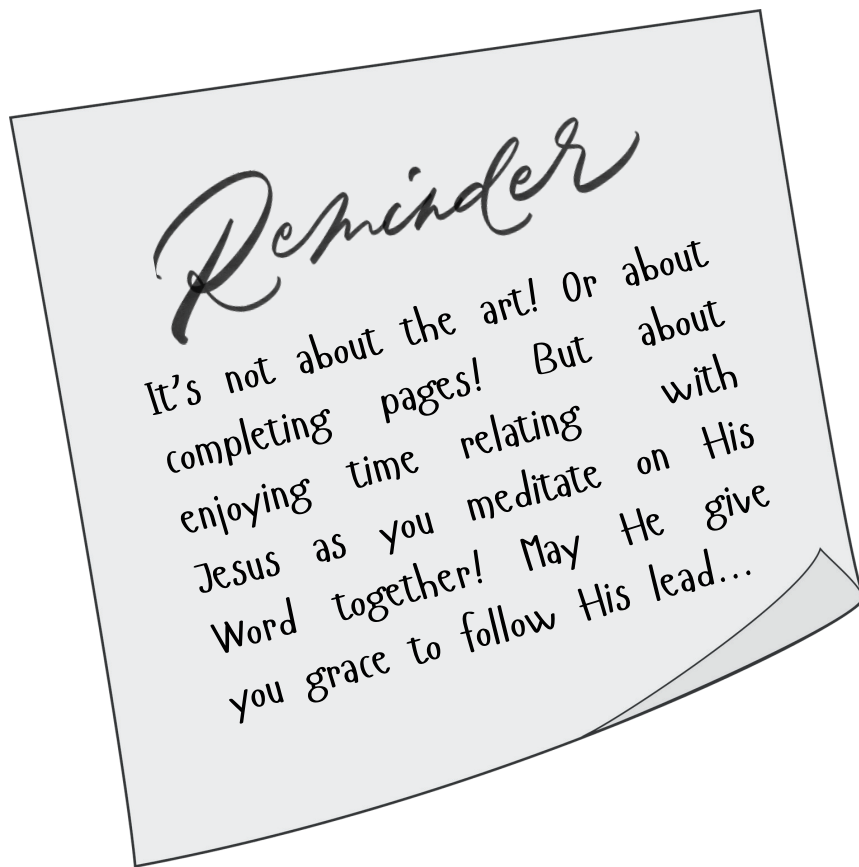


5

*Living
The Life*

**CREATIVELY
CONNECTING
WITH GOD**

PRAYER



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“What you are praying for is what you are living for.”
— Dawson Trotman

Living the Life: Prayer

CREATIVE MEDITATION OPPORTUNITIES

FOCUS: John 15:7

INTRODUCTION:

The Heart of Prayer

The Prayer Hand

Memorize John 15:7

DAY 1: Consider Context - Truth Treasuring with Text Boxes

Scripture Prayer: Psalm 25:4-5

DAY 2: Contemplate Key Words - Banners

Scripture Prayer: Matthew 6:9-13

DAY 3: Change Conjunctions - Scrolls

Scripture Prayer: Luke 22:42

DAY 4: Compare Different Translations - Flags

Scripture Prayer: Ephesians 3:14-21

DAY 5: Connect Cross References Frames

Scripture Prayer: Romans 15:13

DAY 6: Consider Context In A Different Translation - Signs

Scripture Prayer: Colossians 1:9-12

DAY 7: Connect To Your Life- Flowers

Scripture Prayer: Revelation 22:20

The Heart of Prayer

Whatever You Wish?

In John 15:7 Jesus makes a shocking statement, “if you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish and it will be done for you.” What, wait? Whatever you wish? How can that be?

Remember, the enemy loves to take God’s Word and twist it, so we will think it means something different than what God intends and assume the Lord isn’t faithful or good when He doesn’t do what we expect. This is why it is vital to take time to understand what God is saying... and isn’t.

Remember, you must read Scripture in context - and that doesn’t only mean the verses before and directly after the verse but the whole context of Scripture.

We are told in Matthew 7:11, “If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!” and in James 1:17 “Every good and perfect gift comes from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights who does not change like shifting shadows.” God gives good gifts. So what happens if we ask for something that isn’t good?

When Amy Carmichael was a little girl she asked God to give her blue eyes like her mothers and was so disappointed when he never did. But years later when the Lord led her to be a missionary in India, rescuing children from being used as temple prostitutes, Amy was able to go undercover to find details of these children because she had brown eyes. Staining her arms with coffee and wearing full Indian dress, she could disguise herself as an Indian woman and move freely in Indian society - something she never could’ve done if God had given her the blue eyes she asked for. With her brown eyes and the all wise, all powerful God, she helped save over one thousand children!

Have you ever asked God for something that seemed good to you at the time, but later on you realized it wasn't good? Share the story in the space below:

If...

When reading this verse it can be easy to jump to "whatever you wish" and start asking away and forget this promise is conditional. John 15:7 begins with a conditional word, "if." That means we have a part to play. Before we can ask whatever we wish and it be done for us, we need to abide in the Lord and His Word needs to abide in us.

What do you think it looks like to do this?

Remember how Romans 12:2 tells us "Do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing, you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect." Our minds are renewed as we spend time with Jesus, enabling us to better know what His will is and pray in accordance.

Proverbs 13:20 points out we become like those we spend the most time with. Spend time with Jesus then you will start to want what he wants and ask for what is good. And God's Word is key for us enjoying time with Him.

But what do you think it means for God's Word to abide in us?

Of course, Scripture memory can get God's Word into our minds. But the Greek word for abide transliterated meno means to be present. I find a lot of the verses I've memorized I rarely even think of, let alone live present to.

But when I memorize to music and review on repeat while I exercise - that's when I find I am more present to God's Word - even when I wake at 3 in the morning it is playing in the backdrop of my mind! Fighter verses has a great song if you want to memorize John 15:7 in the ESV!

One other thing that's really helped - About twenty years ago I decided to start memorizing the prayers in Scripture. I was blown away by how handy it was when praying for people to pray these.

If someone was struggling with a relationship with a roommate, spouse or friend, I'd pray Romans 15:5-6. If someone was feeling discouraged, I'd pray Romans 15:13. If someone was facing a decision and didn't know what to do, I'd pray Colossians 1:9-12. If someone was struggling with feeling unloved (and that is often an underlying reason behind a ton of sin), I'd pray Ephesians 3:14-21.

After reading Jerry Bridges' article Engaging the Unseen Foe I started to pray scripture for friends who don't know Jesus. I was amazed at how impactful it was to do this.

Want to know the best part of praying Scripture?

There is never a doubt whether I am praying God's will for something!

I also find praying straight through chapters and books in the Bible gives me so many ideas for new things to pray for and can serve as such a wonderful guide.

What can it look like for you to let God's Word abide in you?

How can doing this impact your praying?

Praying In A Way that Honors Christ As The Center of Everything

There are many different ways to pray. In fact, before you even start this week, I encourage you to take out the “pantry” you created last week and on the shelf marked prayer label boxes and bowls representing the resources and tools that have helped you learn how to pray, then have fun asking others what has helped them learn how to pray and continue pressing on in prayer.

Have fun with this! One of the things that encourages and spurs me on in prayer are the stories of how other people have experienced God answering prayers. This past week my husband and I watched the movie *Unsung Hero* - there are so many answered prayers in that movie. You better believe it has spurred me on to pray even more and to worship our amazing God. He really does write the best stories.

But it also encourages me in a huge way when I take time to remember the stories in my life where I prayed and then experienced the Lord answering (both when He gave me what I asked for as well as when he didn't, but instead gave me what my heart really longed for).

Take a moment to remember, when have you experienced the Lord answering your prayers? Record a few of these times below, thanking Him as you list each one.

Jesus is always the center of everything, but every time I take time to remember how He's answered my prayers, I find myself spurred on to live even more aware of this reality.

There is no way in a week's time we can begin to even scratch the surface on all the different ways there are to pray, but I thought it'd be helpful to share another Navigator tool - The Prayer Hand. (See the next page).

There are many different ways to do each "finger" but this is a great way to remember the five main categories of prayer. Sometimes it can be easy to get stuck just using one finger instead of the full repertoire the Lord's blessed us with.

As we dive into this week, I encourage you to enjoy time with Jesus praying through the prayer hand and see if there's anything you've been missing that could enrich your interactions with Jesus even more.

