



The Landmark Church Book of Devotion

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A Prayer of Dedication:

Father in Heaven,

We dedicate this book and our lives to you.

We ask that through your people's pursuit of a devotional life,

You would guide us into deeper love, obedience, and faith.

Through these practices,

Comfort the hurting,

Convict the rebelling,

Renew the weary,

Satisfy the hungry,

Awake the sleeper,

And guide all towards your good purposes.

Most of all, O' Great and Mighty One,

We ask that you would do your will,

In our hearts,

As in heaven,

To your unending glory,

And our everlasting joy,

In the name of God Almighty,

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

Amen.

How To Use This Book:

You are holding in your hands a very special book...

It is not special by virtue of its curator or the church that is providing it, but because it is a book filled with truths and practices which are designed to connect you to the living God, the Maker of heaven and earth! Additionally, this is a special book because in it, you will find (I pray) a contextualized but faithful representation of nearly two thousand years of Christian devotional practice.

In many times and many ways, God's people have sought Him through the Spirit-filled, orderly approach that is commended to you in this book. I (Ryan) set out on this project because God has worked wonders in my life through a more intentional, disciplined pursuit of Him. I want that for everyone at our church! I pray that even in places where you are stretched and presented with the unfamiliar, you will engage confidently and faithfully knowing this process is biblical, orthodox, and effective (by grace, through faith).

How should you engage?

I invite you to engage fully. Meaning, commit yourself to the devotional process this book recommends for a season (start with two or three months). Why? Because 1) habits aid spiritual growth, and 2) this process may feel challenging at

first to those for whom it is new. If you've never before had a regular devotional practice, consider how you might implement a daily rhythm such as the one presented in this book in progressive steps (i.e. start with evenings for 25 minutes and grow from there).

Before making this practice your own, I encourage you just to engage with what you encounter. Singing, psalms, creeds, catechism, etc. The hope is not to overwhelm you, but to expose you to a diverse and rich body of devotional aids that will engage and develop your mind and awaken your heart.

The time required depends on the person, but “you get out what you put in”. Each day there are three devotional “spaces” with prompts and practices. I recommend setting aside 15-60 minutes morning and evening, and 3-10 minutes midday to commune with the Lord. I encourage you to journal as you go through this process, as this is one of the great ways to focus our thinking/praying, and it is a sweet way to look back (in coming months and years) on how the Lord has worked in your life. The entire method is contained in the first few pages and the rest of the book is supplemental material that will help you engage.

*Lastly, after a season of seeking to **learn** this method, I encourage you to personalize it. Devotional practice is not a*

“one size fits all” reality, we all have different challenges and dispositions, and though this book is a great tool, you will need to find your own rhythm as you become an “expert” of devotion.

What must you remember?

*No book, no pastor, and no person can light a heart on fire. Only God’s Spirit can do that. So, my encouragement... my plea to you, O’ beloved of the King, is to seek him with all your heart! Additionally, no devotional practice is a fit substitute for a holistic life of faith. These practices are given with the prayer that they will lead you into a lifetime (24/7) of engaging with God’s Spirit, through His Word and world, to the purpose of a more realized union with His Son. As you develop these habits, have grace with yourself. Start slowly, keep trying if you fall short, and remember: **our devotional life is not a means to an end, but is rather the end of our existence, to commune with the One who made us and has loved us before time began!***

Our God is immeasurably good.

You were made to glorify and enjoy Him forever.

May you find a deeper knowledge of that reality through this book.

Ryan Azzaro

Pastor at Landmark Church

*Blessed is the one
who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,
nor stands in the way of sinners,
nor sits in the seat of scoffers;
but whose delight is in the law of the LORD,
and on his law they meditate day and night.*

Morning:

O Lord this day, let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing to you, for you alone are my rock and my redeemer.

Opening reflection and thanksgiving: Begin by inviting the Lord to lead you in your day and devotion. Give thanks for a new day and your many blessings. Consider and acknowledge some of God's attributes.

Psalm: Read or sing a Psalm (see 60-day plan on page 14). Try to summarize the “heart of the Psalm” in one sentence.

Catechism: Read and consider the week's question. (Page 25)
How does this week’s truth demonstrate God’s glory and/or affect your life?

Scripture: Read a chapter(s) from your bible reading plan (Page 16) carefully and prayerfully, a couple times, and consider these questions:

- 1. Where does this passage fit within the whole story of the bible?*
- 2. What does this passage reveal about God?*
- 3. What does this passage reveal about myself? (good and bad)*

4. *How does this passage relate to the good news of Jesus?*
5. *How can I walk in this truth?*

Closing prayer: Close by asking for God's Spirit to take and seal these truths in your life. Petition for your needs, your family, your church, your city, your leaders, and our world. Conclude by praying the Lord's prayer:

*Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today 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 one
For yours is the Kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen*

A blessing for the day: *May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God the Father and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you, now and forever. Amen.*

Noon:

Take some time to remind yourself of who you serve, who you are in Christ, and what matters most. Read through a psalm or another encouraging passage and give thanks.

Blessed Savior, at this hour you hung upon the cross, stretching out your loving arms: Grant that all the peoples of the earth may look to you and be saved. Strengthen me to walk faithfully in your grace, for your tender mercies' sake. Amen.

Evening:

Hear now, at the end of your day, the Good Shepherd's call:
Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

Opening reflection, thanksgiving, and confession: Begin by acknowledging the Lord and His Kingship in your life.

Consider your day, what you thankful for or excited about? What was challenging or caused you pain? Invite the Lord's Spirit to come and minister to your heart as you conclude your day.

Take some time to consider your day and repent of sin. In confession, we seek genuine remorse of sin, deliverance from sin, and the assurance and comfort of pardon, knowing that by our union with Christ, all these are ours. (See prayer of confession on page 20)

Psalm: Read or sing a Psalm (Page 14) Try to summarize the "heart of the Psalm" in one sentence.

Optional: Sing a song, hymn or Scripture of praise, or recite the Apostles Creed (Page 24).

Scripture: Read a chapter(s) from your bible reading plan (Page 16) carefully and prayerfully, a couple times, and consider these questions:

1. *Where does this passage fit within the whole story of the bible?*
2. *What does this passage reveal about God?*
3. *What does this passage reveal about myself? (Good and bad)*
4. *How does this passage relate to the good news of Jesus?*
5. *How can I walk in this truth?*

Closing prayer: Close by asking for God's Spirit to take and seal these truths in your life. Petition for your needs, your family, your church, your city, your leaders, and our world. Conclude by praying the Lord's prayer.

A blessing for the night: *May the Lord bless you and keep you, may the Lord make His face to shine upon you, may the Lord be gracious to you, and grant you a perfect peace, in the name of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, forever three in one, Amen.*

60 - Day Psalter (Month A)

1	Morning	1, 2
	Evening	3
2	Morning	5
	Evening	4, 6
3	Morning	8, 9
	Evening	7
4	Morning	10
	Evening	11, 12
5	Morning	14, 15
	Evening	13
6	Morning	18
	Evening	16, 17
7	Morning	19, 20
	Evening	21
8	Morning	22
	Evening	23, 24
9	Morning	26, 27
	Evening	25
10	Morning	30
	Evening	28, 29
11	Morning	32
	Evening	31
12	Morning	33
	Evening	34
13	Morning	35
	Evening	36
14	Morning	37
	Evening	38
15	Morning	40
	Evening	39, 41

16	Morning	42, 43
	Evening	44
17	Morning	45
	Evening	46, 47
18	Morning	48, 49
	Evening	50
19	Morning	51
	Evening	52, 53
20	Morning	54, 56
	Evening	55
21	Morning	59
	Evening	57, 58
22	Morning	60, 61
	Evening	62
23	Morning	65
	Evening	63, 64
24	Morning	66
	Evening	67, 70
25	Morning	68
	Evening	69
26	Morning	71
	Evening	72
27	Morning	73
	Evening	74
28	Morning	75, 76
	Evening	77
29	Morning	78
	Evening	79
30	Morning	80
	Evening	81

