “scientific” dating, measuring, hypothesizing, conjecturing, assuming, and theorizing move you off of the greatness of God. It didn't take Him billions of years to create the universe and everything in it. **Rev 21:1 (NIV)** Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. It took Him six days to make this one; and, He will make the next one just as fast; let that empower your consistent faith.

## Start Considering These Things

### 1. Provisions

**Psa 104:16-17 (NIV)** The trees of the LORD are well watered, the cedars of Lebanon that He planted. There the birds make their nests; the stork has its home in the pine trees. Oil has been coming out of the ground for centuries and has been used to maintain and fuel petroleum engines on a larger and larger scale all during this time. We take it for granted that the earth hasn't run out of oil. God's generous supply for such an abundance of provisions for us humans is incredibly wonderful and loving.



When we cooperate, work together, defend and protect one another, everyone's needs can be met. Greed, selfishness, covetousness, dishonesty, dissention, and cheating make God's world look like it can't provide for and sustain all us humans. But, if love, compassion, unity, selflessness, and cooperation were to dominate this world, we would see how powerful, generous, and prolific this creation of God is; that would help you have consistent faith.

## 2. Variety

**Psa 104:18 (NIV) The high mountains belong to the wild goats; the crags are a refuge for the coney.** The amount of different life forms are incredible; it is easy to see that God provided creatures that fit into every aspect of our world. We can all see the wisdom of populating this planet with creatures that live in every kind of environment and location. Each creature has been specially designed to be able to live and enjoy that spot and the conditions that exist there. Just spend some time considering all the different places God's creatures live; that will help your consistent faith.

## 3. Unity

**Psa 104:19-23 (NIV) The moon marks off the seasons, and the sun knows when to go down. You bring darkness, it becomes night, and all the beasts of the forest prowl. The lions roar for their prey and seek their food from God. The sun rises, and they steal away; they return and lie down in their dens. Then man goes out to his work, to his labor until evening.**

The flow of days and nights, seasons, and weather give us patterns that we can count on. We and the rest of God's creatures depend on these changes for our way of life. There are creatures of the night and creatures of the day. Some creatures enjoy the winter and others enjoy and best survive in the summer; nothing, no time, and nowhere is wasted; it is all unified in a beautiful way.

## 4. Faith

**Psa 104:24 (NIV) How many are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you made them all; the earth is full of Your creatures.** You can see that David has allowed God's creation to fill his heart with faith and appreciation. He has spent time looking it all over and allowing God to talk to him through it. God's creation has been designed to build consistent faith inside your heart. It is so great, so unified, so varied, so generous, and so beautiful that it sings and shouts out the wonderful aspects of our God.

## 5. The Life Cycle

**Psa 104:25-29 (NIV) There is the sea, vast and spacious, teeming with creatures beyond number-- living things both large and small. There the ships go to and fro, and the leviathan, which you formed to frolic there. These all look to You to give them their food at the proper time. When You give it to them, they gather it up; when You open Your hand, they are satisfied with good things. When You hide your face, they are terrified; when You take away their breath, they die and return to the dust.**

It's your turn to live on this planet; it's your time to decide what you will do with the life God gave you. It's all up to you as to whom you are going to trust to guide you and teach you the principles of life. Many have lived before you and have made various decisions as to how they wanted their life to be lived. And, each person's decisions have shaped a certain type of life for them.

## 6. Change

**Psa 104:30 (NIV) When You send Your Spirit, they are created, and You renew the face of the earth.** Life and death are a part of God's plan; He is arranging special times and places for each person. He has chosen the time and place for you to live; it is a time and a place that gives you the very best opportunity for you to succeed. Your life span is the perfect length of time for you to become, excel, and fulfill the purpose God placed you here for.