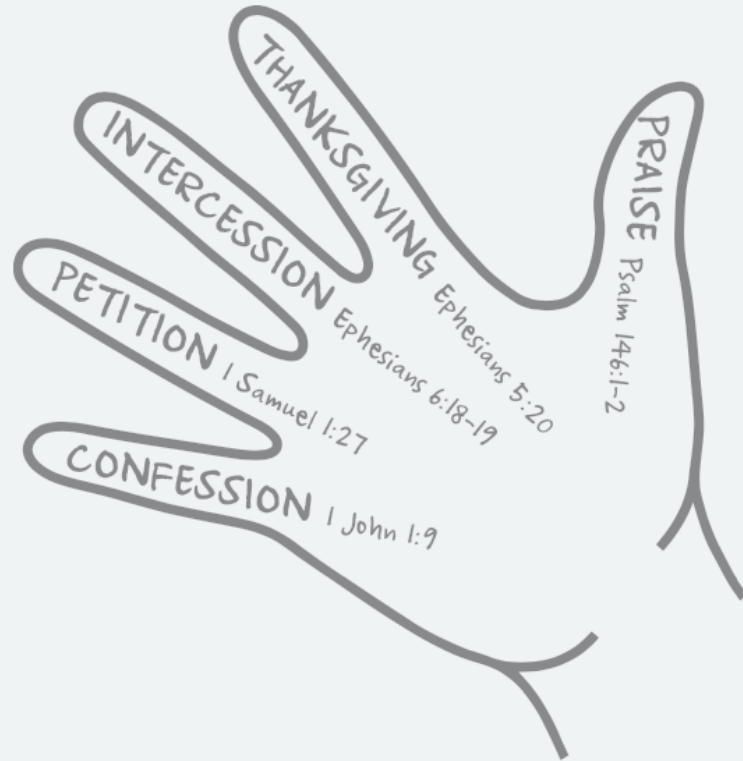
Creatively Process

Look back over the portions from the preceding pages you highlighted. What do you sense the Lord is saying to you through this? In the space below have fun either through doing Word Art or sketching a summary picture to capture that treasure so you can remember it and not forget.



Navigators Discipleship Tool

Many believers find extended time in prayer a difficult spiritual discipline. Here's an easy way to remember five essential aspects of prayer. Pray through each of these five aspects, remembering that prayer is really about aligning our hearts with God's, and as the fifth aspect explains below, praises to God should permeate every part.



THE PRAYER HAND

① CONFESSION

I agree with God about my sin.
"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."
1 John 1:9

② PETITION

I ask God to provide for my needs.
"I prayed for this child, and the Lord has granted me what I asked of him."
1 Samuel 1:27

③ INTERCESSION

I ask God to provide for the needs of others.
"And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel..."
Ephesians 6:18-19

④ THANKSGIVING

I thank God for what He has done in, through, and for me. I thank Him for His answers to prayers in the lives of those around me and for His ongoing work across the nation and the world.
"...always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."
Ephesians 5:20

⑤ PRAISE

I let my enjoyment and adoration of God overflow into words. As the thumb is able to touch all four other fingers, so praise should permeate every part of my prayer life.
"Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord, my soul. I will praise the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live."
Psalm 146:1-2

Scripture Memory

John 15:7

Memorize the verse one phrase at a time, repeating each phrase at least three times before moving on to the next.

Prayer
John 15:7

Prayer
John 15:7

If you abide in me

Prayer
John 15:7

If you abide in me,
And my words abide in you,

Prayer
John 15:7

If you abide in me,
And my words abide in you,
Ask whatever you wish,

Prayer
John 15:7

If you abide in me,
And my words abide in you,
Ask whatever you wish,
And it will be done for you.

Prayer
John 15:7

If you abide in me,
And my words abide in you,
Ask whatever you wish,
And it will be done for you.

John 15:7

Day 1: "If you"

Consider Context

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. **2** Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. **3** Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. **4** Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. **5** I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. **6** If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. **7** If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. **8** By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. **9** As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. **10** If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. **11** These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full. **12** "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. **13** Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. **14** You are my friends if you do what I command you. **15** No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. **16** You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. **17** These things I command you, so that you will love one another.

John 15: 1-17

What do you learn about the first word of this verse, "if," as you read the verse in context?

How might this verse be different if that word wasn't included?

Thayer's Greek Lexicon

STRONGS G1437:

εἰ ἄν;

I. a conditional particle (derived from εἰ ἄν), which makes reference to time and to experience, introducing something future, but not determining, before the event, whether it is certainly to take place

What thoughts come to mind as you read the Greek definition for this word?

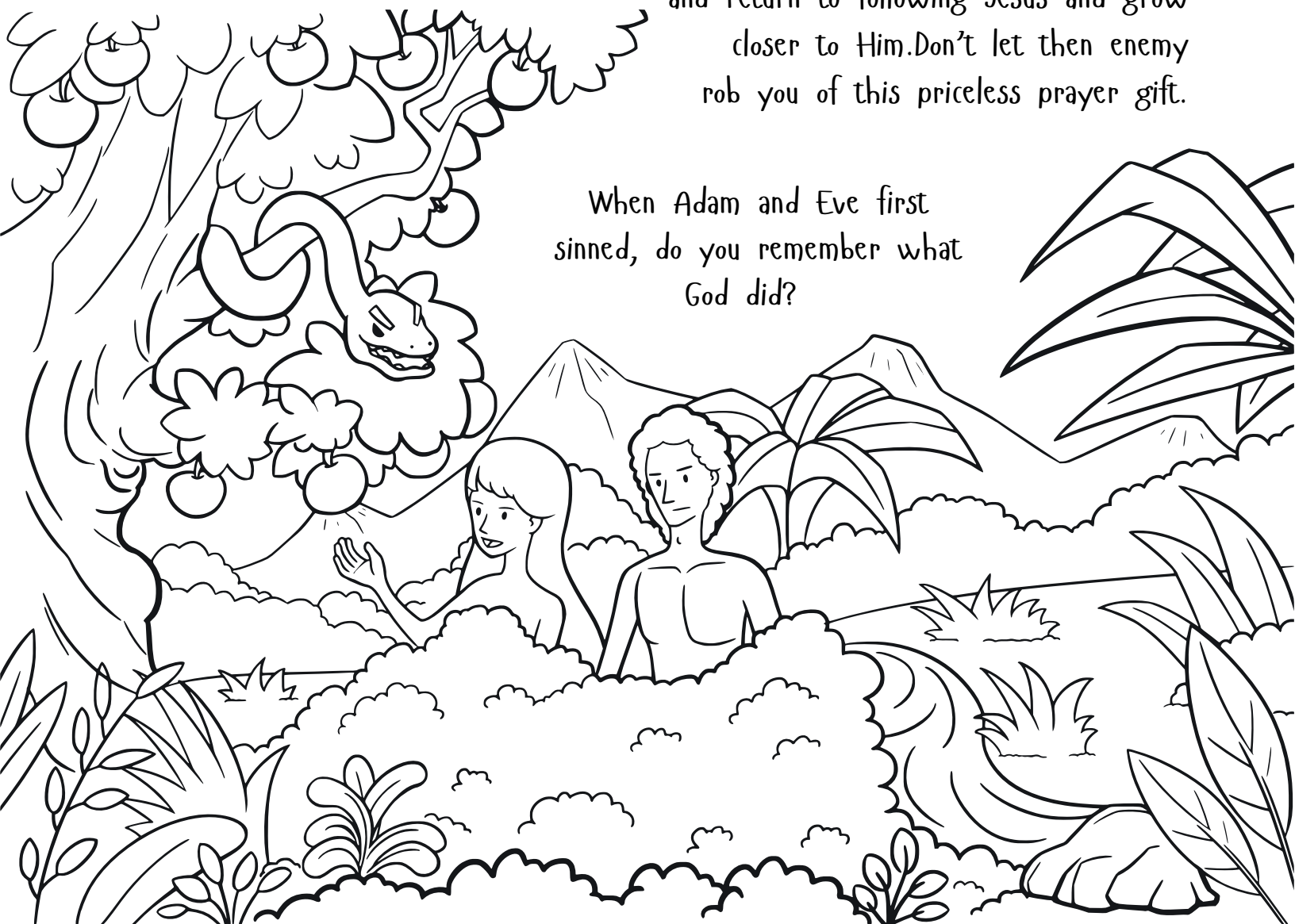
Prayer Gift #1: Confession

Jesus paid dearly to make it possible for us to abide in Him and for His Words to abide in us. Where have you fallen short in doing this?

Remember, Confession isn't about beating yourself up, but agreeing with God that you've fallen short, making a decision to stop going your own way and instead return to going Jesus' way (repentance) and then thanking Jesus that He has you covered.

She who is forgiven much, loves much. Do you realize confession is an opportunity to grow in appreciating even more what Jesus has done for you... and to grow in your love for Him. That's why the enemy is an accuser - he wants you focusing on yourself, getting down on yourself, so you won't confess and return to following Jesus and grow closer to Him. Don't let then enemy rob you of this priceless prayer gift.

When Adam and Eve first sinned, do you remember what God did?



Growing In Prayer

After Adam and Eve sinned, God took the initiative to keep pursuing relationship with them. He already knew what they'd done. But he still he asked two questions. He didn't ask to shame or blame them - they were already doing that to themselves and each other. How would you answer these two questions today?

Where are you?

(This is an opportunity to recognize you've strayed and are no longer following Jesus on His road)

What is this that you have done?

(This is an opportunity to agree with Him this is wrong and thank Jesus He has already paid the price for this sin)



If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9

Scripture Memory Review

“Learning Scripture is not easy. It is an unobtrusive work, not one for which you will gain applause. And the entire benefit of it will not appear immediately, but in the time to come.

