

FEATURES OF THIS BIBLE

Created in partnership with 2K/DENMARK, the CSB Grace Bible is designed to enhance readability for those with all levels and varieties of dyslexia and other reading challenges. This unique Bible offers readers an inclusive approach to reading and Bible study through innovative and academically tested typeface, layout, and design principles.

Grace Typeface

The Grace Typeface®, designed for inclusive and accessible reading, has been developed by 2K/DENMARK in collaboration with the University of Cambridge.

Line Length

Line length does not exceed 35 characters with no hyphenation breaks at the end of a line.

⁴ These are the records of the heavens and the earth, concerning their creation. At the time that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens, ⁵ no shrub of the field had yet grown on the land, and no plant of the field had yet sprouted, for the LORD God had not made it rain on the land, and there was no man to work the ground.

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⁶ But mist would come up from the earth and water all the ground.

⁷ Then the LORD God formed the man out of the dust from the ground and breathed the breath of life into his nostrils, and the man became a living being.

Paragraphs

Paragraphs beyond 11 lines were divided into small text blocks. If a paragraph normally extended beyond 11 lines, a dash was inserted in between blocks of text to note the paragraph continues.

Bible Text

This Bible uses 11-point type and black-letter text to ensure readability.

Font Styles

No additional font styles like bold, italic, all caps are used in this Bible. Since the CSB normally puts Old Testament quotes in the New Testament in bold, Scripture references to these quotations have been moved to the back matter (see page 1721).

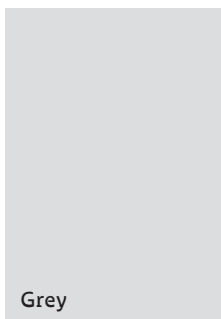
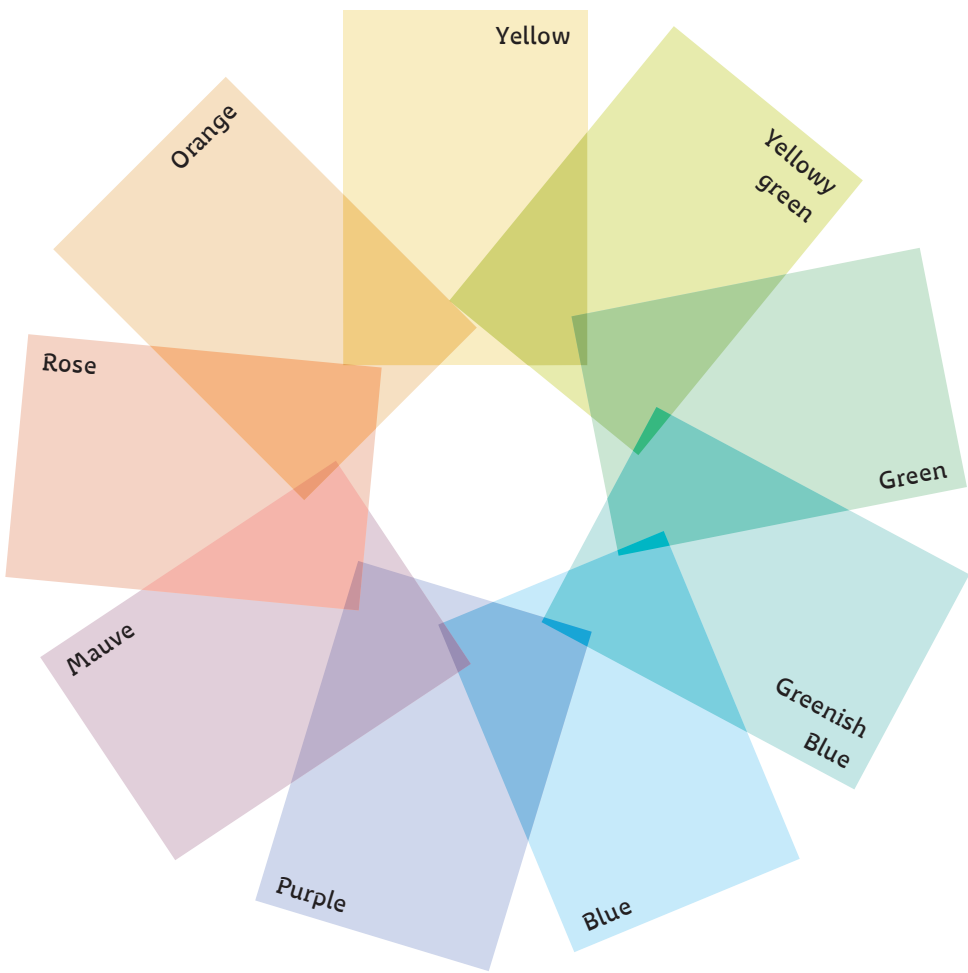
Footnotes

No footnotes or callouts were included in this Bible to avoid an overly complicated text.