## 7. No Random Events

**Psa 104:31-32 (NIV) May the glory of the LORD endure forever; may the LORD rejoice in His works--He Who looks at the earth, and it trembles, Who touches the mountains, and they smoke.** Good things and bad things happen all over the world; we look at them and try to decide why we think they happen. Some think things "just happen." Others see God in them and decide that God is evil and bad for allowing such bad things to happen. Others see God in them and decide that God is gracious and merciful for making everything work out for good.

As you read the Old Testament, you will see how God SOMETIMES used difficult events to help people see the evil of their lives. The Bible makes it clear that good things and difficult things happen to everyone. But, it also makes it clear that God makes EVERYTHING work out for the benefit of those who will call on Him (Rom 8:28).

## 8. Appreciation

**Psa 104:33-34 (NIV) I will sing to the LORD all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live. May my meditation be pleasing to Him, as I rejoice in the LORD.** If you will let it, God's creation will not only bring you consistent faith, it will bring great joy to your heart.

## 9. Sinners

**Psa 104:35 (NIV) But may sinners vanish from the earth and the wicked be no more. Praise the LORD, O my soul. Praise the LORD.** There are two ways for sinners to vanish from the earth. The best way is for them to be forgiven for their sins and become people who allow God to change their character and attitudes. The other and worst way is for them to become wicked; as you know, these are people who decide to keep their evil ways and go on hurting themselves and others. God will take them out of this world in His timing.

**Rom 1:18-21 (NIV) The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities--His eternal power and divine nature--have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse. For although they knew God, they neither glorified Him as God nor gave thanks to Him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.**

# Talking With Your Heavenly Father Workbook

## Week Two Day Five

### Consistent Faith

Jesus, help me look at Your creation from every possible perspective. Let it give me consistent faith so that **when I ask, I will believe and not doubt**. Help me not be one **who doubts and is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind**. Set me free from being a person **should not think he will receive anything from the Lord**; Set me free from being a **double-minded man, unstable in all I do (James 1:6-8)**.

### Consistent Faith By Looking At Creation

#### Really LOOK At Creation

Jesus, I **praise You, my LORD. O LORD my God, You are very great; You are clothed with splendor and majesty. You wrap Yourself in light as with a garment; You stretch out the heavens like a tent and lay the beams of Your upper chambers on their waters. You make the clouds Your chariot and ride on the wings of the wind. You make winds Your messengers, flames of fire Your servants. You set the earth on its foundations; it can never be moved (Psa 104:1-5)**.

#### See God In Creation

Jesus, help me stop taking all of the things in creation for granted. Help me open my eyes so I can see the beauty of God and all His greatness. Help me see that God's creation is both beautiful and efficient; it is well organized and very functional. Let me see my heavenly Father in all that I am experiencing. Help me take out time to look at its beauty and functionality; **AND THEN**, help me spend some time thanking and praising You for it all.

### Consistent Faith By Seeing God's Control

#### God Is In Control Of The Earth

Jesus, **You covered the earth with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains. But at your rebuke the waters fled, at the sound of Your thunder they took to flight; they flowed over the mountains, they went down into the valleys, to the place You assigned for them. You set a boundary they cannot cross; never again will they cover the earth (Psa 104:6-9)**.

## God Punishes And Protects

Jesus, this is talking about the great flood during Noah's time. Show me that this is where mankind was so evil that they had to be destroyed. Help me see that God was demonstrating He is in total control over the earth. Teach me that the reason why we humans can't destroy it, we don't have total disaster, or we don't have some object from space annihilate it and us is because God is protecting us. Teach me that through earth quakes, meteorites, plagues, pestilence, tornadoes, hurricanes, tsunamis, drought, and floods it is simple to see that things could easily get out of control; but they don't. Thank You, God, for keeping the human race protected and surviving. Thank You for the privilege of being here so I can get to know You and all Your greatness.

## Consistent Faith By Seeing God's Ecosystem

### It All Works With Interdependence

Jesus, You **make springs pour water into the ravines; it flows between the mountains. They give water to all the beasts of the field; the wild donkeys quench their thirst. The birds of the air nest by the waters; they sing among the branches.** You water the mountains from Your upper chambers; the earth is satisfied by the fruit of Your work.