60 Day Psalter (Month B)

1 (31)	Morning	82, 84
	Evening	83
2 (32)	Morning	85
	Evening	86
3 (33)	Morning	88
	Evening	87
4 (34)	Morning	89
	Evening	90
5 (35)	Morning	91
	Evening	93
6 (36)	Morning	92
	Evening	94
7 (37)	Morning	95, 96
	Evening	97
8 (38)	Morning	98, 100
	Evening	99
9 (39)	Morning	101
	Evening	102
10 (40)	Morning	103
	Evening	104
11 (41)	Morning	105
	Evening	106
12 (42)	Morning	107
	Evening	108
13 (43)	Morning	109
	Evening	110, 111
14 (44)	Morning	112, 113
	Evening	114
15 (45)	Morning	115
	Evening	116

16 (46)	Morning	117, 118
	Evening	120, 121
17 (47)	Morning	119:1–24
	Evening	119:25–48
18 (48)	Morning	119:49–72
	Evening	119:73–88
19 (49)	Morning	119:89–112
	Evening	119:113–136
20 (50)	Morning	119:137–152
	Evening	119:153–176
21 (51)	Morning	122, 123
	Evening	124
22 (52)	Morning	125, 126
	Evening	127
23 (53)	Morning	128, 129
	Evening	130
24 (54)	Morning	131, 132
	Evening	133, 134
25 (55)	Morning	135
	Evening	136
26 (56)	Morning	137, 138
	Evening	139
27 (57)	Morning	140, 141
	Evening	142, 143
28 (58)	Morning	144
	Evening	145
29 (59)	Morning	147
	Evening	146
30 (60)	Morning	148
	Evening	149, 150

Bible Reading Plan - Year 1: Jan - Juneⁱ

January

1 Gn 1; Mt 1
 2 Gn 2; Mt 2
 3 Gn 3; Mt 3
 4 Gn 4; Mt 4
 5 Gn 5; Mt 5
 6 Gn 6; Mt 6
 7 Gn 7; Mt 7
 8 Gn 8; Mt 8
 9 Gn 9-10; Mt 9
 10 Gn 11; Mt 10
 11 Gn 12; Mt 11
 12 Gn 13; Mt 12
 13 Gn 14; Mt 13
 14 Gn 15; Mt 14
 15 Gn 16; Mt 15
 16 Gn 17; Mt 16
 17 Gn 18; Mt 17
 18 Gn 19; Mt 18
 19 Gn 20; Mt 19
 20 Gn 21; Mt 20
 21 Gn 22; Mt 21
 22 Gn 23; Mt 22
 23 Gn 24; Mt 23
 24 Gn 25; Mt 24
 25 Gn 26; Mt 25
 26 Gn 27; Mt 26
 27 Gn 28; Mt 27
 28 Gn 29; Mt 28
 29 Gn 30; Mk 1
 30 Gn 31; Mk 2
 31 Gn 32; Mk 3

February

1 Gn 33; Mk 4
 2 Gn 34; Mk 5
 3 Gn 35-36; Mk 6
 4 Gn 37; Mk 7
 5 Gn 38; Mk 8
 6 Gn 39; Mk 9
 7 Gn 40; Mk 10
 8 Gn 41; Mk 11
 9 Gn 42; Mk 12
 10 Gn 43; Mk 13
 11 Gn 44; Mk 14
 12 Gn 45; Mk 15
 13 Gn 46; Mk 16
 14 Gn 47; Lk 1:1-38
 15 Gn 48; Lk 1:39-80
 16 Gn 49; Lk 2

17 Gn 50; Lk 3
 18 Ex 1; Lk 4
 19 Ex 2; Lk 5
 20 Ex 3; Lk 6
 21 Ex 4; Lk 7
 22 Ex 5; Lk 8
 23 Ex 6; Lk 9
 24 Ex 7; Lk 10
 25 Ex 8; Lk 11
 26 Ex 9; Lk 12
 27 Ex 10; Lk 13
 28 Ex 11:1-12:20;
 Lk 14

March

1 Ex 12:21-51; Lk 15
 2 Ex 13; Lk 16
 3 Ex 14; Lk 17
 4 Ex 15; Lk 18
 5 Ex 16; Lk 19
 6 Ex 17; Lk 20
 7 Ex 18; Lk 21
 8 Ex 19; Lk 22
 9 Ex 20; Lk 23
 10 Ex 21; Lk 24
 11 Ex 22; Jn 1
 12 Ex 23; Jn 2
 13 Ex 24; Jn 3
 14 Ex 25; Jn 4
 15 Ex 26; Jn 5
 16 Ex 27; Jn 6
 17 Ex 28; Jn 7
 18 Ex 29; Jn 8
 19 Ex 30; Jn 9
 20 Ex 31; Jn 10
 21 Ex 32; Jn 11
 22 Ex 33; Jn 12
 23 Ex 34; Jn 13
 24 Ex 35; Jn 14
 25 Ex 36; Jn 15
 26 Ex 37; Jn 16
 27 Ex 38; Jn 17
 28 Ex 39; Jn 18
 29 Ex 40; Jn 19
 30 Lv 1; Jn 20
 31 Lv 2-3; Jn 21

April

1 Lv 4; Ps 1-2
 2 Lv 5; Ps 3-4
 3 Lv 6; Ps 5-6
 4 Lv 7; Ps 7-8
 5 Lv 8; Ps 9
 6 Lv 9; Ps 10
 7 Lv 10; Ps 11-12
 8 Lv 11-12; Ps 13-14
 9 Lv 13; Ps 15-16
 10 Lv 14; Ps 17
 11 Lv 15; Ps 18
 12 Lv 16; Ps 19
 13 Lv 17; Ps 20-21
 14 Lv 18; Ps 22
 15 Lv 19; Ps 23-24
 16 Lv 20; Ps 25
 17 Lv 21; Ps 26-27
 18 Lv 22; Ps 28-29
 19 Lv 23; Ps 30
 20 Lv 24; Ps 31
 21 Lv 25; Ps 32
 22 Lv 26; Ps 33
 23 Lv 27; Ps 34
 24 Nu 1; Ps 35
 25 Nu 2; Ps 36
 26 Nu 3; Ps 37
 27 Nu 4; Ps 38
 28 Nu 5; Ps 39
 29 Nu 6; Ps 40-41
 30 Nu 7; Ps 42-43

May

1 Nu 8; Ps 44
 2 Nu 9; Ps 45
 3 Nu 10; Ps 46-47
 4 Nu 11; Ps 48
 5 Nu 12-13; Ps 49
 6 Nu 14; Ps 50
 7 Nu 15; Ps 51
 8 Nu 16; Ps 52-54
 9 Nu 17-18; Ps 55
 10 Nu 19; Ps 56-57
 11 Nu 20; Ps 58-59
 12 Nu 21; Ps 60-61
 13 Nu 22; Ps 62-63
 14 Nu 23; Ps 64-65
 15 Nu 24; Ps 66-67
 16 Nu 25; Ps 68
 17 Nu 26; Ps 69
 18 Nu 27; Ps 70-71
 19 Nu 28; Ps 72
 20 Nu 29; Ps 73
 21 Nu 30; Ps 74
 22 Nu 31; Ps 75-76

23 Nu 32; Ps 77
 24 Nu 33; Ps 78:1-39
 25 Nu 34; Ps 78:40-72
 26 Nu 35; Ps 79
 27 Nu 36; Ps 80
 28 Dt 1; Ps 81-82
 29 Dt 2; Ps 83-84
 30 Dt 3; Ps 85
 31 Dt 4; Ps 86-87