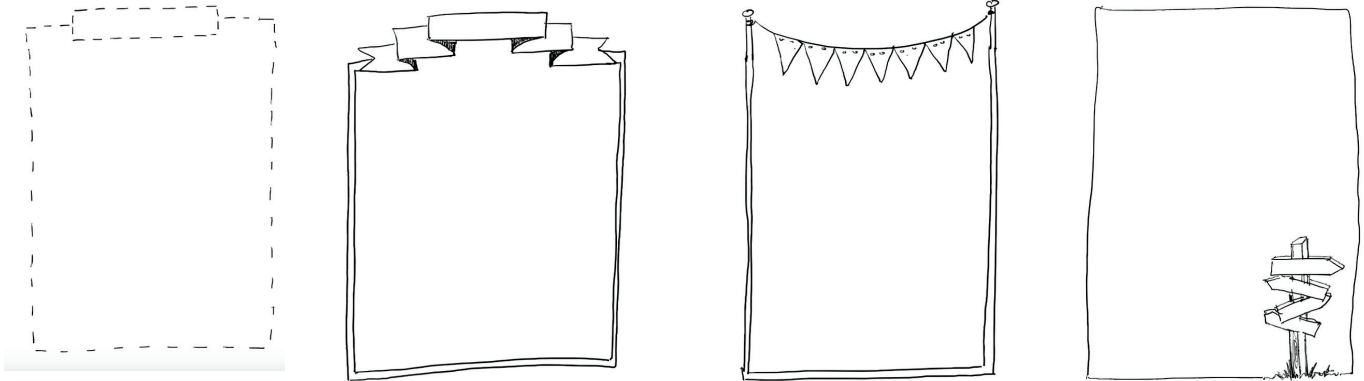
As you continue to store passages of God’s precious Word in your heart, it will help you grow. When you must make a quick, on the spot decision, you may be pleased to find some verse from Scripture coming to mind to help you choose the wise course. And there will be that almost unnoticed maturing process, too. Day by day as you reflect on the Scripture that has become part of your memory, it will become part of you and help produce in your life the spiritual fruit God desires to see.”

- Lorne Sanny, Memorize The Word, p.33-34

In the first box below write from memory this week’s memory verse for Prayer (title, reference, verse, and reference), then check to see if you got it word perfect. Then write the verses you memorized for Christ the Center, Obedience to Christ and The Word in the remaining three boxes.

Truth Treasuring

This week we are going to explore different ways of adding a one word (or short phrase) summary of the key treasure you received from the Lord each day during your creative meditation. We will start with text boxes, then move on to drawing banners, scrolls, flags, frames and signs which all create space for recording the summary of your highlight.

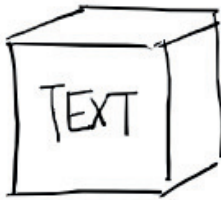
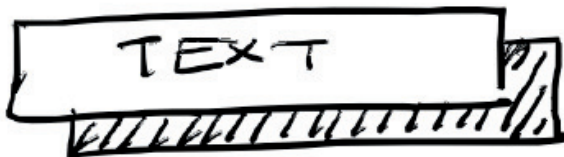


This is a key part of preparing to go deeper with a verse as creating a one word or short phrase summary gets you sifting through your thoughts in a different way and when you record it on the page it can help you remember to truly treasure the truth Jesus has blessed you with.

On the following page you will find examples of different ways you can draw text boxes. Select one, then draw it either on the top of the page or on the bottom or even to the side of the verse. Then write out the verse and enjoy using any of the different techniques you've been learning to create a border as you creatively meditate with Jesus (eg., coloring your emotions, prayerful patterns, simple line borders, etc...).

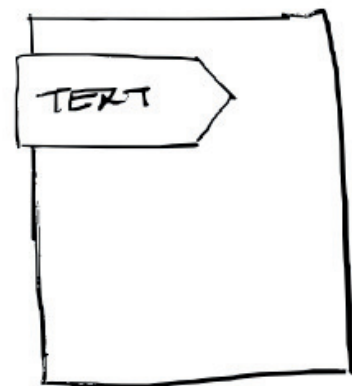
Then at the end of your time, in the text box write one word or phrase that captures the essence of whatever treasure or key insight/highlight the Lord blessed you with. This will help when you come back during the second part of this study to recall what the Lord already blessed you with concerning this verse, giving you something to build on or add new layers to!

TEXT BOXES



A ONE WORD SUMMARY CAN DRAW YOU BACK TO 2 PAGES AND GIVE YOU SOMETHING TO LAYER UPON.

YOU CAN ALSO PLACE TEXT BOXES ON A SIMPLE LINE BORDER SURROUNDING A SKETCH, QUOTE OR VERSE.



Practice Page

Have fun learning to draw different text boxes On the previous page I've drawn a few to get you started but there are so many different ways you can do this. Have fun creating new ways to draw text boxes with Jesus!


If you abide in me,
and my words
abide in you,
ask whatever you wish,
and it will be done
for you.

John 15:7

Day 2: "abide in me"

Contemplate A Key Word

What does it mean to abide in Him? (Look up the words that stand out to you and record what you learn about them in the margin)

Lexicon :: Strong's G3306 - menō	
μένω	
Transliteration	Pronunciation
menō (Key)	men'-o 
Part of Speech	Root Word (Etymology)
verb	A root word
Strong's Definitions [?] (Strong's Definitions Legend)	
μένω ménō, men'-o; a primary verb; to stay (in a given place, state, relation or expectancy):—abide, continue, dwell, endure, be present, remain, stand, tarry (for), ✘ thine own.	

Outline of Biblical Usage [?]
I. to remain, abide
1. in reference to place
1. to sojourn, tarry
2. not to depart
1. to continue to be present
2. to be held, kept, continually
2. in reference to time
1. to continue to be, not to perish, to last, endure
1. of persons, to survive, live
3. in reference to state or condition
1. to remain as one, not to become another or different
II. to wait for, await one

NOTE: John 15:1-7 is the first definition: to remain, dwell, specifically, "of the relation in which one person or thing stands with another, chiefly in John's writings; thus to remain in or with someone, i.e., to be and remain united with him, one with him in heart, mind and will." Spiros Zodhiates, The Complete NT Word Study Dictionary, p.960.

What does it look like to be one with Jesus in heart, mind and will?

What helps you continue to be present to Jesus?

When you are hurting, what hinders you letting him hold you? What can help?

Banners In the Bible

Did you know people used banners in the Bible?

They were used for a variety of purposes.

Identification:

In the book of Numbers, God had the Israelites use banners to identify their clans.

Gathering:

They were also used to gather people together for important events (Isaiah 11:10-12, Jeremiah 50:2).

Declaration:

To declare loyalty to a cause, nation or army.

Rally Together:

They also served as a rallying point for troops in battle.

Symbol of victory:

They followed the Lord's banner into battle and the banner reminded them He was how they won!

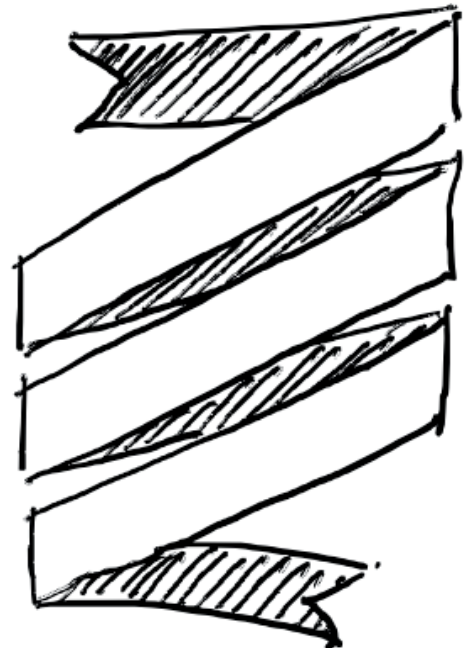
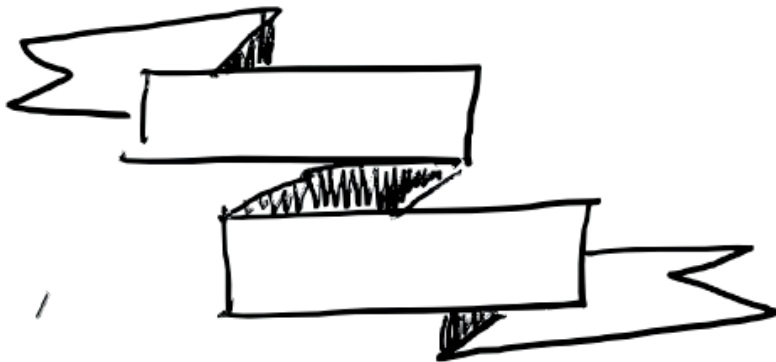
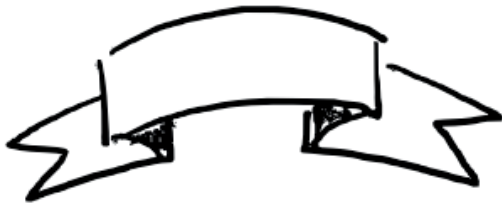
Symbol of Commitment:

Raising a banner was a symbol of commitment and loyalty to a leader or cause.

The Israelites had a saying, "The Lord is my Banner," which was a way for them to identify themselves as followers of God. In Exodus 17, Moses built an altar and named it "The-Lord-Is-My-Banner" after God promised to defeat His enemies.

Today we are going to have fun learning how to draw different types of banners, then select one to add to our creative meditation page and at the end of your time write your one word summary inside your banner.

BANNERS



Practice Page

Have fun learning to draw different banners. Once you learn the basics of how to draw a banner, you can create all sorts of variations! There are so many neat verses that refer to banners in the Bible. I've included a few below for you to enjoy as you practice drawing them.

You have given a banner
to those who fear you,
that it may be displayed
because of the truth.
Selah. Psalm 60:4

He will lift up a banner
to the nations from far,
and he will whistle for
them from the end of the
earth. Behold, they will
come speedily and swiftly.
Isaiah 5:26

He brought me to the
banquet hall. His banner
over me is love.
Song of Solomon 2:4

Scripture Memory Review

“If possible, get someone to listen as you quote your four verses this week,
to test your accuracy...