### It All Works Through Advanced Planning

Jesus, help me understand and appreciate Your beautiful ecosystem; let me see "a community of living organisms in conjunction with the nonliving components of their environment (things like air, water, and mineral soil), interacting as a system. These biotic [living] and abiotic [nonliving] components are regarded as linked together through nutrient cycles and energy flows."

Jesus, help me understand that if life tried to exist on a dead earth, the nutrients that came from former life dying and decaying wouldn't be available. Reveal to me that when scientists look at this earth with all its resources, it is because God put them in it at creation. Help me understand that it appears to be much older than it is because it was created as if it had been here a long time. That made it be ready to support life.

## An Old-New Earth

### Starting From Adult Life

Jesus, You **make grass grow for the cattle, and plants for man to cultivate-- bringing forth food from the earth: wine that gladdens the heart of man, oil to make his face shine, and bread that sustains his heart (Psa 104:14-15).** Teach me that after six days of creation, grass now comes from a seed and grows from immaturity to an adult plant. Now, babies are born as infants and grow into mature adults. BUT, make it clear to me that Adam and Eve didn't; the garden of Eve didn't, the earth didn't, and all the nutrients that the plants fed on didn't.

Jesus, help me see that it all started from an adult earth, adult humans, adult trees, adult animals, birds, bugs, and reptiles. Help me not let “scientific” dating, measuring, hypothesizing, conjecturing, assuming, and theorizing move me off of the greatness of God. Help me see that it didn’t take Him billions of years to create the universe and everything in it. **Rev 21:1 (NIV) Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea.** I believe with my heart and confess with my mouth that it took Him six days to make this one; and, He will make the next one just as fast; let that empower my consistent faith.

## Start Considering These Things

### 1. Provisions

Jesus, Your **trees are well watered, the cedars of Lebanon that You planted. There the birds make their nests; the stork has its home in the pine trees (Psa 104:16-17).** Help me see that oil has been coming out of the ground for centuries and has been used to maintain and fuel petroleum engines on a larger and larger scale all during this time. Help me not take it for granted that the earth hasn’t run out of oil. Show me that God’s generous supply for such an abundance of provisions for us humans is incredibly wonderful and loving.

Jesus, help me cooperate, work together, defend and protect others so everyone’s needs are met. Show me that greed, selfishness, covetousness, dishonesty, dissention, and cheating make God’s world look like it can’t provide and sustain all us humans. Make me a part of love, compassion, unity, selflessness, and cooperation so it will dominate this world. Show me how powerful, generous, and prolific God’s creation is; that would help me have much greater consistent faith.

### 2. Variety

Jesus, because of Your beautiful design, **the high mountains belong to the wild goats; the crags are a refuge for the coneys (Psa 104:18).** Let my consistent faith be built by looking at the amount of different forms of life and how incredible they are. Make it easy for me to see that God has provided creatures that fit into every aspect of my world. Help me see the wisdom of populating this planet with creatures that live in every kind of environment and location on earth. Help me spend some time looking at each creature that has been specially designed to be able to live and enjoy that spot and the conditions that exist there. Help me spend some time considering all the different places God’s creatures live; and, let that help my consistent faith.

### 3. Unity

Jesus, because of Your brilliant design, **the moon marks off the seasons, and the sun knows when to go down. You bring darkness, it becomes night, and all the beasts of the forest prowl. The lions roar for their prey and seek their food from God. The sun rises, and they steal away; they return and lie down in their dens. Then man goes out to his work, to his labor until evening. (Psa 104:19-23)**

Jesus, help me appreciate the flow of days and nights, seasons, and weather that give me patterns that I can count on. I and the rest of God's creatures depend on these changes for our way of life. There are creatures of the night and creatures of the day. There are creatures that enjoy the winter and those that enjoy and best survive in the summer; nothing, no time, and nowhere is wasted; it is all unified in a beautiful way. Help me see these things and praise You for them.

