

SUNDAY—JANUARY 7

Genesis 18-19; Matthew 6:1-18

Old Testament New Testament

1 Samuel 16:7 But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.

I often harp on surface issues because I believe they are important. What we wear, what we say, and how we behave are important in regards to our testimony before man. But the reason I am so passionate about the exterior is because of what God did in my heart years ago. The standards and convictions I hold to still today are because they were first founded in my heart as I saw them in Scripture. Don't do what you do because someone told you, but search the Scripture. Get God's truth in your heart.

What did I learn from my Bible Reading?

Handwriting lines for notes.

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Front cover of the journal with title 'I Your DAILY DIRECTION', subtitle 'YOUR ADVENTURE BEGINS TODAY', and a red leather satchel on a path.

Back cover of the journal, identical to the front cover.

MONDAY—JANUARY 1

Genesis 1-3; Matthew 1

Old Testament New Testament _____

*Psalm 1:2
But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.*

Do you want to have a blessed 2018. Psalm 1 describes the blessed man. He doesn't listen to ungodly counsel. He doesn't walk in the way of sinners. And he doesn't associate himself with critics. Most importantly, he delights in God's Word! I hope that you develop a stronger relationship with God's Word this year. Don't miss one day! Determine to be in It each and every day. Think about it. Keep a journal of how the Spirit teaches you. What you do with the Bible will determine what God does with your life!

What did I learn from my Bible Reading? _____

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SATURDAY—JANUARY 6

Genesis 16-17; Matthew 5:27-48

Old Testament New Testament _____

*1 Thessalonians 5:22
Abstain from all appearance of evil.*

To be the type of Christian that really makes a difference for the cause of Christ, one must make some decisions that really set him apart. We must not only avoid evil, but even the appearance of evil. Set boundaries in your life that keep you from any scenario that would look bad. Avoid situations where you could be accused of something. Often authority doesn't trust youth simply because something "appears" out of place. If you would live blamelessly, you would get into far less trouble.

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FRIDAY—JANUARY 5

Genesis 13-15; Matthew 5:1-26

Old Testament New Testament _____

Ephesians 6:1-2

*1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right.
2 Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;)*

As we grow older, we develop strong opinions and personalities. The Devil wants to use your growing knowledge to pick your parents apart. Yes, you are finding out what the Lord already new—they are not perfect. They are hypocrites. Be honest, young person—you expect more from them than you do of yourself! Give your mom and dad the obedience they deserve. They deserve it because God commanded it. Honor them. Live in such a way that you would not disgrace them before others.

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TUESDAY—JANUARY 2

Genesis 4-6; Matthew 2

Old Testament New Testament _____

Ephesians 5:19

Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;

An important character trait of godly Christians is their love for the right kind of music. Throughout the Christmas season, many Christians drop their music standards. They allow themselves to listen to “Christmas” music even though it has a heavy rock beat and even has words that dishonor holy living, i.e. “Rocking around the Christmas Tree...” Spirit filled Christians listen to psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs. Be an example. Fill your music library and ultimately your mind with wholesome edifying music. It will affect you.

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WEDNESDAY—JANUARY 3

Genesis 7-9; Matthew 3

Old Testament New Testament _____

1 Timothy 2:9

In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array;

Because of the lusts of the flesh, it is important for ladies to dress modestly. The Bible tells us that to expose the thigh is nakedness (Isaiah 47:2-3). It is sad to watch ladies' skirts and dresses get shorter and shorter. Skirts (and slits) above the knee are sinful and draw undo attention. When men come to church, it should be a holy atmosphere, not a place where we have to be careful where we look. Please consider the purity of the men in your church when you choose your attire. Save your body for your husband.

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THURSDAY—JANUARY 4

Genesis 10-12; Matthew 4

Old Testament New Testament _____

Romans 12:10

Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;

The sibling rivalry that goes on in our Christian homes is a disgrace before God. Just as it grieves our heavenly Father to see His children have strife with each other, it breaks the heart of earthly parents when they see their children not getting along. I want to encourage you to make peace with your siblings. Love them. Be loyal to them. Get along with them. Give in. Let them have their way. Especially if you are older, there is an expectation that you would be a godly influence on your brothers and sisters.

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