As you memorize, make it your aim to learn every word correctly. It will be much better for you to learn each verse carefully than to hurry through the verses as fast as possible but without a solid grasp of each one.”

- Lorne Sanny, Memorize The Word, p.35

In the first box below write from memory this week's memory verse for Prayer (title, reference, verse, and reference), then check to see if you got it word perfect. Then write the verses you memorized for Christ the Center, Obedience to Christ and The Word in the remaining three boxes.

Scripture Prayer

I can't imagine spending a week focusing on prayer without getting in good prayer time!
So here is another Scripture prayer - this one comes from Jesus himself!

Pray then like this:

"Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come,
your will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our
debtors.

And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil

Matthew 6:9-13

Prayer Gift #3: Petition

In Matthew 6:9-13, after Jesus' disciples asked Him to teach them how to pray, Jesus gave them a model for prayer. Follow this as an outline as you pray, lifting your personal petitions before the Lord today.

"Our Father in heaven =

hallowed be your name =

Your kingdom come =

your will be done on earth as it is in heaven =

Give us this day our daily bread =

and forgive us our debts =

as we also have forgiven our debtors =

And lead us not into temptation =

but deliver us from evil =

Day 3: "and"

Conjunction Changes

Today we focus on a small but important word. The word "and" is a conjunction.

Conjunctions connect words, phrases, clauses and sentences.

How might this verse be different if the word "and" was not in there?

The word "FANBOYS" can help you remember alternative conjunctions:

For, And, Nor, But, Or, Yet and So.

Write the verse using alternative conjunctions (especially Or and So)
and consider how that might change the meaning.

Why is the word "and" Important?

Scrolls In the Bible

Scrolls were the “books” of the day back in Old and New Testament times. People wrote things on scrolls that they wanted to remember. There are so many fascinating references to scrolls in the Bible. God has John, Jeremiah and Ezekiel all eat scrolls which taste sweet at first and then turn bitter in their mouths.

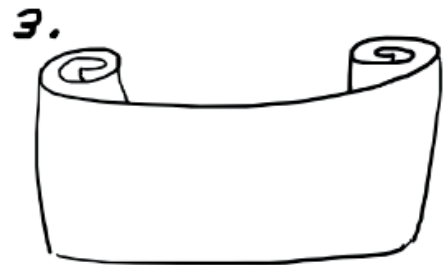
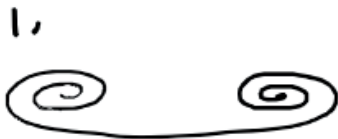
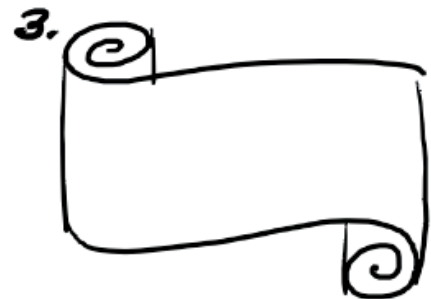
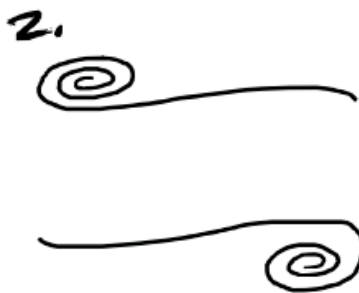
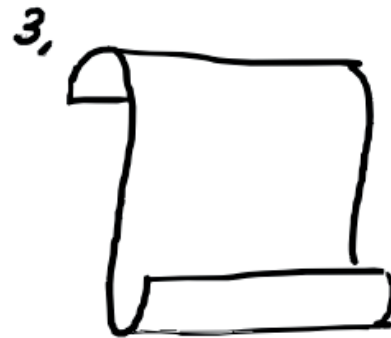
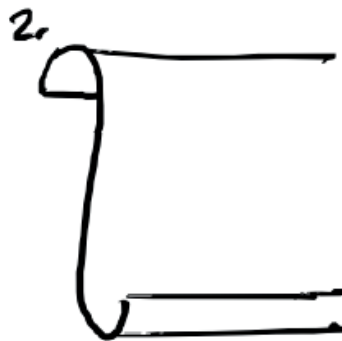
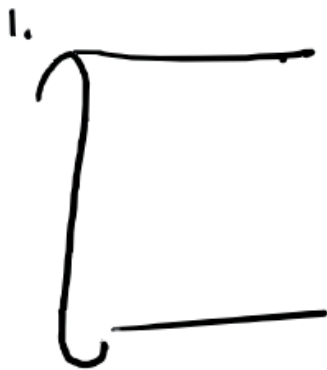
Scrolls are often a symbol for God’s Word since that is what God’s Word was originally written on (ever heard of the Dead Sea Scrolls?). But they can also be a symbol for wisdom and a scroll with both ends facing up is often used as a symbol for life unfolding.

In Revelation 5 John sees a scroll with seven seals in God’s hand and weeps when no one is found worthy to open it - but then Jesus is revealed as the only one who can and when he does God’s judgment is released.

Scrolls can be a lot of fun to draw and create a perfect space on which to record a one word or short phrase summary of the treasure Jesus blesses you with as you enjoy time with Him today.

On the next page you will find examples of different ways you can draw scrolls. Have fun practicing them and then select one to add to today’s creative meditation page.

SCROLLS



Practice Page

Have fun learning to draw different scrolls. Once you learn the basics of how to draw a scroll, you can create all sorts of variations! There are so many neat verses that refer to scrolls in the Bible. I've included a few below for you to enjoy as you practice drawing them.

Then those who feared the LORD talked with each other,
and the LORD listened and heard. A scroll of remembrance was written in his
presence concerning those who feared the LORD and honored his name.

Malachi 3:16

If you abide in me,
and my words
abide in you,
ask whatever you wish,
and it will be done
for you.

John 15:7

Scripture Memory Review

“Many a Christian has found that when he began to commit Scripture portions to memory, he also began to overcome in daily temptations. This is why Satan will try to keep you from hiding God’s Word in your heart. He knows how effective it is (Hebrews 4:12)...It is not that the mere quoting of Scripture brings victory. Satan himself quoted Scripture, but he misused it in order to deceive (Matthew 4:6; Psalm 91:11,12). In the verse, “Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee,” note that the Word of God is the means to victory, not an unconditional guarantee that one will overcome temptation... When we use the Word of God in meeting temptation, we must use it in faith - dependence on the power of God behind His Word to fulfill it (Ephesians 6:16). If the word of God is in our lives and hidden in our hearts, our faith is strengthened, “Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” (Romans 10:17. Thus God’s Word builds our faith; and used in faith to meet temptation, it gives victory.”

- Lorne Sanny, Memorize The Word, p. 39-40

In the boxes below, write from memory the four verses you’ve memorized so far:

Prayer Gift #3: Praying Passages

In 2 Timothy 3:16 we are told "All Scripture is useful for teaching, rebuking, correction, and training in righteousness..." Did you know all Scripture is also useful for praying?

I will never forget meeting Barbara Jabbour, an older woman on staff with The Navigators who shared she and her prayer partner met every week to pray their way through the Bible. You can take any passage and as you are reading talk about it with Jesus, share whatever comes to mind that relates to the verse you just read. It is an incredible way to dialogue with the Lord. Like Barbara, you can start in Genesis and pray your way straight through - and then start all over again. When I met Barbara they had prayed through the entire Bible three times!. My prayer partner and I started doing this and it has revolutionized the way we pray! Want to give it a try? Why not start with John 15:1-7

- 1 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser.
- 2 Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit.
- 3 Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you.
- 4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.
- 5 I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.
- 6 If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned.
- 7 If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

Day 4: "My Words abide in you"

Compare Different Translations

As you read the verse in different translations what new insights do you glean as you ponder the phrase "my words abide in you?"

But if you live your life in me, and my words live in your hearts, you can ask for whatever you like and it will come true for you. John 15:7 Phillips

If you remain in Me and My words remain in you [that is, if we are vitally united and My message lives in your heart], ask whatever you wish and it will be done for you.