Color overlays

Built-in pocket with colored page overlays to further enhance visual processing.





INTRODUCING COLORED OVERLAYS

A colored overlay can reduce the visual stress (visual distortions and discomfort) that some people experience when they read. The effective color differs from one person to another.

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This pack of overlays has been designed so that there is a sufficient choice of color to accommodate the differences between people. The nine differently colored overlays can be used singly or in pairs one on top of another. Eighteen shades of color are available.

Visual stress is poorly understood but is thought to arise when nerve cells in the visual part of the brain are overactive.¹ The effect of an overlay can sometimes be life-changing: "Sam was overdue an eye examination, so I booked him in with opticians new to us. I told them Sam was dyslexic, and they offered a colored overlay test. Two weeks before his fourteenth birthday, Sam

saw text on the whole page for the very first time. I have never seen a child so excited. He couldn't speak. It took his breath away. He said, "Mum, is that what you see when you read? No wonder you can read so fast."

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Sam brought the overlays home . . . He kept wandering into the room, looking at them, playing with them, on and off the book, saying, "I can't believe they do that" and shaking his head. We couldn't see it, the magic only worked for him. " ²

Many individuals who use colored overlays find tinted spectacles easier to use. Note that the best overlay color is not usually the same as the best color in tinted spectacles.

1. Wilkins, A. J., Evans, B. J. W. *Vision, Reading Difficulties and Visual Stress*, Springer, 2022.

2. Wilkins, A. J. *Reading Through Colour*. Wiley, 2003.

HOW TO TEST WITH OVERLAYS

Obtain a description of any symptoms from reading.

Begin with the general question:
"After you have been reading for a time, do the letters or words do anything strange?"

If necessary, use the following questions:

- Do the letters move, wobble, change places, fade or darken?
- Do you see shadows in the text?
- Does it hurt your eyes to look at the text?

Use the descriptions obtained above to refer to the distortion/discomfort when comparing overlays.



SINGLE OVERLAYS

1. Place two colored overlays side by side on a page of text.
2. Which of the two sides is clearest and most comfortable?
(Comfort is more important than clarity.)
3. Leave the better overlay in place and replace the other overlay with another color.
4. Repeat this until the best color has been chosen by trial and error.



DOUBLE OVERLAYS

If distortions remain with the chosen overlay, try a stronger color using two overlays, one on top of the other. It does not matter much which one goes on top.

You only need to choose similar colours. So if your chosen color was purple you would choose blue and purple, and purple and mauve. Choose your double overlays from the following list.

List of double overlays

- rose and orange
- orange and yellow
- yellow and yellowy green
- yellowy green and green
- green and greenish blue
- greenish blue and blue
- blue and purple
- purple and mauve
- mauve and rose

1. Position the chosen overlay to cover the entire page.
2. Then select another overlay from the list above and place it over half the page.
3. Compare the two sides as before.



MATTHEW

The Genealogy of Jesus Christ

1 An account of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham:

From Abraham to David

- ² Abraham fathered Isaac, Isaac fathered Jacob, Jacob fathered Judah and his brothers,
³ Judah fathered Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez fathered Hezron, Hezron fathered Aram,
—
⁴ Aram fathered Amminadab, Amminadab fathered Nahshon, Nahshon fathered Salmon,
⁵ Salmon fathered Boaz by Rahab, Boaz fathered Obed by Ruth, Obed fathered Jesse,
⁶ and Jesse fathered King David.

From David to the Babylonian Exile

- David fathered Solomon by Uriah's wife,
⁷ Solomon fathered Rehoboam, Rehoboam fathered Abijah, Abijah fathered Asa,
⁸ Asa fathered Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat fathered Joram, Joram fathered Uzziah,
—
⁹ Uzziah fathered Jotham, Jotham fathered Ahaz, Ahaz fathered Hezekiah,
¹⁰ Hezekiah fathered Manasseh, Manasseh fathered Amon, Amon fathered Josiah,

- ¹¹ and Josiah fathered Jeconiah and his brothers at the time of the exile to Babylon.