June

1 Dt 5; Ps 88
 2 Dt 6; Ps 89
 3 Dt 7; Ps 90
 4 Dt 8; Ps 91
 5 Dt 9; Ps 92-93
 6 Dt 10; Ps 94
 7 Dt 11; Ps 95-96
 8 Dt 12; Ps 97-98
 9 Dt 13-14;
 Ps 99-101
 10 Dt 15; Ps 102
 11 Dt 16; Ps 103
 12 Dt 17; Ps 104
 13 Dt 18; Ps 105
 14 Dt 19; Ps 106
 15 Dt 20; Ps 107
 16 Dt 21; Ps 108-109
 17 Dt 22; Ps 110-111
 18 Dt 23; Ps 112-113
 19 Dt 24; Ps 114-115
 20 Dt 25; Ps 116
 21 Dt 26; Ps 117-118
 22 Dt 27:1-28:19;
 Ps 119:1-24
 23 Dt 28:20-68;
 Ps 119:25-48
 24 Dt 29;
 Ps 119:49-72
 25 Dt 30;
 Ps 119:73-96
 26 Dt 31;
 Ps 119:97-120
 27 Dt 32;
 Ps 119:121-144
 28 Dt 33-34;
 Ps 119:145-176
 29 Jsh 1; Ps 120-122
 30 Jsh 2; Ps 123-125

Bible Reading Plan – Year 1: Jul - Dec

July	15 1Sa 5-6; Ro 5	October	17 1Ch 9-10; He 12
1 Jsh 3; Ps 126-128	16 1Sa 7-8; Ro 6	1 1Ki 3; Eph 1	18 1Ch 11-12; He 13
2 Jsh 4; Ps 129-131	17 1Sa 9; Ro 7	2 1Ki 4-5; Eph 2	19 1Ch 13-14; Jas 1
3 Jsh 5; Ps 132-134	18 1Sa 10; Ro 8	3 1Ki 6; Eph 3	20 1Ch 15; Jas 2
4 Jsh 6; Ps 135-136	19 1Sa 11; Ro 9	4 1Ki 7; Eph 4	21 1Ch 16; Jas 3
5 Jsh 7; Ps 137-138	20 1Sa 12; Ro 10	5 1Ki 8; Eph 5	22 1Ch 17; Jas 4
6 Jsh 8; Ps 139	21 1Sa 13; Ro 11	6 1Ki 9; Eph 6	23 1Ch 18; Jas 5
7 Jsh 9; Ps 140-141	22 1Sa 14; Ro 12	7 1Ki 10; Phil 1	24 1Ch 19-20; 1Pe 1
8 Jsh 10; Ps 142-143	23 1Sa 15; Ro 13	8 1Ki 11; Phil 2	25 1Ch 21; 1Pe 2
9 Jsh 11; Ps 144	24 1Sa 16; Ro 14	9 1Ki 12; Phil 3	26 1Ch 22; 1Pe 3
10 Jsh 12-13; Ps 145	25 1Sa 17; Ro 15	10 1Ki 13; Phil 4	27 1Ch 23; 1Pe 4
11 Jsh 14-15;	26 1Sa 18; Ro 16	11 1Ki 14; Col 1	28 1Ch 24-25; 1Pe 5
Ps 146-147	27 1Sa 19; 1Co 1	12 1Ki 15; Col 2	29 1Ch 26-27; 2Pe 1
12 Jsh 16-17; Ps 148	28 1Sa 20; 1Co 2	13 1Ki 16; Col 3	30 1Ch 28; 2Pe 2
13 Jsh 18-19;	29 1Sa 21-22; 1Co 3	14 1Ki 17; Col 4	December
Ps 149-150	30 1Sa 23; 1Co 4	15 1Ki 18; 1Th 1	1 1Ch 29; 2Pe 3
14 Jsh 20-21; Act 1	31 1Sa 24; 1Co 5	16 1Ki 19; 1Th 2	2 2Ch 1; 1 Jn 1
15 Jsh 22; Act 2	September	17 1Ki 20; 1Th 3	3 2Ch 2; 1 Jn 2
16 Jsh 23; Act 3	1 1Sa 25; 1Co 6	18 1Ki 21; 1Th 4	4 2Ch 3-4; 1 Jn 3
17 Jsh 24; Act 4	2 1Sa 26; 1Co 7	19 1Ki 22; 1Th 5	5 2Ch 5:1-6:11;
18 Jdg 1; Act 5	3 1Sa 27; 1Co 8	20 2Ki 1; 2Th 1	1 Jn 4
19 Jdg 2; Act 6	4 1Sa 28; 1Co 9	21 2Ki 2; 2Th 2	6 2Ch 6:12-42;
20 Jdg 3; Act 7	5 1Sa 29-30; 1Co 10	22 2Ki 3; 2Th 3	1 Jn 5
21 Jdg 4; Act 8	6 1Sa 31; 1Co 11	23 2Ki 4; 1Ti 1	7 2Ch 7; 2Jn 1
22 Jdg 5; Act 9	7 2Sa 1; 1Co 12	24 2Ki 5; 1Ti 2	8 2Ch 8; 3 Jn 1
23 Jdg 6; Act 10	8 2Sa 2; 1Co 13	25 2Ki 6; 1Ti 3	9 2Ch 9; Jude
24 Jdg 7; Act 11	9 2Sa 3; 1Co 14	26 2Ki 7; 1Ti 4	10 2Ch 10; Rev 1
25 Jdg 8; Act 12	10 2Sa 4-5; 1Co 15	27 2Ki 8; 1Ti 5	11 2Ch 11-12; Rev 2
26 Jdg 9; Act 13	11 2Sa 6; 1Co 16	28 2Ki 9; 1Ti 6	12 2Ch 13; Rev 3
27 Jdg 10; Act 14	12 2Sa 7; 2Co 1	29 2Ki 10-11; 2Ti 1	13 2Ch 14-15; Rev 4
28 Jdg 11; Act 15	13 2Sa 8-9; 2Co 2	30 2Ki 12; 2Ti 2	14 2Ch 16; Rev 5
29 Jdg 12; Act 16	14 2Sa 10; 2Co 3	31 2Ki 13; 2Ti 3	15 2Ch 17; Rev 6
30 Jdg 13; Act 17	15 2Sa 11; 2Co 4	November	16 2Ch 18; Rev 7
31 Jdg 14; Act 18	16 2Sa 12; 2Co 5	1 2Ki 14; 2Ti 4	17 2Ch 19-20; Rev 8
August	17 2Sa 13; 2Co 6	2 2Ki 15; Tit 1	18 2Ch 21; Rev 9
1 Jdg 15; Act 19	18 2Sa 14; 2Co 7	3 2Ki 16; Tit 2	19 2Ch 22-23; Rev 10
2 Jdg 16; Act 20	19 2Sa 15; 2Co 8	4 2Ki 17; Tit 3	20 2Ch 24; Rev 11
3 Jdg 17; Act 21	20 2Sa 16; 2Co 9	5 2Ki 18; Philemon	21 2Ch 25; Rev 12
4 Jdg 18; Act 22	21 2Sa 17; 2Co 10	6 2Ki 19; He 1	22 2Ch 26; Rev 13
5 Jdg 19; Act 23	22 2Sa 18; 2Co 11	7 2Ki 20; He 2	23 2Ch 27-28; Rev 14
6 Jdg 20; Act 24	23 2Sa 19; 2Co 12	8 2Ki 21; He 3	24 2Ch 29; Rev 15
7 Jdg 21; Act 25	24 2Sa 20; 2Co 13	9 2Ki 22; He 4	25 2Ch 30; Rev 16
8 Ruth 1; Act 26	25 2Sa 21; Gal 1	10 2Ki 23; He 5	26 2Ch 31; Rev 17
9 Ruth 2; Act 27	26 2Sa 22; Gal 2	11 2Ki 24; He 6	27 2Ch 32; Rev 18
10 Ruth 3-4; Act 28	27 2Sa 23; Gal 3	12 2Ki 25; He 7	28 2Ch 33; Rev 19
11 1Sa 1; Ro 1	28 2Sa 24; Gal 4	13 1Ch 1-2; He 8	29 2Ch 34; Rev 20
12 1Sa 2; Ro 2	29 1Ki 1; Gal 5	14 1Ch 3-4; He 9	30 2Ch 35; Rev 21
13 1Sa 3; Ro 3	30 1Ki 2; Gal 6	15 1Ch 5-6; He 10	31 2Ch 36; Rev 22
14 1Sa 4; Ro 4		16 1Ch 7-8; He 11	