John 15:7 AMP

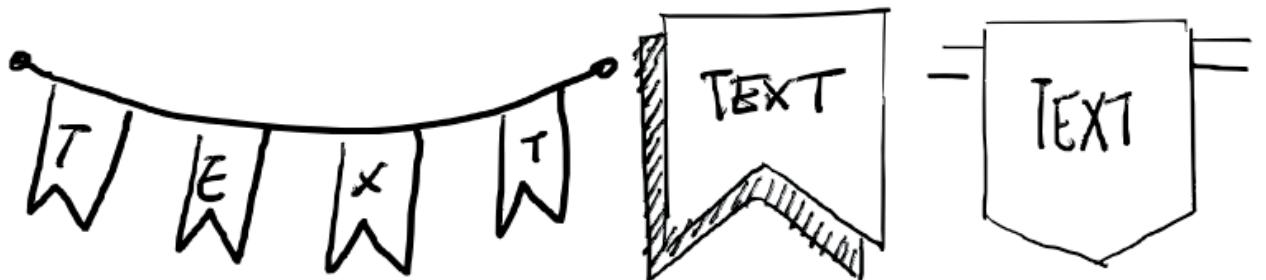
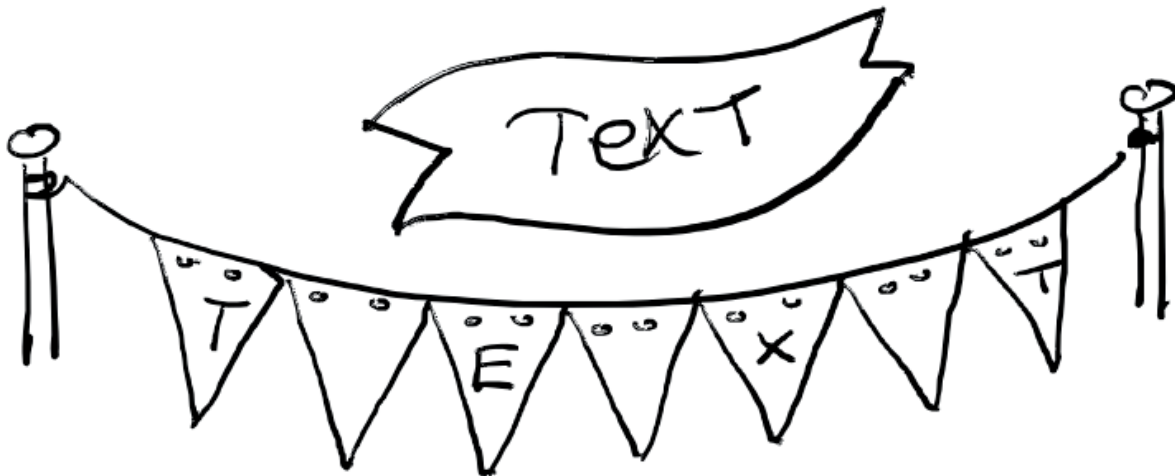
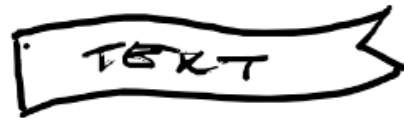
Stay joined to me and let my teachings become part of you. Then you can pray for whatever you want, and your prayer will be answered.

John 15:7 CEV

But if you make yourselves at home with me and my words are at home in you, you can be sure that whatever you ask will be listened to and acted upon.

John 15:7MSG

FLAGS



Practice Page

Have fun learning to draw different flags. On the previous page I've drawn a few to get you started but there are so many different ways you can do this.

Have fun creating new ways to draw text boxes with Jesus!

Go out through the gates! Prepare the highway for my people to return!
Smooth out the road; pull out the boulders; raise a flag for all the nations to see.

Isaiah 62:10

If you abide in me,
and my words
abide in you,
ask whatever you wish,
and it will be done
for you.

John 15:7

Scripture Memory Review

“We see in John 14:26 that the Holy Spirit, as Teacher, brings all things to our remembrance that the Lord Jesus has said. He cannot bring to “remembrance” what we do not know. As He draws upon the Word of God to help us meet temptation on the spur of the moment. He can draw from our memory only what is already stored there.”

- Lorne Sanny, Memorize The Word, p. 40

In the first box below write from memory this week's memory verse for Prayer (title, reference, verse, and reference), then check to see if you got it word perfect. Then write the verses you memorized for Christ the Center, Obedience to Christ and The Word in the remaining three boxes.

Prayer Gift #4: Scripture Prayer

One powerful way to let God's Word abide in us as we pray, is to pray Scripture. Each day this week you will find a Scripture prayer you can pray for your self and others.

And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy; giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.

Colossians 1:9-12

“Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done.”

Luke 22:42

Make me to know your ways, O Lord;
teach me your paths.
Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
for you I wait all the day long.

Psalms 25:4-5

May the God of hope fill you
with all joy and peace in believing,
so that by the power
of the Holy Spirit
you may abound in hope.

Romans 15:13

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Ephesians 3:14-21

Day 5: "ask whatever you wish"

Connect Cross References

What thoughts come to mind as you ponder this phrase and the verse that comes after with 1 John 3:22 and 1 John 5:14?

and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. 1 John 3:22

If you abide in me,
and my words
abide in you,
ask whatever you wish, and it will be done
for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you
bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.

John 15:7

And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us.

1 John 5:14

Scripture Memory Review

“Are you repeating your verses every day? This is the only sure way of retaining them. Work at making this practice a routine part of your daily schedule. And remember to include the reference both at the beginning and at the end of each verse.

Everything you have learned about memorizing a verse thus far may be summarized in two rules:

Learn it well.

Repeat it often.

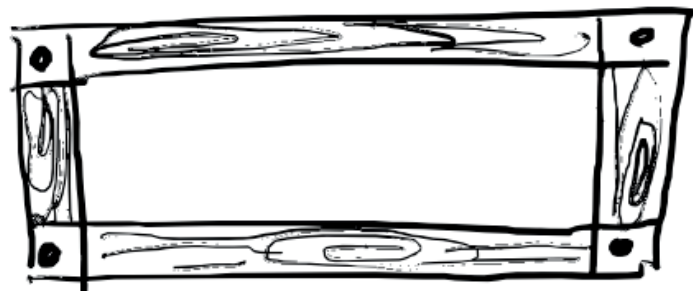
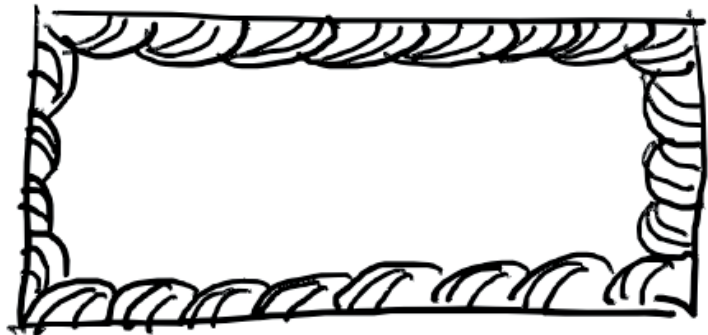
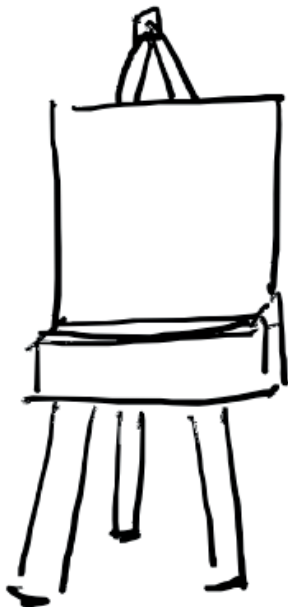
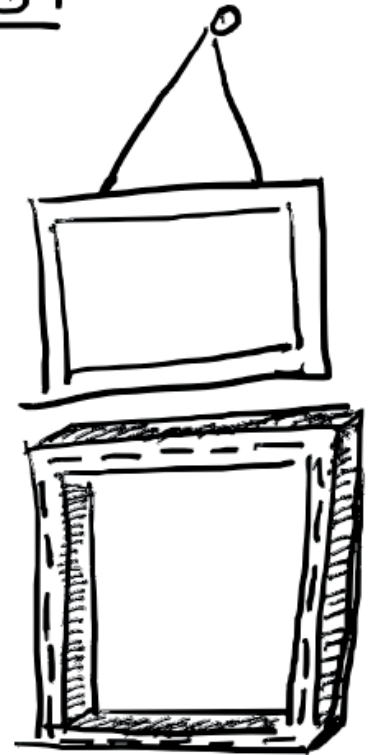
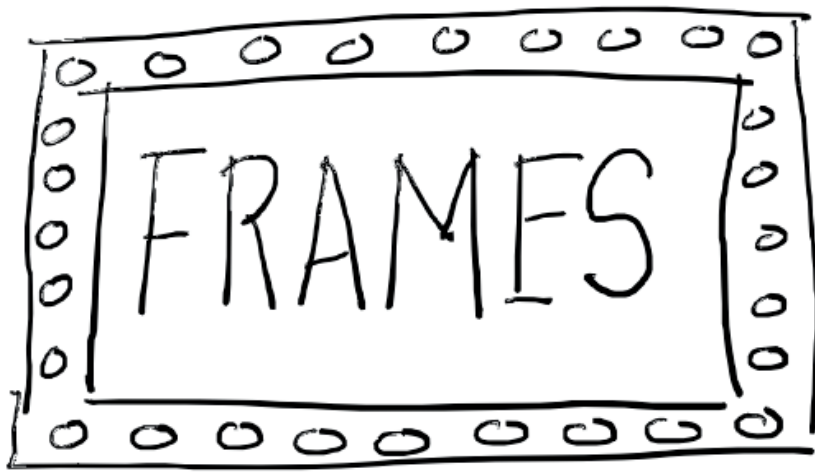
Establish the two rules for memorizing, and you will be building God’s Word into your life.”

- Lorne Sanny, Memorize The Word, p. 42

In the first box below write from memory this week’s memory verse for Prayer, then write the verses you memorized for Christ the Center, Obedience to Christ and The Word in the remaining three boxes.

“It becomes safe for God to say to the sanctified soul, ‘Ask what thou wilt, and it shall be done unto thee.’ The heavenly instincts of that man lead him right; the grace that is within his soul thrusts down all covetous lustings and foul desires, and his will is the actual shadow of God’s will. The spiritual life is master in him, and so his aspirations are holy, heavenly, Godlike.”

Charles Spurgeon



Practice Page

Have fun learning to draw different frames. Once you learn the basics of how to draw frames, you can create all sorts of variations!