### 4. Faith

Jesus, **many are Your works, O LORD! In wisdom You made them all; the earth is full of Your creatures (Psa 104:24).** I can see that David has allowed God's creation to fill his heart with faith and appreciation. He has spent time looking it all over and allowing God to talk to him through it. Help me take advantage of God's creation that has been designed to build consistent faith inside my heart. It is so great, so unified, so varied, so generous, and so beautiful that it sings and shouts out the wonderful aspects of my God; help me praise You for all of it.

### 5. The Life Cycle

Jesus, **there is the sea, vast and spacious, teeming with creatures beyond number--living things both large and small. There the ships go to and fro, and the leviathan, which You formed to frolic there. These all look to You to give them their food at the proper time. When You give it to them, they gather it up; when You open Your hand, they are satisfied with good things. When You hide your face, they are terrified; when You take away their breath, they die and return to the dust (Psa 104:25-29).**

Jesus, it is my turn to live on this planet; it is my time to decide what I am going to do with the life God has given me. It is all up to me as to whom I am going to trust to guide me and teach me the principles of life. Many have lived before me and have made various decisions as to how they wanted their life to be lived. And, each person's decisions have shaped a certain type of life for them. Shape my life to fit into Your purposes and plans for me.

## 6. Change

Jesus, **when You send Your Spirit, they are created, and You renew the face of the earth (Psa 104:30).** Life and death are a part of God's plan; He is arranging special times and places for me. He has chosen the time and place for me to live; it is a time and a place that gives me the very best opportunity for me to succeed. My life span is the perfect length of time for me to become, excel, and fulfill the purpose God placed me here for.

## 7. No Random Events

Jesus, **may Your glory endure forever; may You rejoice in Your works--You Who look at the earth, and it trembles, Who touches the mountains, and they smoke (Psa 104:31-32).** Teach me that good things and bad things happen all over the world; help me look at them and decide why they happen. Even though some think things "just happen," help me know that isn't true. Even though others see God in them and decide that God is evil and bad for allowing such bad things to happen, help me know Him so well that I know that is false. Let me see God in the events of this world and decide that He is gracious and merciful for making everything work out for good.

Jesus, as I read the Old Testament, help me see how God SOMETIMES used difficult events to help people see the evil of their lives. Help me see that the Bible makes it clear that good things and difficult things happen to everyone. But, it also makes it clear that God makes EVERYTHING work out for the benefit of those who will call on Him (Rom 8:28); help me be one of those people.

## 8. Appreciation

Jesus, **I will sing to You all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live. May my meditation be pleasing to Him, as I rejoice in You, LORD (Psa 104:33-34).** Let God's creation not only bring me consistent faith, let it bring great joy to my heart.

## 9. Sinners

Jesus, **may sinners vanish from the earth and the wicked be no more. Praise the LORD, O my soul. Praise the LORD (Psa 104:35).** Teach me that there are two ways for sinners to vanish from the earth. Teach me that the best way is for them to be forgiven for their sins and become people who allow God to change their character and attitudes. Teach me that the other and worst way is for them to become wicked. Show me that these are people who decide to keep their evil ways and go on hurting themselves and others. God will take them out of this world in His timing.

Jesus, the wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities--His eternal power and divine nature--have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse. For although they knew God, they neither glorified Him as God nor gave thanks to Him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened (Rom 1:18-21). I know that there will be some who demand to fit into this category; but, I ask that You would let me help those who want out of this way of life.

This concludes the course,  
**“Talking With Your Heavenly Father.”**  
And it concludes the series,  
**“The PRAYER Courses.”**

Be sure to fill out your “My Power Growth Record” sheet  
so you will be able to come back and start the next series called,  
**“The RESOURCE Courses.”**  
Next week, you will be starting the course,  
**“The Lord’s Prayer For Sharing Salvation.”**