Bible Reading Plan – Year 2: Jan - Jul 9th

January

1 Ezra 1; Act 1
 2 Ezra 2; Act 2
 3 Ezra 3; Act 3
 4 Ezra 4; Act 4
 5 Ezra 5; Act 5
 6 Ezra 6; Act 6
 7 Ezra 7; Act 7
 8 Ezra 8; Act 8
 9 Ezra 9; Act 9
 10 Ezra 10; Act 10
 11 Neh 1; Act 11
 12 Neh 2; Act 12
 13 Neh 3; Act 13
 14 Neh 4; Act 14
 15 Neh 5; Act 15
 16 Neh 6; Act 16
 17 Neh 7; Act 17
 18 Neh 8; Act 18
 19 Neh 9; Act 19
 20 Neh 10; Act 20
 21 Neh 11; Act 21
 22 Neh 12; Act 22
 23 Neh 13; Act 23
 24 Esth 1; Act 24
 25 Esth 2; Act 25
 26 Esth 3; Act 26
 27 Esth 4; Act 27
 28 Esth 5; Act 28
 29 Esth 6; Ro 1
 30 Esth 7; Ro 2
 31 Esth 8; Ro 3

February

1 Esth 9-10; Ro 4
 2 Job 1; Ro 5
 3 Job 2; Ro 6
 4 Job 3; Ro 7
 5 Job 4; Ro 8
 6 Job 5; Ro 9
 7 Job 6; Ro 10
 8 Job 7; Ro 11
 9 Job 8; Ro 12
 10 Job 9; Ro 13
 11 Job 10; Ro 14
 12 Job 11; Ro 15
 13 Job 12; Ro 16
 14 Job 13; 1Co 1
 15 Job 14; 1Co 2
 16 Job 15; 1Co 3

17 Job 16-17; 1Co 4
 18 Job 18; 1Co 5
 19 Job 19; 1Co 6
 20 Job 20; 1Co 7
 21 Job 21; 1Co 8
 22 Job 22; 1Co 9
 23 Job 23; 1Co 10
 24 Job 24; 1Co 11
 25 Job 25-26; 1Co 12
 26 Job 27; 1Co 13
 27 Job 28; 1Co 14
 28 Job 29; 1Co 15

March

1 Job 30; 1Co 16
 2 Job 31; 2Co 1
 3 Job 32; 2Co 2
 4 Job 33; 2Co 3
 5 Job 34; 2Co 4
 6 Job 35; 2Co 5
 7 Job 36; 2Co 6
 8 Job 37; 2Co 7
 9 Job 38; 2Co 8
 10 Job 39; 2Co 9
 11 Job 40; 2Co 10
 12 Job 41; 2Co 11
 13 Job 42; 2Co 12
 14 Pr 1; 2Co 13

15 Pr 2; Gal 1
 16 Pr 3; Gal 2
 17 Pr 4; Gal 3
 18 Pr 5; Gal 4
 19 Pr 6; Gal 5
 20 Pr 7; Gal 6
 21 Pr 8; Eph 1
 22 Pr 9; Eph 2
 23 Pr 10; Eph 3
 24 Pr 11; Eph 4
 25 Pr 12; Eph 5
 26 Pr 13; Eph 6
 27 Pr 14; Phil 1
 28 Pr 15; Phil 2
 29 Pr 16; Phil 3
 30 Pr 17; Phil 4
 31 Pr 18; Col 1

April

1 Pr 19; Col 2
 2 Pr 20; Col 3
 3 Pr 21; Col 4
 4 Pr 22; 1Th 1

5 Pr 23; 1Th 2
 6 Pr 24; 1Th 3
 7 Pr 25; 1Th 4
 8 Pr 26; 1Th 5
 9 Pr 27; 2Th 1
 10 Pr 28; 2Th 2
 11 Pr 29; 2Th 3
 12 Pr 30; 1Ti 1
 13 Pr 31; 1Ti 2
 14 Eccl 1; 1Ti 3
 15 Eccl 2; 1Ti 4
 16 Eccl 3; 1Ti 5
 17 Eccl 4; 1Ti 6
 18 Eccl 5; 2Ti 1
 19 Eccl 6; 2Ti 2
 20 Eccl 7; 2Ti 3
 21 Eccl 8; 2Ti 4
 22 Eccl 9; Tit 1
 23 Eccl 10; Tit 2
 24 Eccl 11; Tit 3
 25 Eccl 12; Philemon
 26 Song 1; He 1
 27 Song 2; He 2
 28 Song 3; He 3
 29 Song 4; He 4
 30 Song 5; He 5

May

1 Song 6; He 6
 2 Song 7; He 7
 3 Song 8; He 8
 4 Is 1; He 9
 5 Is 2; He 10
 6 Is 3-4; He 11
 7 Is 5; He 12
 8 Is 6; He 13
 9 Is 7; Jas 1
 10 Is 8:1-9:7; Jas 2
 11 Is 9:8-10:4; Jas 3
 12 Is 10:5-34; Jas 4
 13 Is 11-12; Jas 5
 14 Is 13; 1Pe 1
 15 Is 14; 1Pe 2
 16 Is 15; 1Pe 3
 17 Is 16; 1Pe 4
 18 Is 17-18; 1Pe 5
 19 Is 19-20; 2Pe 1
 20 Is 21; 2Pe 2
 21 Is 22; 2Pe 3
 22 Is 23; 1 Jn 1
 23 Is 24; 1 Jn 2

24 Is 25; 1 Jn 3
 25 Is 26; 1 Jn 4
 26 Is 27; 1 Jn 5
 27 Is 28; 2Jn 1
 28 Is 29; 3 Jn 1
 29 Is 30; Jude
 30 Is 31; Rev 1
 31 Is 32; Rev 2

June

1 Is 33; Rev 3
 2 Is 34; Rev 4
 3 Is 35; Rev 5
 4 Is 36; Rev 6
 5 Is 37; Rev 7
 6 Is 38; Rev 8
 7 Is 39; Rev 9
 8 Is 40; Rev 10
 9 Is 41; Rev 11
 10 Is 42; Rev 12
 11 Is 43; Rev 13
 12 Is 44; Rev 14
 13 Is 45; Rev 15
 14 Is 46; Rev 16
 15 Is 47; Rev 17
 16 Is 48; Rev 18
 17 Is 49; Rev 19
 18 Is 50; Rev 20
 19 Is 51; Rev 21
 20 Is 52; Rev 22

21 Is 53; Mt 1
 22 Is 54; Mt 2
 23 Is 55; Mt 3
 24 Is 56; Mt 4
 25 Is 57; Mt 5
 26 Is 58; Mt 6
 27 Is 59; Mt 7
 28 Is 60; Mt 8
 29 Is 61; Mt 9
 30 Is 62; Mt 10

July

1 Is 63; Mt 11
 2 Is 64; Mt 12
 3 Is 65; Mt 13
 4 Is 66; Mt 14
 5 Jer 1; Mt 15
 6 Jer 2; Mt 16
 7 Jer 3; Mt 17
 8 Jer 4; Mt 18
 9 Jer 5; Mt 19

Bible Reading Plan – Year 2: Jul 10th - Dec

10 Jer 6; Mt 20
 11 Jer 7; Mt 21
 12 Jer 8; Mt 22
 13 Jer 9; Mt 23
 14 Jer 10; Mt 24
 15 Jer 11; Mt 25
 16 Jer 12; Mt 26
 17 Jer 13; Mt 27
 18 Jer 14; Mt 28
 19 Jer 15; Mk 1
 20 Jer 16; Mk 2
 21 Jer 17; Mk 3
 22 Jer 18; Mk 4
 23 Jer 19; Mk 5
 24 Jer 20; Mk 6
 25 Jer 21; Mk 7
 26 Jer 22; Mk 8
 27 Jer 23; Mk 9
 28 Jer 24; Mk 10
 29 Jer 25; Mk 11
 30 Jer 26; Mk 12
 31 Jer 27; Mk 13