They made twenty frames
for the south side of the
tabernacle

Exodus 36:23

My frame was not hidden
from you, when I was
being made in secret,
intricately woven in the
depths of the earth.

Psalms 139:15

For he knows our frame;
he remembers that we
are dust.

Psalms 103:14

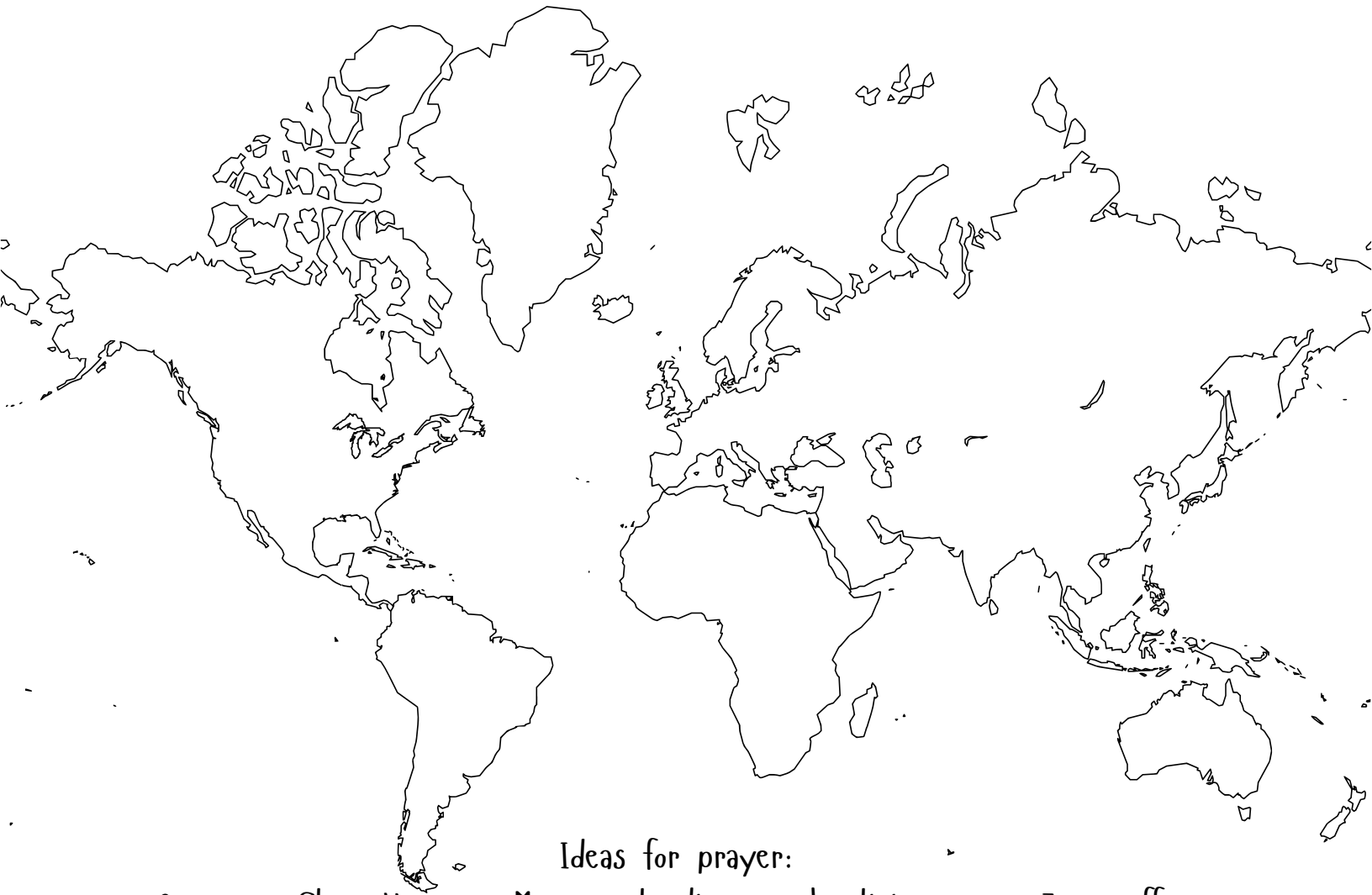
If you abide in me,
and my words
abide in you,
ask whatever you wish,
and it will be done
for you.

John 15:7

Prayer life #5: Intercession

This past summer I was asked to share about prayer at a Vacation Bible School. I asked the Lord for wisdom to know how to make prayer come to life for these children and He gave an idea that radically changed my prayer life!

Since God is everywhere and sees everything and is all powerful I can literally put my finger on a map and start praying for the people who live there and make a difference on the other side of the world! How incredible is that? It's not an original idea. Dawson Trotman used to get up at 5 in the morning and do this with the men he met with and that was the start of The Navigator Worldwide ministry! You can also color as you pray!



Ideas for prayer:

Access to Clean Water - May people discover the living water Jesus offers

Food to Eat - that people will also be well nourished by God's Word

Wars to cease - people to discover true peace in Jesus

Safety from violence - Protection for believers who live in closed countries

Fair Wages paid - God's mercy so people don't get what they deserve

Day 6: "and it will be done"

Consider Context In Another Translation

I am the Real Vine and my Father is the Farmer. He cuts off every branch of me that doesn't bear grapes. And every branch that is grape-bearing he prunes back so it will bear even more. You are already pruned back by the message I have spoken.

LOOK:

4 "Live in me. Make your home in me just as I do in you. In the same way that a branch can't bear grapes by itself but only by being joined to the vine, you can't bear fruit unless you are joined with me.

LISTEN:

5-8 "I am the Vine, you are the branches. When you're joined with me and I with you, the relation intimate and organic, the harvest is sure to be abundant. Separated, you can't produce a thing. Anyone who separates from me is deadwood, gathered up and thrown on the bonfire. But if you make yourselves at home with me and my words are at home in you, you can be sure that whatever you ask will be listened to and acted upon. This is how my Father shows who he is—when you produce grapes, when you mature as my disciples.

9-10 "I've loved you the way my Father has loved me. Make yourselves at home in my love. If you keep my commands, you'll remain intimately at home in my love. That's what I've done—kept my Father's commands and made myself at home in his love.

11-15 "I've told you these things for a purpose: that my joy might be your joy, and your joy wholly mature. This is my command: Love one another the way I loved you. This is the very best way to love. Put your life on the line for your friends. You are my friends when you do the things I command you. I'm no longer calling you servants because servants don't understand what their master is thinking and planning. No, I've named you friends because I've let you in on everything I've heard from the Father.

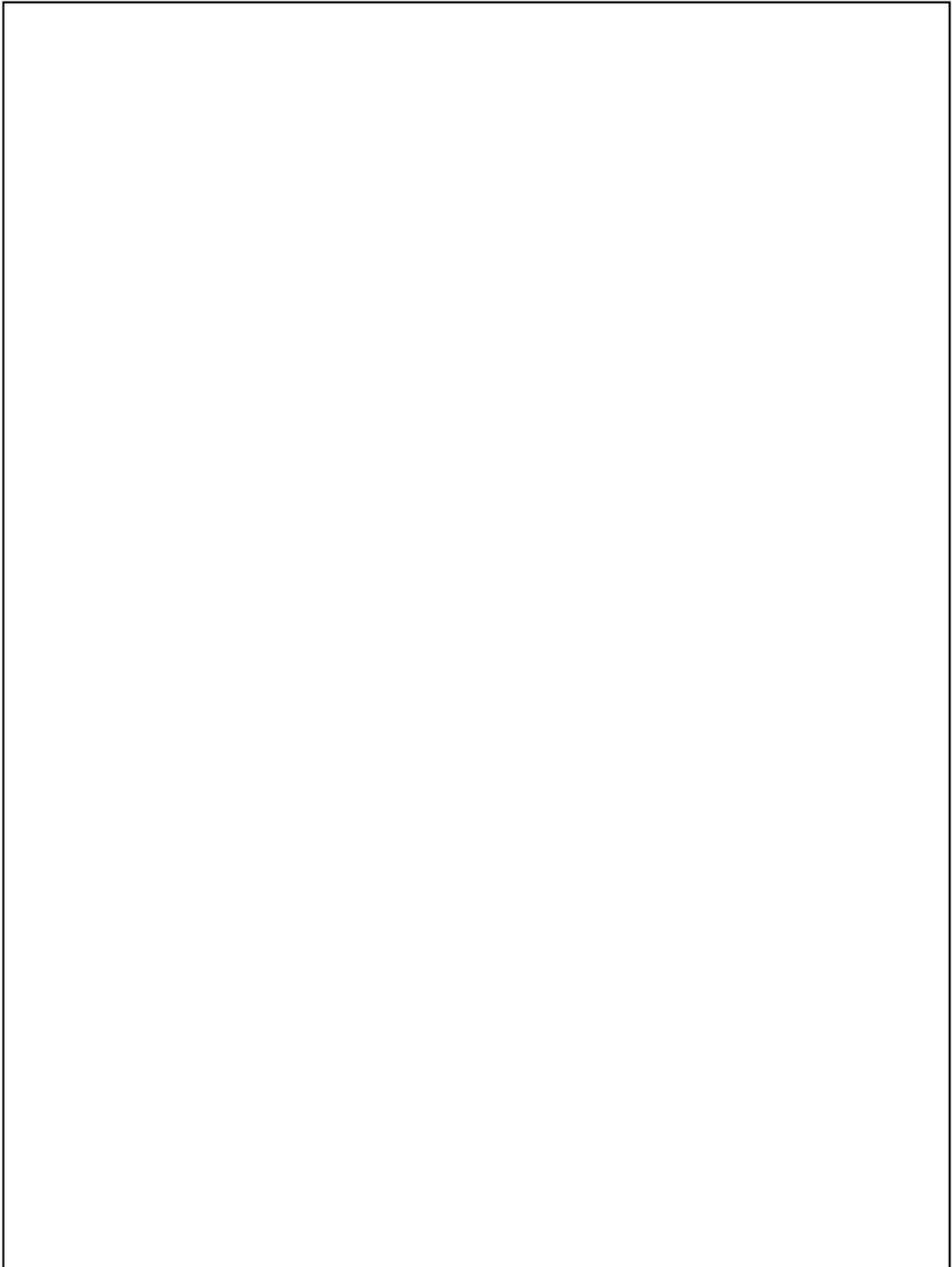
LIVE IT OUT:

16 "You didn't choose me, remember; I chose you, and put you in the world to bear fruit, fruit that won't spoil. As fruit bearers, whatever you ask the Father in relation to me, he gives you.

