Believe January 17

Jesus also Human

 Jesus was born to a human mother – And the angel said unto her, “Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb and bring forth a son, and shalt call His Name Jesus. Luke 1:30-31 KJV.

 The human lineage was of King David – It is about his Son, our Lord Jesus Christ: as to his humanity, he was born a descendant of David; Romans 1:3.

 Jesus had everyday human feelings and needs – Jesus was asleep. Matthew 8:24c. Jesus was hungry. Matthew 4:2b. Jesus wept. John 11:35.

 Jesus was a carpenter by trade – Isn’t he the carpenter, the son of Mary... Mark 6:3a.

 Jesus was tempted by Satan and had to resist much the same way we do today –Then the Spirit led Jesus into the desert to be tempted by the Devil. Matthew 4:1.

 We see that Jesus was truly human, he was tempted, and he saw, felt, needed the same basic things we do today. We have a mediator in heaven that is truly qualified to speak on our behalf.

VERSE FOR TODAY: “A virgin will become pregnant and have a son, and he will be called Immanuel” (which means, “God is with us”). Matthew 1:23.

PRAYER THOUGHT: Thank-you, O God, for sending Jesus as a human so he can understand our troubles and needs.

Believe/Knowing God January 18

Jesus

 Jesus became man and lived here on earth; he was born and lived like any ordinary man. He had the same feelings, problems, need for food and even fear – as he prayed in the Garden – “Father,” he said, “if you will, take this cup of suffering away from me. Not my will, however, but your will be done.” Luke 22:42.

 As we know Jesus did suffer for our sins. Suffer is such a flimsy word for the humiliation, stripping of his clothes, the beatings, the crown of thorns forced on His head, the nails being driven into His hands and feet, all that without mentioning dying! How many of us would bear all the pain, humiliation and death for sin that you had not committed, for everyone else’s sin.

 If we had to suffer we would certainly protest, but Jesus was quiet when Jesus stood before the Roman governor, who questioned him, about being King of Jews.

 Jesus’ only response was that he had said so and did not answer any of the other accusers.

 Even Pilate could not understand why Jesus did not respond to his accusers.

 This lack of response to the things being said surprised the governor. From Matthew 27:11-14.

 We cannot possibly repay all that we owe Jesus.

VERSE FOR TODAY: “He was treated harshly, but endured it humbly; he never said a word. Like a lamb about to be slaughtered, like a sheep about to be sheared, he never said a word…Isaiah 53:7.

PRAYER THOUGHT: Help me to endure any suffering I must for you, O Lord, without complaining.

Believe January 19

The Resurrection of Jesus

 To be resurrected is to be returned to life after death.

 Jesus coming to earth to be the sacrifice for our sins is important His death is not the most important. If Jesus would have just died and never lived again he would have accomplished nothing. That would have proved there was no life after death, but Jesus did rise from the dead – We believe that Jesus died and rose again!

I Thessalonians 4:14a.

 The Angel said to the women who came to anoint the body of Jesus, “I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; He has been raised, just as he said…” Matthew 28:5b, 6a. Praise the Lord!

 Jesus made the way for victory over death – Death is destroyed; victory is complete!

 Where, Death is your victory? Where, Death is your power to hurt?

1 Corinthians 15:54b, 55.

 What a victory it is! Through the resurrection of Jesus we have our hope for life after death.

VERSE FOR TODAY: All I want is to know Christ and to experience the power of his resurrection, to share in his sufferings and become like him in his death, in the hope that I myself will be raised from death to life. Philippians 3:10-11.

PRAYER THOUGHT: Help me, O Lord, to remember your death and resurrection and to be always humbly thankful for such an undeserved sacrifice that I may live eternally.

Believe January 20

In the Holy Spirit

 The Holy Spirit has appeared through the years in many different ways, the Israelites were led by the Holy Spirit –During the day the Lord went in front of them in a pillar of cloud to show them the way, and during the night he went in front of them in a pillar of fire to give them light, so that they could travel night and day. Exodus 13:21.

 The Holy Spirit descended on Jesus at his baptism – and the Holy Spirit came down upon him in bodily form like a dove. Luke 3:22a.

 There was no need for the Holy Spirit while Jesus was on earth; God was with them in the person of Jesus. But after Jesus went up into heaven the Holy Spirit came to the disciples on the day of Pentecost tongues that looked like fire came and touched each one of them in the room and they received the Holy Spirit. From Acts 2:3-4.