August

1 Jer 28; Mk 14
 2 Jer 29; Mk 15
 3 Jer 30-31; Mk 16
 4 Jer 32; Ps 1-2
 5 Jer 33; Ps 3-4
 6 Jer 34; Ps 5-6
 7 Jer 35; Ps 7-8
 8 Jer 36,45; Ps 9
 9 Jer 37; Ps 10
 10 Jer 38; Ps 11-12
 11 Jer 39; Ps 13-14
 12 Jer 40; Ps 15-16
 13 Jer 41; Ps 17
 14 Jer 42; Ps 18
 15 Jer 43; Ps 19
 16 Jer 44; Ps 20-21
 17 Jer 46; Ps 22
 18 Jer 47; Ps 23-24
 19 Jer 48; Ps 25
 20 Jer 49; Ps 26-27
 21 Jer 50; Ps 28-29
 22 Jer 51; Ps 30
 23 Jer 52; Ps 31
 24 La 1; Ps 32
 25 La 2; Ps 33
 26 La 3; Ps 34
 27 La 4; Ps 35

28 La 5; Ps 36
 29 Eze 1; Ps 37
 30 Eze 2; Ps 38
 31 Eze 3; Ps 39

September

1 Eze 4; Ps 40-41
 2 Eze 5; Ps 42-43
 3 Eze 6; Ps 44
 4 Eze 7; Ps 45
 5 Eze 8; Ps 46-47
 6 Eze 9; Ps 48
 7 Eze 10; Ps 49
 8 Eze 11; Ps 50
 9 Eze 12; Ps 51
 10 Eze 13; Ps 52-54
 11 Eze 14; Ps 55
 12 Eze 15; Ps 56-57
 13 Eze 16; Ps 58-59
 14 Eze 17; Ps 60-61
 15 Eze 18; Ps 62-63
 16 Eze 19; Ps 64-65
 17 Eze 20; Ps 66-67
 18 Eze 21; Ps 68
 19 Eze 22; Ps 69

20 Eze 23; Ps 70-71
 21 Eze 24; Ps 72
 22 Eze 25; Ps 73
 23 Eze 26; Ps 74
 24 Eze 27; Ps 75-76
 25 Eze 28; Ps 77
 26 Eze 29; Ps 78:1-39
 27 Eze 30;
 Ps 78:40-72
 28 Eze 31; Ps 79
 29 Eze 32; Ps 80
 30 Eze 33; Ps 81-82

October

1 Eze 34; Ps 83-84
 2 Eze 35; Ps 85
 3 Eze 36; Ps 86
 4 Eze 37; Ps 87-88
 5 Eze 38; Ps 89
 6 Eze 39; Ps 90
 7 Eze 40; Ps 91
 8 Eze 41; Ps 92-93
 9 Eze 42; Ps 94
 10 Eze 43; Ps 95-96
 11 Eze 44; Ps 97-98
 12 Eze 45; Ps 99-101

13 Eze 46; Ps 102
 14 Eze 47; Ps 103
 15 Eze 48; Ps 104
 16 Dn 1; Ps 105
 17 Dn 2; Ps 106
 18 Dn 3; Ps 107
 19 Dn 4; Ps 108-109
 20 Dn 5; Ps 110-111
 21 Dn 6; Ps 112-113
 22 Dn 7; Ps 114-115
 23 Dn 8; Ps 116
 24 Dn 9; Ps 117-118
 25 Dn 10; Ps 119:1-24
 26 Dn 11;
 Ps 119:25-48
 27 Dn 12;
 Ps 119:49-72
 28 Ho 1; Ps 119:73-96
 29 Ho 2;
 Ps 119:97-120
 30 Ho 3-4;
 Ps 119:121-144
 31 Ho 5-6;
 Ps 119:145-176

November

1 Ho 7; Ps 120-122
 2 Ho 8; Ps 123-125
 3 Ho 9; Ps 126-128
 4 Ho 10; Ps 129-131
 5 Ho 11; Ps 132-134
 6 Ho 12; Ps 135-136
 7 Ho 13; Ps 137-138
 8 Ho 14; Ps 139
 9 Joel 1; Ps 140-141
 10 Joel 2; Ps 142
 11 Joel 3; Ps 143
 12 Am 1; Ps 144
 13 Am 2; Ps 145
 14 Am 3; Ps 146-147
 15 Am 4; Ps 148-150
 16 Am 5; Lk 1:1-38
 17 Am 6; Lk 1:39-80
 18 Am 7; Lk 2
 19 Am 8; Lk 3
 20 Am 9; Lk 4
 21 Ob 1; Lk 5
 22 Jon 1; Lk 6
 23 Jon 2; Lk 7
 24 Jon 3; Lk 8
 25 Jon 4; Lk 9

26 Mic 1; Lk 10
 27 Mic 2; Lk 11
 28 Mic 3; Lk 12
 29 Mic 4; Lk 13
 30 Mic 5; Lk 14

December

1 Mic 6; Lk 15
 2 Mic 7; Lk 16
 3 Nah 1; Lk 17
 4 Nah 2; Lk 18
 5 Nah 3; Lk 19
 6 Hab 1; Lk 20
 7 Hab 2; Lk 21
 8 Hab 3; Lk 22
 9 Zph 1; Lk 23
 10 Zph 2; Lk 24
 11 Zph 3; Jn 1
 12 Hag 1; Jn 2
 13 Hag 2; Jn 3
 14 Zech 1; Jn 4
 15 Zech 2; Jn 5
 16 Zech 3; Jn 6
 17 Zech 4; Jn 7
 18 Zech 5; Jn 8
 19 Zech 6; Jn 9
 20 Zech 7; Jn 10
 21 Zech 8; Jn 11
 22 Zech 9; Jn 12
 23 Zech 10; Jn 13
 24 Zech 11; Jn 14
 25 Zech 12:1-13:1;
 Jn 15
 26 Zech 13:2-9; Jn 16
 27 Zech 14; Jn 17
 28 Mal 1; Jn 18
 29 Mal 2; Jn 19
 30 Mal 3; Jn 20
 31 Mal 4; Jn 21

Confession of Sin:¹

Almighty and most merciful Father,

we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed too much

the devices and desires of our own hearts.

We have offended against your holy laws.

We have left undone those things which we ought to have done,

and we have done those things which we ought not to have done;

and apart from your grace, there is no health in us.

O Lord, have mercy upon us.

Spare all those who confess their faults.

Restore all those who are penitent,

according to your promises

declared to all people in Christ Jesus our Lord;

And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,

*that we may now live a godly, righteous, and sober life,
to the glory of your holy Name. Amen.*

Assurance of Pardon:

If we confess our sins,

He is faithful and just to forgive,

And to cleanse us of all unrighteousness.

¹ From the book of Common Prayer

Truths for Singing:

The Magnificat (Luke 1:46-55 ESV)

*“My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
For he has looked on the humble estate of his servant.
for behold, from now on all generations will call me
blessed;
For he who is mighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.
And his mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.
He has shown strength with his arm;
He has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their
hearts;
He has brought down the mighty from their thrones
and exalted those of humble estate;
He has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
As he spoke to our fathers,
to Abraham and to his offspring forever.”*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Te Deum Laudamus:

*We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord;
all creation worships you, the Father everlasting.*

*To you all angels, all the powers of heaven,
the cherubim and seraphim, sing in endless praise:*

*Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

The glorious company of apostles praise you.

The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.

The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.

Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you:

Father, of majesty unbounded,

Your true and only Son, worthy of all praise,

The Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.

You, Christ, are the king of glory,

the eternal Son of the Father.

When you took our flesh to set us free

you humbly chose the Virgin's womb.

You overcame the sting of death

and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

You are seated at God's right hand in glory.

