February 18

Fruits of the Spirit

Humility

To be humble is hard but – Read: James 4:10.

The most humbling experience would be to truthfully compare ourselves with the Lord, when we do this with an open mind and heart we will find that we fall well short of his perfect example and the experience will bring us to humble ourselves before Him.

As Jesus taught in the Sermon on the Mount – Read: Matthew 5:5. Meek is another word for humble.

As a Proverb warns – Read: Proverbs 16:18, 19.

VERSE FOR TODAY: Matthew 18:4.

PRAYER THOUGHT: Let me have a healthy amount of self pride, but not to the point of arrogance, help me to humble myself before you to accept what you have in store for me.

February 19

Fruits of the Spirit

Goodness and Kindness

If you let it – Read: Philippians 2:1, 2.

To show kindness to others is sometimes very hard, there are personality conflicts, because we are all different. That is where comes in, a quick silent prayer for tolerance will bring forth the kindness needed in such situations. A change of attitude toward a difficult person will be continuous if we keep that person in our prayers.

What a wonderful thing to know – the earth is full of the goodness of the Lord. Psalm 33:5b. KJV. We know this goodness through knowing the Lord.

VERSE FOR TODAY: Surely goodness and mercy shall fallow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Psalm 23:6. KJV.

PRAYER THOUGHT: The kindness in my heart, O Lord, comes from you and help me to show it to others.

February 20

Temptation

A Way Out

Temptation is as much a part of life as faith is – Read: James 1:2, 3.

The Lord will not allow us to be tempted too much for us to bear – Read: I Corinthians 10:13. Depend on the Lord during the times of temptation.

Being tempted is not sin, but yielding to temptation is sin – Read: II Peter 2:9a.

Our strength and guidance can come only from the Lord.

VERSE FOR TODAY: I Peter 1:6, 7.

PRAYER THOUGHT: May my faith, O Lord, be the enduring type of faith that does not fall to temptation, but will last through eternity.

February 21

New Life

Backsliding

Just because we’ve found Jesus, we are not immune from backsliding – Read: I Corinthians 10:12.

The two factions, the Spirit of God and our human nature are always at war within us – Read: Galatians 5:19-21a. In warning – Read: Galatians 5:21b. The other faction – Read: Galatians 5:24, 25.

With these two foes pulling within us all the time we must be on our guard and keep our hearts and minds on the things of God.

VERSE FOR TODAY: Matthew 6:24.

PRAYER THOUGHT: O Lord, guide me with your Spirit so I can always remain in accordance with your will.

February 22

Backsliding

Forgiveness

How many times can I expect to be forgiven for falling into sin? – Read: Matthew 18: 21-23.

We have unlimited forgiveness, but we shouldn’t go on sinning with the attitude that we forgiven anyway. Instead – Read: Colossians 3:17.

The grand thing about all this forgiveness is that God keeps no record of our sins or how many times He has forgiven us – Read: Psalm 130:3, 4.

VERSE FOR TODAY: Daniel 9:9.

PRAYER THOUGHT: Help me, O Lord, not to be in constant need of your forgiveness, but I know I can never be perfect and am thankful you are always there to forgive and forget my sins, help me to always be as willing to forgive those who sin against me.

February 23

New Life

Forgiving One Another

We have now been forgiven of our sins, now we must learn to forgive others – Read: Ephesians 4:31, 32.

Forgiveness is a two way street, God has forgiven us, so we can forgive others, to be forgiven on our walk through life – forgive, and ye shall be forgiven. Luke 6:37c. KJV.

We must learn to – Read: Colossians 3:13.

Forgiving sometimes is the easiest part; the forgetting is the hard part.

VERSE FOR TODAY: Mark 11:25.

PRAYER THOUGHT: Help me, O Lord, to forgive other with my heart and forget with my mind the wrongs they have done.

February 24

New Life

Suffering

Nobody said our new life in Christ would be easy, you’ll receive such remarks as “How can you believe that stuff!” to downright indignant remarks, but the suffering we put up with is of no comparison to what Christ suffered on the cross for us –Read: I Peter 4:13-14.

We tend to become complacent with our Christianity here in America because of our religious freedom, it wasn’t always that way, the Mormons, for instance, had to keep moving because of their beliefs. America got its start because of religious persecution in Europe.

We should not only welcome suffering but glory in it – Read: Romans 5:3-5.

We must use the suffering that comes our way to show others Christ living in us to strengthen our faith.

VERSE FOR TODAY: I Peter 4:16.

PRAYER THOUGHT: May I truly turn my suffering into love and strength through your name.

February 25

New Life

Shift of Burden

We all seem to be guilty of not letting the Lord help us with everything – Read: Matthew 11:28. We wrestle with all the cares of everyday life and usually don’t think of asking God for help. We must learn to remember that God is ready, willing and able to help us, much better than we can ever help ourselves.

We shouldn’t worry about our daily needs, God takes care of them – Read: Matthew 6:31-32b. If we are faithful servants God will provide – But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Matthew 6:33 KJV.

All we need to do is ask – Read: Matthew 7:7a. For God has said, Read: Hebrews 13:5.

VERSE FOR TODAY: Psalm 34:9, 10.

PRAYER THOUGHT: O Lord, thank-you for providing for my daily needs, help me to know your will and have the faith to put you first and follow your guidance so all the daily needs will be added unto us.