March 17

Christian Life

A Blessing

A blessing is a divine favor, a favor from God. God has bestowed his blessing since creation – Read: Genesis 1:22a.

We can also be blessed here are some ways:

* By obedience –Read: Psalm 5:12a.
* Remaining faithful – Read: James 1:12.
* By helping others – Read: Psalm 41:1. KJV.
* By Believing – Read: Ephesians 1:19a.

Some of the blessings are:

* Rain, Food and happiness – Read: Acts 14:17.
* Kindness – Read: Psalm 84:11.

The above lists are only a few ways to receive blessings and only a few blessings we can receive! COUNT your blessings.

VERSE FOR TODAY: Psalm 84:12.

PRAYER THOUGHT: Thank-you, O Lord, for all my blessings.

March 18

Christian Life

Follow the Example

We have the perfect example and the gifts of the Spirit have given us, these gifts although different are or should be used to the Glory of God.

We constantly have to be building our character so that we don’t have a Christian Life and a regular life but our Christian life is our regular life.

Recognizing we have faults and sins and trying to make ourselves over is the goal of our entire life once we know Jesus, using Jesus as our example and patterning our life after his perfect example – Read: I John 2:5, 6 and I Peter 2:22, 23.

The perfect example is very hard to follow because we are human that is the reason for forgiveness. Our goal is to obtain this perfection which can only be done in glory, but we have the example of Jesus to follow to correct our errors as they are brought to light.

VERSE FOR TODAY: John 13:15.

PRAYER THOUGHT: Thank-you, O Lord, for your example so that I have a pattern which to mold my life and a goal to strive for, using your instructions for a perfect end product with you in glory.

March 19

Witnessing

Our Witness

Jesus’ last instruction, what is known as the Great Commission – Read: Matthew 28:19, 20. An effective witness is not easy, we try so hard because it is our duty to witness, there are so many forms of witnessing, and just being a friend when someone needs us is a witness, not losing our cool in a situation, because the Holy Spirit is helping us. The Holy Spirit will help you in witnessing if you are willing to let the Spirit lead you.

Witnessing to others takes on many faces – as Paul says – Read: I Corinthians 9:22.

As a child, I remember our minister came to visit; my father was mending horse harnesses, with tools and materials all over the kitchen floor. The minister took an interest in the proceedings, not a word of Gospel was spoken but that day the minister was an effective witness. We just need to meet people on their terms.

VERSE FOR TODAY: I Peter 3:15b, 16

PRAYER THOUGHT: O Lord, help me to explain the hope in me and to do it with the proper gentleness and respect as a witness of your love.

March 20

Christian Life

God’s Handiwork

It’s Spring! Spring is the season for new beginnings, the start of flowers, the budding of trees and the budding of new loves.

When we really stop to think about the beauty of nature, you have to know that there is someone bigger than us. The velvet feel of a rose petal, the spicy aroma of the lilac blossoms, and the woodland carpet of varieties of wild flowers.

Look up to heaven on a cool clear night and see the stars and moon, who keeps them hanging there? We can figure it out through science, the composition of most everything, but we cannot recreate anything without using something that God has made. They have even made test tube babies, but they started with elements first created by God.

We must learn to see, feel, and mostly appreciate everything God has made for us – Read Psalm 19:1.

As a new spring brings new life to the things in nature, so let there be a renewal of hope and love in our hearts.

VERSE FOR TODAY: Psalm 23:2

PRAYER THOUGHT: As spring shows itself around me, may I always remember that you made everything, even me, and be thankful for everything and to praise your name always!

March 21

Christian Life

Witnessing

Part of our life now in Christ must be spent in witnessing our faith and love in the Lord. After all how will others learn about Jesus if we don’t witness to them as the Holy Spirit leads us – Read: I John 5:6b, 10a. Don’t worry about witnessing the Holy Spirit will lead you.

As Jesus told the original disciples – Read: Acts 1:8. To the ends of the earth is where we come in, we are given the same Spirit as the first disciples.

We must also heed the commandment and with the confidence Jesus gave us in the Great Commission –Matthew 28:19a, 20b. To have this type of confidence should help us to look forward to witnessing for Jesus.

VERSE FOR TODAY: Acts 8:4.

PRAYER THOUGHT: Help me, O Lord to be a faithful effective witness for you.

March 22

Christian Life

Be an Example

We have to live with others that don’t know Jesus, it can be hard to be friends or business associates with non-Christians but don’t fall into their ways but show them Jesus though the way we live and work. We mustn’t be haughty but humble. We may be able to win them over, by our example – Read: I Peter 2:12.

Not only our example to others is important but the example we set for our own family is equally or even of greater importance, if we drink, commit adultery and curse the Lord those we live with will follow our example and end up in eternal anguish. We don’t need to be old to set an example as Paul told Timothy – Read: I Timothy 4:12. We can be young in age or in our Christian walk but our example starts immediately so we must be aware of our conduct at all times!

VERSE FOR TODAY: John 13:17.

PRAYER THOUGHT: Help me to always set a good example, an example that is pleasing to you and helpful to others.

March 23

Christian Life

Guiding Others

In our walk through life we must not cause someone else to fall – Read: Romans 14:13b.

Just because we feel something is wrong, it is not necessarily wrong for someone else, although it is wrong for us – Read: Romans 14:22, 23. Here Paul is talking about whether to eat food that was once judged unclean and now as Christians if they should eat, this concept can also be used for different situations, say you were an active card player for fun as a non-Christian, so as a Christian would the game be considered sin? Only if you thought it was because it certainly is not against any law.

With God’s help you must decide through faith what is right and wrong for you, if it is not an outright sin or against civil law.

VERSE FOR TODAY: Romans 14:17, 18.

PRAYER THOUGHT: My prayer is that my personal opinion does not cause another person to fall, help me never to be a stumbling block.

March 24

Christian Life

Knowing God’s Will

God’s will reigns supreme – Read: James 4:14, 15.

God’s will is what must be done – Read: Matthew 7:21.

What is God’s will? Here is a list of a few things that are God’s will that we should do: Read: I Thessalonians 5:13-22:

\*Be at peace

\*Warnings, encouragement, help and patience

\*Paybacks and aims

\*Joy, Prayer and giving thanks

\* God’s desire

\* Restraining, testing, holding and avoiding

There is a reward for dedicating ourselves to the will of God – Read: I John 2:17.

VERSE FOR TODAY- Ephesians 6:6.

PRAYER THOUGHT: Help me to live within your will, O Lord, seeking your will in your Word and through prayer.