*We believe that you will come to be our judge.
Come then, Lord, and help your people,
bought with the price of your own blood,
And bring us with your saints
to glory everlasting.
Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;
govern and uphold them now and always.
Day by day we bless you;
we praise your Name for ever.
Keep us today, Lord, from all sin;
have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.
Lord, show us your love and mercy,
for we have put our trust in you.
In you, Lord, is our hope,
let us never be put to shame.*

The Glory Be:

*Glory be to the Father,
And to the Son,
And to the Holy Spirit,
As it was in the beginning,
It now and ever shall be.
Alleluia.*

The Apostle's Creed:

*I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.*

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

*He was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.*

*He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.*

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic² Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Amen.

² That is, the true Christian church of all times and all places

The New City Catechism³

³ Adapted by Timothy Keller and Sam Shammas from the Reformation catechisms.
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PART 1: God, creation and fall, law.

Q1 (01/01): What is our only hope in life and death?

That we are not our own but belong, body and soul, both in life and death, to God and to our Savior Jesus Christ.

Q2 (01/08): What is God?

God is the creator and sustainer of everyone and everything.

He is eternal, infinite, and unchangeable in his power and perfection, goodness and glory, wisdom, justice, and truth.

Nothing happens except through him and by his will.

Q3: (01/15)How many persons are there in God?

There are three persons in the one true and living God:

the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

They are the same in substance, equal in power and glory.

Q4 (01/22): How and why did God create us?

God created us male and female in his own image to know him, love him, live with him, and glorify him. And it is right that we who were created by God should live to his glory.

Q5 (01/29): What else did God create?

God created all things by his powerful Word,

and all his creation was very good;

everything flourished under his loving rule.

Q6 (02/05): How can we glorify God?

We glorify God by enjoying him, loving him, trusting him, and by obeying his will, commands, and law.

Q7 (02/12): What does the law of God require?

Personal, perfect, and perpetual obedience; that we love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength; and love our neighbor as ourselves. What God forbids should never be done and what God commands should always be done.

Q8 (02/19): What is the law of God stated in the Ten Commandments?

1. You shall have no other gods before me.
2. You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below—you shall not bow down to them or worship them.
3. You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God.
4. Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.
5. Honor your father and your mother.
6. You shall not murder.
7. You shall not commit adultery.
8. You shall not steal.
9. You shall not give false testimony.
10. You shall not covet.

Q9 (02/26): What does God require in the first, second, and third commandments?

1. First, that we know and trust God as the only true and living God.
2. Second, that we avoid all idolatry and do not worship God improperly.
3. Third, that we treat God's name with fear and reverence, honoring also his Word and works.

Q10 (03/05): What does God require in the fourth and fifth commandments?

4. Fourth, that on the Sabbath day we spend time in public and private worship of God, rest from routine employment, serve the Lord and others, and so anticipate the eternal Sabbath.
5. Fifth, that we love and honor our father and our mother, submitting to their godly discipline and direction.

Q11 (03/12): What does God require in the sixth, seventh, and eighth commandments?

6. Sixth, that we do not hurt, or hate, or be hostile to our neighbor, but be patient and peaceful, pursuing even our enemies with love.

7. Seventh, that we abstain from sexual immorality and live purely and faithfully, whether in marriage or in single life, avoiding all impure actions, looks, words, thoughts, or desires, and whatever might lead to them.
8. Eighth, that we do not take without permission that which belongs to someone else, nor withhold any good from someone we might benefit.

Q12 (03/19): What does God require in the ninth and tenth commandments?

9. Ninth, that we do not lie or deceive, but speak the truth in love.
10. Tenth, that we are content, not envying anyone or resenting what God has given them or us.

Q13 (03/26): Can anyone keep the law of God perfectly?

Since the fall, no mere human has been able to keep the law of God perfectly, but consistently breaks it in thought, word, and deed.

Q14 (04/02): Did God create us unable to keep his law?

No, but because of the disobedience of our first parents, Adam and Eve, all of creation is fallen; we are all born in sin and guilt, corrupt in our nature and unable to keep God's law.

**Q15 (04/09): Since no one can keep the law,
what is its purpose?**

That we may know the holy nature and will of God,
and the sinful nature and disobedience of our hearts;
and thus our need of a Savior.

The law also teaches and exhorts us to live
a life worthy of our Savior.

Q16 (04/16): What is sin?

Sin is rejecting or ignoring God in the world he created,
rebellious against him by living without reference to him,
not being or doing what he requires in his law—
resulting in our death and the disintegration of all creation.

Q17 (04/23): What is idolatry?

Idolatry is trusting in created things rather than the Creator
for our hope and happiness, significance, and security.

**Q18 (04/30): Will God allow our disobedience and idolatry
to go unpunished?**

No, every sin is against the sovereignty, holiness, and
goodness of God, and against his righteous law, and God is
righteously angry with our sins and will punish them in his
just judgment both in this life, and in the life to come.

Q19 (05/07): Is there any way to escape punishment and be brought back into God's favor?

Yes, to satisfy his justice, God himself, out of mere mercy, reconciles us to himself and delivers us from sin and from the punishment for sin, by a Redeemer.

Q20 (05/14): Who is the Redeemer?

The only Redeemer is the Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, in whom God became man and bore the penalty for sin himself.

PART 2: Christ, redemption, grace.

Q21 (05/21): What sort of Redeemer is needed to bring us back to God?

One who is truly human and also truly God.

Q22 (05/28): Why must the Redeemer be truly human?

That in human nature he might on our behalf perfectly obey the whole law and suffer the punishment for human sin; and also that he might sympathize with our weaknesses.

Q23 (06/04): Why must the Redeemer be truly God?

That because of his divine nature his obedience and suffering would be perfect and effective; and also that he would be able to bear the righteous anger of God against sin and yet overcome death.

Q24 (06/11): Why was it necessary for Christ, the Redeemer, to die?

Since death is the punishment for sin, Christ died willingly in our place to deliver us from the power and penalty of sin and bring us back to God. By his substitutionary atoning death, he alone redeems us from hell and gains for us forgiveness of sin, righteousness, and everlasting life.

Q25 (06/18): Does Christ's death mean all our sins can be forgiven?

Yes, because Christ's death on the cross fully paid the penalty for our sin, God graciously imputes Christ's righteousness to us as if it were our own and will remember our sins no more.

Q26 (06/25): What else does Christ's death redeem?

Christ's death is the beginning of the redemption and renewal of every part of fallen creation, as he powerfully directs all things for his own glory and creation's good.

Q27 (07/02): Are all people, just as they were lost through Adam, saved through Christ?

No, only those who are elected by God and united to Christ by faith. Nevertheless, God in his mercy demonstrates common grace even to those who are not elect, by restraining the effects of sin and enabling works of culture for human well-being.

Q28 (07/09): What happens after death to those not united to Christ by faith?

At the day of judgment they will receive the fearful but just sentence of condemnation pronounced against them. They will be cast out from the favorable presence of God, into hell, to be justly and grievously punished, forever.

Q29 (07/16): How can we be saved?

Only by faith in Jesus Christ and in his substitutionary atoning death on the cross; so even though we are guilty of having disobeyed God and are still inclined to all evil, nevertheless, God, without any merit of our own but only by pure grace, imputes to us the perfect righteousness of Christ when we repent and believe in him.

Q30 (07/23): What is faith in Jesus Christ?

Faith in Jesus Christ is acknowledging the truth of everything that God has revealed in his Word, trusting in him, and also receiving and resting on him alone for salvation as he is offered to us in the gospel.

Q31 (07/30): What do we believe by true faith?

Everything taught to us in the gospel. The Apostles' Creed expresses what we believe in these words: (Page 24)

Q32 (08/06): What do justification and sanctification mean?

Justification means our declared righteousness before God, made possible by Christ's death and resurrection for us. Sanctification means our gradual, growing righteousness, made possible by the Spirit's work in us.

Q33 (08/13): Should those who have faith in Christ seek their salvation through their own works, or anywhere else?

No, they should not, as everything necessary to salvation is found in Christ. To seek salvation through good works is a denial that Christ is the only Redeemer and Savior.