17 "But remember the root command: Love one another.

John 15:1-17 (MSG)

LET IT LAST:



Consider A Quote

What thoughts come to mind as you ponder this portion of the verse in light of this quote?

This faithful, abiding disciple should expect answered prayer as part of their relationship with Jesus. A failure to see prayer answered means something is not right in the disciple's relationship. Perhaps something is not right in the abiding, and prayers are amiss and unanswered. Perhaps something is not right in the asking and there is no perception of what Jesus wants to do in and through His disciple.

David Guzik

What answers to prayer have you experienced recently?

Take a moment to record them below:

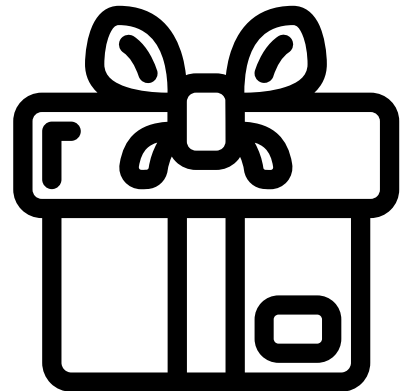
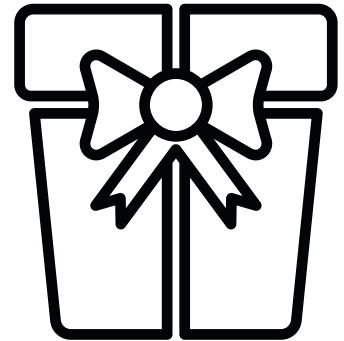
How was God glorified through this?

How did this relate to you abiding and bearing fruit?

How Have you experienced God showing who He is through this?

Prayer Gift #6: Giving Thanks!

Gratitude is a gift you give that benefits the giver in multiple ways! Harvard Health reports people who are generous in giving thanks feel more positive emotions, relish good experiences, improve their health, deal better with adversity, and build strong relationships. Makes you think there's a reason the Lord tells us to give thanks in everything! Underneath the boxes below list things you are thankful for while you thank Jesus for them.



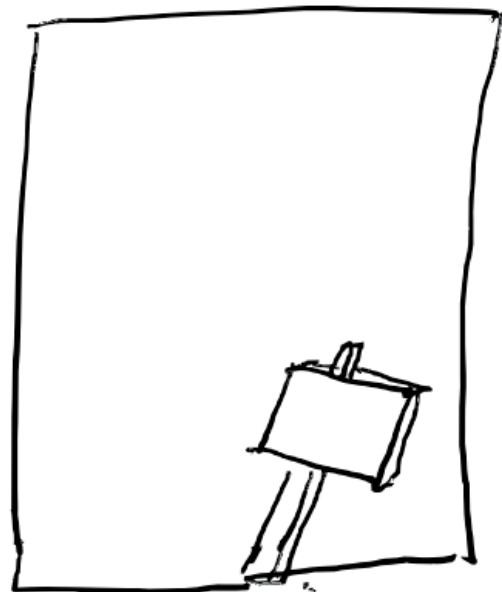
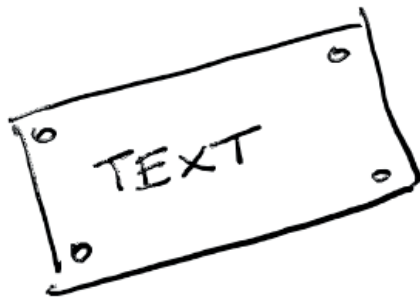
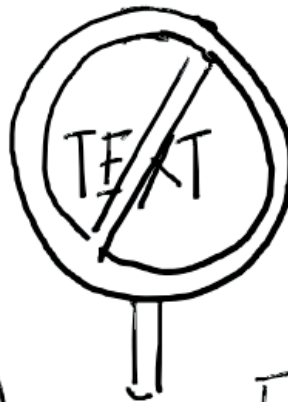
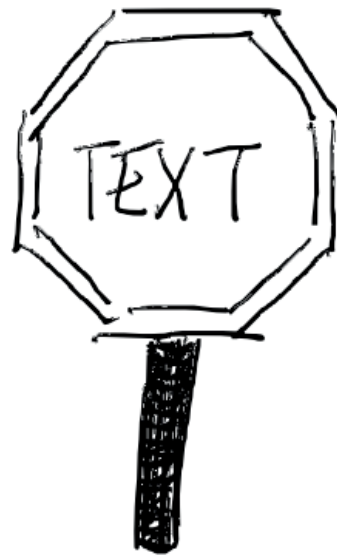
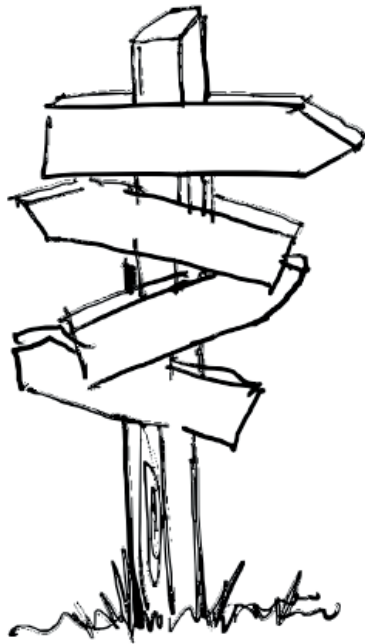
Scripture Memory Review

“God desires that we put a high premium on His Word and that we be diligent in learning it. In Proverbs 2:1-5, we read this: ‘My son, if you receive my words and treasure up my commandments and if you seek it as silver and search for it as for hidden treasure then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God.’

Jesus said, “He who has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me...” (John 14:21) If our love for the Lord is linked this closely with His Word, then with all our hearts we should devote ourselves to learning and keeping these commandments.”

- Lorne Sanny, Memorize The Word, p. 42

In the first box below write from memory this week’s memory verse for Prayer (title, reference, verse, and reference), then write the verses you memorized for Christ the Center, Obedience to Christ and The Word in the remaining three boxes.



Practice Page

Have fun learning to draw different signs. Once you learn the basics of how to draw signs, you can create all sorts of variations!

This will be a sign to you from the LORD
that He will do what He has promised:
Isaiah 38:7

If you abide in me,
and my words
abide in you,
ask whatever you wish,
and it will be done
for you.

John 15:7

Day 1: "for you"

Connect To Your Life

Ponder the verse and connect it to your life phrase by phrase as you dialogue with Jesus> Listen to hear how He might be inviting you to respond.

If - How are you doing meeting these conditions?

You Abide in Me - What does this currently look like for you?
How do you sense Jesus inviting you to grow in this?

And - of the two conditions is one happening more than another?
If so, which one? Why do you think this is?

My Words Abide in you - How richly is God's word dwelling in you?

Ask whatever you wish - What have you asked the Lord for lately? What does that reveal about where you currently are at?

And it will be done for you - What answers to prayer have you experienced lately? What thoughts come to mind as you ponder this?

Scripture Memory Review

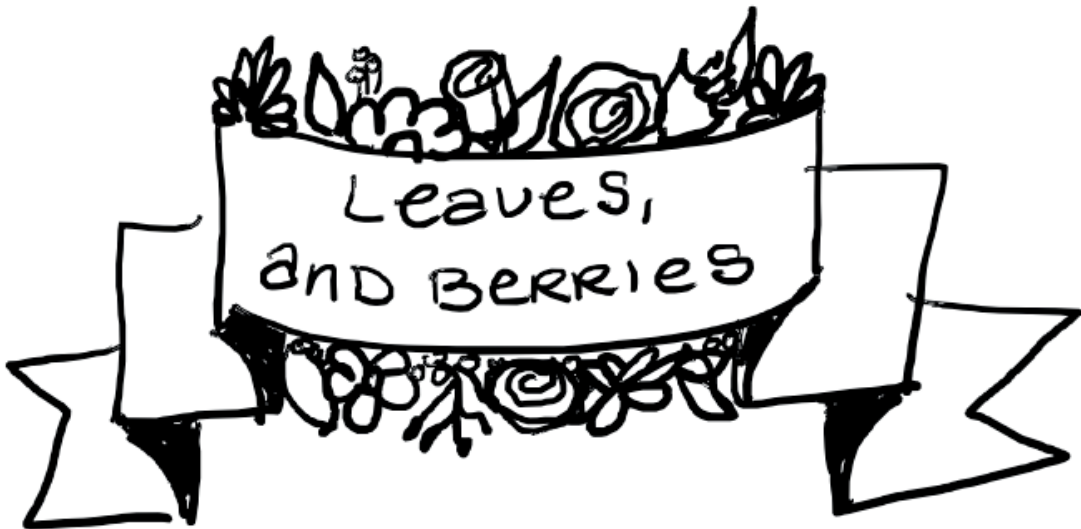
“Did you know that God is also interested
in teaching us how to learn His Word?”