 The Holy Spirit, being the third person in Trinity is also eternal – Through the eternal Spirit He offered himself as a perfect sacrifice to God. Hebrews 9:14b.

VERSE FOR TODAY: From the conversation with the woman at the well “… God is Spirit, and only by the power of his Spirit can people worship him as he really is.” John 4:24.

PRAYER THOUGHT: Show me, O Lord that the Holy Spirit is working in my life and how to respond in my daily life.

Salvation January 21

Believing in God

 In summary of our look at believing in God:

 God is always – “I am the first and the last,” says the Lord God Almighty, who is, who was and who is to come.”

 Revelation 1:8.

 God is creator –long ago you created the earth, and with your own hands you made the heavens. Psalm 102:25.

 God is faithful – Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise him, all peoples! His love for us is strong and his faithfulness is eternal. Praise the Lord! Psalm 117

 What a wonderful God to believe in! We have a God that is mighty and everlasting; his kingdom is based on righteousness and justice and in all he does shows love and faithfulness.

 We all long to be associated with only good things, in this evil world we live in God is the only perfect thing going!

VERSE FOR TODAY: Lord Almighty, how happy are those who trust in you!

 Psalm 84:12.

PRAYER THOUGHT: O Lord, I thank-you for your steadfast love and faithfulness.

Salvation/Confess January 22

Public Confession

 Part of your walk to complete new life in Christ is to confess the fact that we know and believe in our heart, who Jesus is and that we want everyone to share in the joy of our discovery!

 When Jesus was discussing with the disciples, who other people thought he was, - “What about you?” he asked them. “Who do you say I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” Matthew 16:15-16. Peter knew who Jesus was and said it boldly.

 When we know who Jesus is we should also say it – That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. Romans 10:9-10 KJV.

 Our public confession is important – “For those who declare publicly that they belong to me, I will do the same before my Father in heaven.” Matthew 10:32.

VERSE FOR TODAY: What it says is this: “God's message is near you, on your lips and in your heart” — that is, the message of faith that we preach. Romans 10:8

PRAYER THOUGHT: Lord, with your message in my heart, help me to confess your name before man and to share your message with others.

Salvation January 23

Repentance for Your Sins

 Once you believe that Jesus is the Christ the Son of the Living God, you know you have sinned for – if we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and there is no truth in us. 1 John 1:8.

 The Lord commands that we turn away from our sins – “I do not want anyone to die,” says the Sovereign Lord. “Turn away from your sins and live.” Ezekiel 18:32.

 Being in repentance, we must feel sorry for our sins, as sorry as Ezra did – “… O God, I am too ashamed to raise my head in your presence …” Ezra 9:6a. When we are truly sorry for our sins, we want to confess our sins to God – But if we confess our sins to God, he will keep his promise and do what is right. 1 John 1:9a.

 We have now acknowledged that we have sinned and are truly sorry for those sins and all heaven rejoices – I tell you, the angels of God rejoice over one sinner who repents. Luke 15:10b.

VERSE FOR TODAY: Repent, then, and turn to God, so that he will forgive your sins… Acts 3:19

PRAYER THOUGHT: Help me, O Lord, to know my sins and confess them to you so I can be freed from sin and guilt.

Salvation January 24

Seeking Forgiveness

 Forgiveness is pardon for sins already inflicted.

 We have repented, shown we are truly sorry for our sins, now we are seeking forgiveness – For by the death of Christ we are set free, that is our sins are forgiven. Ephesians 1:7a.

 We pray for forgiveness – hear my prayers and the prayers of your people when they face this place and pray. In your home in heaven hear us and forgive us. 1 Kings 8:30.

 We know we are forgiven, through belief in God’s mercy and answered prayer – You are merciful and forgiving, although we have rebelled against you. Daniel 9:9.

 Jesus came to earth and on the cross took the sins of the world upon himself. Though his death sin was also killed, sin leading to eternal death lost its hold over people, Jesus set us free!

 We said under repentance that God would do what was right – he will forgive us our sins and purify us from all our wrongdoing. 1 John 1:9b.

VERSE FOR TODAY: You are good to us and forgiving, full of constant love for all who pray to you. Psalm 86:5.

PRAYER THOUGHT: Thank-you for a way to cleanse our bodies from sin and to start a new life in you.