Q34 (08/20): Since we are redeemed by grace alone, through Christ alone, must we still do good works and obey God's Word?

Yes, because Christ, having redeemed us by his blood, also renews us by his Spirit; 1) so that our lives may show love and gratitude to God; 2) so that we may be assured of our faith by the fruits; and 3) so that by our godly behavior others may be won to Christ.

Q35 (08/27): Since we are redeemed by grace alone, through faith alone, where does this faith come from?

All the gifts we receive from Christ we receive through the Holy Spirit, including faith itself.

PART 3: Spirit, restoration, growing in grace.

Q36 (09/03): What do we believe about the Holy Spirit?

That he is God, coeternal with the Father and the Son, and that God grants him irrevocably to all who believe.

Q37 (09/10): How does the Holy Spirit help us?

The Holy Spirit convicts us of our sin, comforts us, guides us, gives us spiritual gifts and the desire to obey God; and he enables us to pray and to understand God's Word.

Q38 (09/17): What is prayer?

Prayer is pouring out our hearts to God in praise, petition, confession of sin, and thanksgiving.

Q39 (09/24): With what attitude should we pray?

With love, perseverance, and gratefulness;
in humble submission to God's will,
knowing that, for the sake of Christ, he always hears our
prayers.

Q40 (10/01): What should we pray?

The whole Word of God directs and inspires us in what we
should pray, including the prayer Jesus himself taught us.

Q41 (10/08): What is the Lord's Prayer? (Page 10)**Q42 (10/15): How is the Word of God to be read and
heard?**

With diligence, preparation, and prayer; so that we may accept
it with faith, store it in our hearts, and practice it in our lives.

Q43 (10/22): What are the sacraments or ordinances?

The sacraments or ordinances given by God and instituted by
Christ, namely baptism and the Lord's Supper,
are visible signs and seals that we are bound together as a
community of faith by his death and resurrection.
By our use of them the Holy Spirit more fully declares and
seals the promises of the gospel to us.

Q44 (10/29): What is baptism?

Baptism is the washing with water in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; it signifies and seals our adoption into Christ, our cleansing from sin, and our commitment to belong to the Lord and to his church.

Q45 (11/05): Is baptism with water the washing away of sin itself?

No, only the blood of Christ and the renewal of the Holy Spirit can cleanse us from sin.

Q46 (11/12): What is the Lord's Supper?

Christ commanded all Christians to eat bread and to drink from the cup in thankful remembrance of him and his death. The Lord's Supper is a celebration of the presence of God in our midst; bringing us into communion with God and with one another; feeding and nourishing our souls. It also anticipates the day when we will eat and drink with Christ in his Father's kingdom.

Q47 (11/19): Does the Lord's Supper add anything to Christ's atoning work?

No, Christ died once for all. The Lord's Supper is a covenant meal celebrating Christ's atoning work; as it is also a means of strengthening our faith as we look to him, and a foretaste of the future feast. But those who take part with unrepentant hearts eat and drink judgment on themselves.

Q48 (11/26): What is the church?

God chooses and preserves for himself a community elected for eternal life and united by faith, who love, follow, learn from, and worship God together. God sends out this community to proclaim the gospel and prefigure Christ's kingdom by the quality of their life together and their love for one another.

Q49 (12/03): Where is Christ now?

Christ rose bodily from the grave on the third day after his death and is seated at the right hand of the Father, ruling his kingdom and interceding for us, until he returns to judge and renew the whole world.

Q50 (12/10): What does Christ's resurrection mean for us?

Christ triumphed over sin and death by being physically resurrected, so that all who trust in him are raised to new life in this world and to everlasting life in the world to come. Just as we will one day be resurrected, so this world will one day be restored. But those who do not trust in Christ will be raised to everlasting death.

Q51 (12/17): Of what advantage to us is Christ's ascension?

Christ physically ascended on our behalf, just as he came down to earth physically on our account, and he is now advocating for us in the presence of his Father, preparing a place for us, and also sends us his Spirit.

Q52 (12/24): What hope does everlasting life hold for us?

It reminds us that this present fallen world is not all there is; soon we will live with and enjoy God forever in the new city, in the new heaven and the new earth, where we will be fully and forever freed from all sin and will inhabit renewed, resurrection bodies in a renewed, restored creation.



The Landmark Church Rule of Life

Preamble:

As a part of the Christian call to order our lives around the truth of the Gospelⁱⁱ, and in observance of the various modes and models of a “life rule” throughout the history of our faithⁱⁱⁱ, the leadership of Landmark Church has felt led by God to present our congregation with a Rule of Life. Our heart is that every member of our community would prayerfully consider these truths, and their applications, and consider how they might implement them in their life.

*The purpose of this Rule is **not** to accrue religious currency, to earn God’s favor, or to consider ourselves “more highly than we ought. We reject legalism in all its forms as antithetical to the Gospel. The purpose of this communal “constitution” is to order our steps, with whatever power/agency we have been given, that we might more deeply love our God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, and love our neighbor as ourselves.*

This format will follow a pattern of 1) asserting a biblical truth and then 2) offering a communal application. The truths we assert are from Scripture, and therefore, not subject to our affirmation or denial. However, the applications are our best attempts to apply these truths, and, as such, are not inerrant (without error).

We invite all believers to prayerfully consider each application, and our hope would be that many in our community would find freedom, hope, and joy in a corporate practice of “laying off” the things of the world and “putting on” the things of Christ.

A resource like this rule is an excellent opportunity for discussion and/or training. The point is not perfection but practice. If all of these practices are new, consider where you might start, and then begin developing habits prayerfully, faithfully, one after the other. If you read something in the following pages that seems 1) impossible, 2) excessive, or 3) unbiblical don't just ignore it! Set up some time to talk with one of our leaders so that we can consider these things together, and God willing, grow.

Devotion:

Truth: *A Christian must (and is blessed to) cultivate a practical, personal relationship with Jesus^{iv}. God invites us to cultivate that relationship through a lifetime of meditating on the words of Scripture and engaging in the practice of prayer^v. The person who does these things will be richly blessed and the person who neglects them is in grave peril^{vi}.*

Application: *Therefore, the community of Landmark Church is encouraged to engage daily in three sacred “spaces”, not as the **fullness** of their relationship with God, but as the **launching pad**.^{vii} The spaces are:*

- **Morning:** *Each morning, before anything else, especially before engaging with digital media, phone, or other “input sources”, may we begin our day with a time of devotion and fellowship with the Lord, so much as we are able. May we organize our sleep and life so that we might begin our day not hurriedly or distractedly, but worshipfully.*
- **Noon:** *Come midday, let us pause from our labor and remind ourselves of who we serve, how he has loved us, and what He has called us to. May this “middle space” serve to cultivate in us a normal practice of fellowshiping with God throughout our lives.*

- **Evening:** *Each night, may we conclude our day, not with the voice of our culture, but with the voice of God. Let us do the good work of resisting the pull towards “noisy rest” and to seek a quiet, worshipful heart at the end of our day.*
- **Weekly:** *May every member of our church have a weekly, communal space to consider God’s Word, to pray, and to fellowship with believers. In this, we commend all to be an active member of a Landmark Community.*

Hope: *That the discipline of devotion would form a community of believers who are:*

- *Formed by God’s Word more than the voices of our culture*
- *Filled with peace rather than anxiousness*
- *Spiritually awake and aware of their present reality*
- *Radically relational with their Maker*
- *Better equipped to love their family, their church, and their world*

Discipline:

Truth: *A Christian must make a practice of “putting off” the things of the flesh and “putting on” the things of the Spirit^{viii}. By this we mean: Every believer must cultivate disciplines to **do** godly things, and to **not do** ungodly things. This section focuses on the “putting off” element of discipline. Here, we recognize two categories: abstaining from sin^{ix}, and moderating our use of wordily goods^x.*

Application: *Therefore, the community of Landmark Church is encouraged to regularly engage in habits of reflection, confession, correction, abstinence, moderation, and fasting.*

- **Reflection^{xi}:** *In the discipline of the flesh, we desire to consistently ask “Where have I or am I falling short of God’s good purposes for my life?” This process will naturally flow from our devotional practice, and may we (daily) go through the difficult, Spirit-empowered process of considering where we have sinned against God and our fellow man.*
- **Confession^{xii}:** *The point of confession is publicly acknowledging our sin, first to God, but also to another believer. May we each have someone with whom we are meeting personally and regularly for the confessing of sin and receiving of prayer, comfort, encouragement, and accountability. When a sin has caused serious*

harm, it is often wise to get the authority of the church involved.