He says we should hear it, read it, study it memorize it and meditate upon it... Each of these ways is commended in /scripture; each is also commanded. And as usual, for a command that is obeyed there is a blessing. You will find it profitable to look up these “commend” and “Command Scriptures.

	Commended	Commanded
Hearing.	Luke 11:28.	Hebrews 10:25
Reading.	Deuteronomy 17:18, 19.	1 Timothy 4:13
Study.	2 Timothy 3:16, 17.	2 Timothy 2:15
Memory.	Psalm 119:11.	Deuteronomy 6:6
Meditation	Psalm 1:2,3.	Joshua 1:8”

- Lorne Sanny, Memorize The Word, p. 45

In the boxes below, write from memory the four verses you’ve memorized so far:



Practice Page

Have fun learning to draw different scrolls. Once you learn the basics of how to draw a scroll, you can create all sorts of variations! There are so many neat verses that refer to scrolls in the Bible. I've included a few below for you to enjoy as you practice drawing them.

Then those who feared the LORD talked with each other,
and the LORD listened and heard. A scroll of remembrance was written in his
presence concerning those who feared the LORD and honored his name.

Malachi 3:16

If you abide in me,
and my words
abide in you,
ask whatever you wish,
and it will be done
for you.

John 15:7

Prayer Gift #1: Praise

When I am struggling wanting to know something from God - like what He does or doesn't want me doing or wrestling to not worry over something hard in my life, the prayer gift of praise makes such a difference. It helps get my eyes off the problem or issue and onto the Lord, remembering who He is. One way that helps me do this is praying through the alphabet. This can be done anywhere, even with a friend and provides a structure that helps me fix my eyes on what is unseen and eternal, so I'm not (and my prayers aren't) consumed by what is seen (or feared) that's temporary, bringing a shift in perspective and peace!

Available, Accepting, Author, Afflictor, Almighty, Ancient of Days, Alpha & Omega, Awesome!

Beautiful, Blessed, Beginning, Builder

Caring, Caller, Chooser, Close, Comforter, Creator, Compassionate, Counselor, Celebrator

Delighter, Defender, Deliverer, Diligent, Director, Discipler, Drawer

Emmanuel, Eternal, Exalted, Encourager, End, Everlasting, Example

Father, Finisher, Faithful, Forgiving, Fisherman

Generous, Gentle, Giving, Glorious, God, Good, Gracious, Great

Holy, Hope, Humble, Healer, Higher,

I am, Innocent, Intercessor,

Jealous, Jehovah, Judge, Justifier, Joy Bringer

Keeper, Kind, King

Light, Love, Leader, Lord, Lamb, Loyal

Mediator, Miracle-worker, Messiah, Merciful, Maker, Most High, Marvelous

Never leaves, Noticer, Nocturnal (never sleeps), Name above all Names,

Omnipresent, Only True God, Owner, Omniscient, Omnipotent,

Persevering, Physician, Patient, Powerful, Promiser, Purifier, Peace, Planner, Priest, Purposeful, Potter

Quieter (He Quiets Us With His Love), Quintessential

Rock, Refuge, Resurrection, Redeemer, Rich, Rewarder, Reviver, Righteous, Refreshing, Rest

Savior, Sanctifier, Servant, Shield, Sovereign, Shepherd, Sympathetic, Stronghold,

Truth, Transformer, Teacher, Triumphant, Trustworthy, Timeless,

Understanding, Unfailing, Unmockable, Unchangeable, Upright, Unequaled

Victorious, Vine

Warrior, Waymaker, Wise, Way, Wonderful, Word, Worthy

eXcellent, eXciting, eXalted, eXtraordinary

Yearning

Zealous, Zenith

Processing The Week With Jesus

W = What stood out to you?

Review your Journal Notes from this past week, highlighting key thoughts you want to remember, then recording them below:

H - How has your understanding of God grown as a result of your time spent with Him meditating on His Word?

E = Examen

What did you do this week that moved you closer to Jesus or increased your awareness and enjoyment of Him? What resulted in you feeling farther away from Him or less aware of Him? Why?

E = Explain.

How would you explain to a friend what you sensed the Lord's been teaching you this week? Write a summary below of what you learned this week.

L = Loving God, Loving Others

How do you sense the Lord is inviting you to practically respond to Him and others as a result of your time in His Word this week?

S.M.A.R.T.

Making Applications Doable

As you read through the following dialogue with Jesus and take time to apply it to your application for this week.

Specific = What specifically do I sense the Lord is leading me to do?

Measurable = How will I know whether I've done it or not?

Accountable = Who could I ask to help hold me accountable? What do I want that to look like?

Realistic = Is it realistic for me to do this? If it's not realistic for you to do at this time the "R" becomes "Revise."

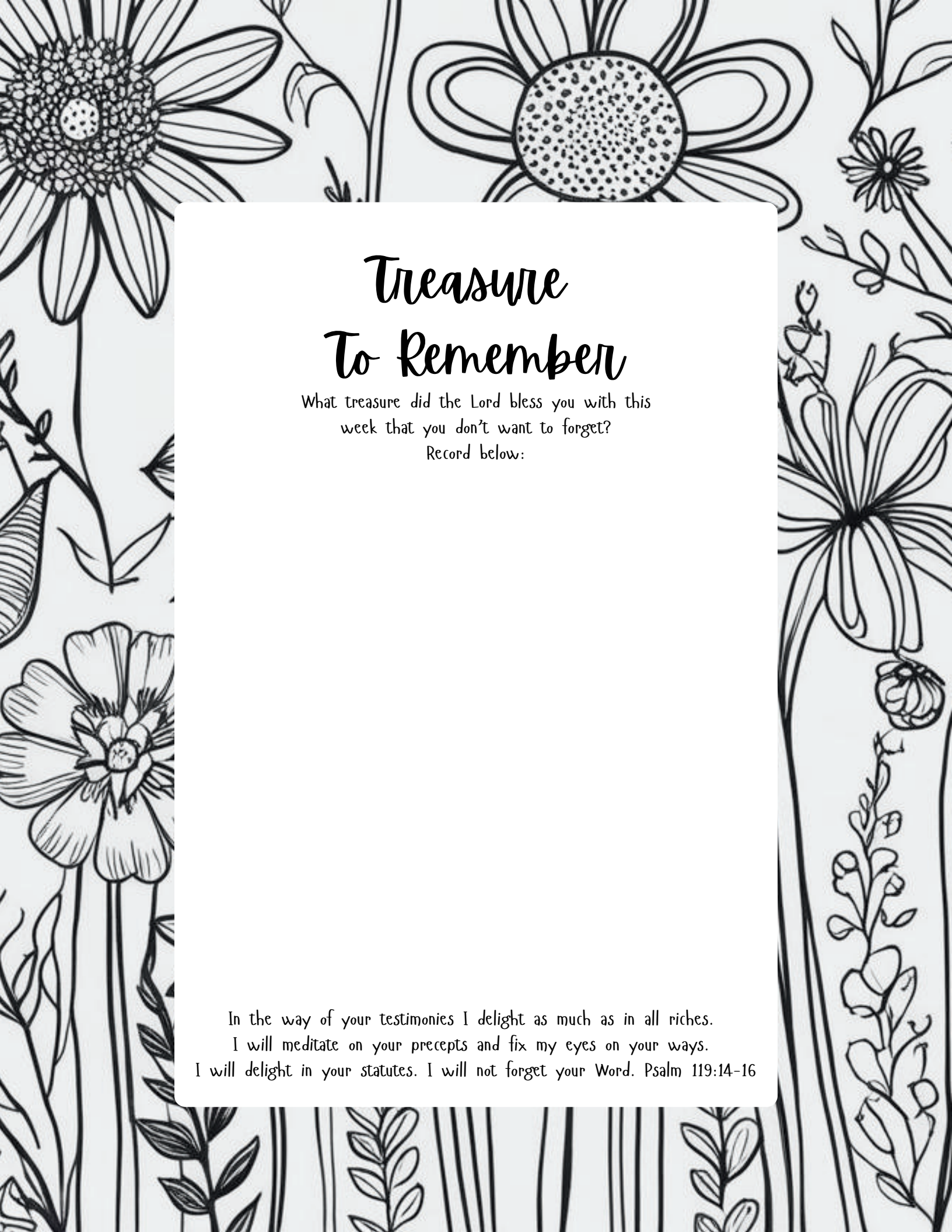
Timely = How much time do I sense the Lord wants me investing in this? When do I sense the Lord wants me to have this done by?

Then, commit your plans to the Lord and ask for His help to do this!



Once you've completed your application, record below what happened.

Why do you think the Lord wanted you to do this?



Treasure To Remember

What treasure did the Lord bless you with this week that you don't want to forget?

Record below:

In the way of your testimonies I delight as much as in all riches.
I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways.
I will delight in your statutes. I will not forget your Word. Psalm 119:14-16