- **Correction^{xiii}**: *From confession, we do not merely receive pardon and continue on as we were, but we seek to correct our lives through the pursuit of forgiveness, reconciliation, restitution, or even discipline. May we pursue, rather than avoid, correction with the help of fellow believers and our leaders. May those to whom confession is given do whatever they can to serve their confessing brother or sister.*
- **Abstinence^{xiv}**: *May we reject any sinful practices, even if culturally acceptable. Sin is defined by God's Word. Particularly pressing in our time, may we abstain from careless engagement with forms of entertainment/media that 1) encourage sinful, destructive behavior; or 2) make light of God, his law, or the things that he has called sin.*
- **Moderation^{xv}**: *In every practice, habit, and comfort, may we ask: "how can I enjoy this good unto the glory of God, and are their areas where my enjoyment gone from being godly to being excessive, distracting, or harmful?" May all regularly look at their relationship with food, fitness, work, hobbies, media, alcohol, and other "goods", reflecting on this question.*
- **Fasting^{xvi}**: *Fasting is the abstaining from a godly good for a fixed time in order to 1) discipline our flesh and 2)*

seek God in a more intensive manner. May we regularly practice fasting in some form (our church has set aside Mondays as a day we might do this together)⁴ in order to discipline our flesh and sharpen our focus on our greatest desire.

Hope: *These disciplines are not meant to produce some “standard” which people must measure up to, but rather to call all believers to refuse a life which is lulled to sleep by the cares and riches of this world^{xvii}. We long to see a church filled with the fruit of the Spirit, filled with zeal, rich in good works, and radically set free by the joy of Christ, may our throwing off of lesser things serve that end!*

⁴ For those with health issues including but not limited to eating disorders, fasting should be contextualized to your unique disposition/struggles. Consider how you might principally observe fasting without putting yourself in danger. Ideas: Music, media, caffeine, a hobby, etc.

Rest:

Truth: *A Christian is bound for the everlasting rest of heaven^{xviii}; therefore, a Christian must strive towards and reflect that rest in the here and now^{xix}. God has called us not to anxiousness, but to rest^{xx}! The person who neglects to rest risks a life of restlessness distraction, as worshipful rest is one of God's means of our preservation and growth as believers^{xxi}.*

Application: *Therefore, the community of Landmark Church is encouraged to commit themselves to a life of practicing rest through the weekly practice of sabbath, sleep, and a godly balance of work and recreation.*

- **Sabbath:** *May every member of our church devote one day of the week to the practices of:*
 - *Gathering with their church community*
 - *Privately and publicly worshipping the Lord*
 - *Spending time with the people God has placed in their life, sharing a common meal, and enjoying the life that God has given them.*
 - *Resting from their labors.*
- **Sleep:** *May we accept God's invitation to rest and make time to sleep (doctors recommend 7-9 hrs)⁵. To practice daily "unplugged hours" where we disengage from*

⁵ <https://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/sleep/how-much-sleep#:~:text=Experts%20recommend%20that%20adults%20sleep,or%20more%20hours%20a%20night.>

work and media and let our minds and hearts rest (ex: 9pm-6am).

- ***Work-life balance:*** *May we be a people who are:*
 - *Invested meaningful labor and vocation.*
 - *Not dominated by a job or economic demand.*
 - *Regularly working no more than 54 hours a week including education and vocation and all other “labors”. We invite those who feel as if they must labor excessively to seek the counsel and help which our church would offer.*
 - *May those who have an abundance of free time invest themselves in the ministry of the Kingdom, the service of others, and growth in knowledge of God and His Word. It is not good to work too much, it is not good to work too little.*

The Hope: *That we would be a fruitful but balanced people, who regularly make time to stop from all our labors and enjoy the life, the community, and the gifts that God has given. That we would be a people who live our lives excited and prepared for what God may bring, not burnt out or constantly on the edge of weariness.*

Generosity:

Truth: *Christians, above all people, must be radically generous, because 1) we have received much^{xxii} and 2) we are aware that all we have is a gift from God^{xxiii}. We also know that how and in what we invest reveals and even influences how/what we love^{xxiv}. Finally, we desire to be generous because generosity is richly rewarded by God^{xxv}.*

Application: *Therefore, the community of Landmark Church is encouraged to use every resource God has given to love our neighbors and build our church.*

- **Service^{xxvi}:** *We all have different demands and responsibilities, but we all have a call to “make the most of our time”. We all have different talents and abilities. May we never use them merely for our own gain. May we make time to 1) serve the needy around us and 2) to serve the ministry of our church and the people of our church.*
- **Resources^{xxvii}:** *Resource, manna, or money is one of the most fundamentally “speaking” aspects of our life. May we reject a cultural framework which teaches us to spend whatever we have on ourselves. May each of us (as we are able) support the work of our church financially^{xxviii}, and to structure our budgets in such a way that avoids or eliminates debt, lives simply and*

within our means, fosters financial freedom, and allows room to be generous as we are presented with opportunities.

- ***Relationships^{xxix}***: *Relationships are the most treasured gift we have. May we invest ourselves in caring for whatever relationships we have been given. To be generous relationally, to think the best of others, to handle conflict biblically, to love someone enough to challenge them, and to seek in all things to do good and share what we have with each other.*

The Hope: *That we would be a people who are radically generous, and as a result, experience the abundant freedom, joy, and life, that comes when we reflect God's love to us in the way we use whatever we've been given.*

*This Concludes the Landmark Church Rule of Life and Book of Devotion. As you consider what you have read, pray through what God might be asking you to commit to! Write it down and tell it to someone who is a part of your life and who can hold you accountable and encourage you when things get hard. The goal would be a lifelong practice of eliminating things which distract us and adopting practices which further our love of God and neighbor. May God bless you richly as you seek His face, and **may He be praised in our midst, now and forever. Amen.***

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- ⁱ You can access the daily devotional for this plan on The Gospel Coalitions website.
- ⁱⁱ Matthew 16:24, 1 Corinthians 9:27
- ⁱⁱⁱ <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/skip-resolutions-make-rule-life/>
- ^{iv} John 15 helpfully speaks into this whole idea of “knowing Christ personally”.
- ^v 1 Thessalonians 5:16-17
- ^{vi} Psalm 1
- ^{vii} Matthew 6:6-7
- ^{viii} Colossians 2
- ^{ix} Romans 6:1, Matthew 5:48
- ^x 1 Corinthians 6:12
- ^{xi} Psalm 139:23-24
- ^{xii} James 5:16
- ^{xiii} Hebrews 10:26
- ^{xiv} 1 Thessalonians 5:22
- ^{xv} Proverbs 25:27, 1 Corinthians 6:12
- ^{xvi} Matthew 6:16, 1 Corinthians 7:5, Psalm 35:13
- ^{xvii} Matthew 13:22
- ^{xviii} Hebrews 4:9-10
- ^{xix} Exodus 20:8-11
- ^{xx} Psalm 127, Matthew 11:28
- ^{xxi} Hebrews 4:11
- ^{xxii} Luke 12:48
- ^{xxiii} James 1:17
- ^{xxiv} Matthew 6:21

xxv 1 Corinthians 9:6-7

xxvi Galatians 5:13-15

xxvii Matthew 6:24

xxviii Mark 12:41-44, Lev, 27:30-34, 1 Corinthians 16:2, 2
Corinthians 9:6-8, Hebrews 13:16

xxix 1 john 5:2