From the Exile to the Messiah

- ¹² After the exile to Babylon Jeconiah fathered Shealtiel, Shealtiel fathered Zerubbabel,
¹³ Zerubbabel fathered Abiud, Abiud fathered Eliakim, Eliakim fathered Azor,
¹⁴ Azor fathered Zadok, Zadok fathered Achim, Achim fathered Eliud,
—
¹⁵ Eliud fathered Eleazar, Eleazar fathered Matthan, Matthan fathered Jacob,
¹⁶ and Jacob fathered Joseph the husband of Mary, who gave birth to Jesus who is called the Messiah.

¹⁷ So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations; and from David until the exile to Babylon, fourteen generations; and from the exile to Babylon until the Messiah, fourteen generations.

The Nativity of the Messiah

¹⁸ The birth of Jesus Christ came about this way: After his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, it was discovered before they came together that she was pregnant from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ So her husband, Joseph, being a righteous man, and

not wanting to disgrace her publicly, decided to divorce her secretly.

²⁰ But after he had considered these things, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, don't be afraid to take Mary as your wife, because what has been conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will give birth to a son, and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

²² Now all this took place to fulfill what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

—
²³ "See, the virgin will become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they will name him Immanuel,"

—
which is translated "God is with us."

²⁴ When Joseph woke up, he did as the Lord's angel had commanded him. He married her ²⁵ but did not have sexual relations with her until she gave birth to a son. And he named him Jesus.

Wise Men Visit the King

2 After Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of King Herod, wise men from the east arrived in Jerusalem, ² saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star at its rising and have come to worship him."

³ When King Herod heard this, he was deeply disturbed, and all Jerusalem

with him. ⁴ So he assembled all the chief priests and scribes of the people and asked them where the Messiah would be born.

⁵ "In Bethlehem of Judea," they told him, "because this is what was written by the prophet:

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⁶ 'And you, Bethlehem,' in the land of Judah, are by no means 'least among the rulers of Judah: Because out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.'"

⁷ Then Herod secretly summoned the wise men and asked them the exact time the star appeared. ⁸ He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. When you find him, report back to me so that I too can go and worship him."

⁹ After hearing the king, they went on their way. And there it was — the star they had seen at its rising. It led them until it came and stopped above the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were overwhelmed with joy.

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¹¹ Entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and falling to their knees, they worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹² And being warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their own country by another route.

The Flight into Egypt

¹³After they were gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, "Get up! Take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you. For Herod is about to search for the child to kill him."

—

¹⁴So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night, and escaped to Egypt. ¹⁵He stayed there until Herod's death, so that what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet might be fulfilled: "Out of Egypt I called my Son."

The Massacre of the Innocents

¹⁶Then Herod, when he realized that he had been outwitted by the wise men, flew into a rage. He gave orders to massacre all the boys in and around Bethlehem who were two years old and under, in keeping with the time he had learned from the wise men. ¹⁷Then what was spoken through Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled:

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¹⁸ "A voice was heard in Ramah, weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children; and she refused to be consoled, because they are no more."

The Return to Nazareth

¹⁹After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, ²⁰saying, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, because those who intended to kill the child are dead." ²¹So he got up, took the child and his mother, and entered the land

of Israel. ²²But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And being warned in a dream, he withdrew to the region of Galilee. ²³Then he went and settled in a town called Nazareth to fulfill what was spoken through the prophets, that he would be called a Nazarene.

The Herald of the Messiah

3 In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea ²and saying, "Repent, because the kingdom of heaven has come near!" ³For he is the one spoken of through the prophet Isaiah, who said:

—

"A voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
Prepare the way for the Lord;
make his paths straight!"

⁴Now John had a camel-hair garment with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then people from Jerusalem, all Judea, and all the vicinity of the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins.

⁷When he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸Therefore produce fruit consistent with repentance. ⁹And don't presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you that God is able to raise up children for Abraham from these stones. ¹⁰The

ax is already at the root of the trees. Therefore, every tree that doesn't produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹"I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I. I am not worthy to remove his sandals. He himself will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹²His winnowing shovel is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn. But the chaff he will burn with fire that never goes out."

The Baptism of Jesus

¹³Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴But John tried to stop him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and yet you come to me?"

¹⁵Jesus answered him, "Allow it for now, because this is the way for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then John allowed him to be baptized.

¹⁶When Jesus was baptized, he went up immediately from the water. The heavens suddenly opened for him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming down on him. ¹⁷And a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased."

The Temptation of Jesus

4 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²After he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. ³Then the tempter approached him and said, "If you are

the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread."

⁴He answered, "It is written: 'Man must not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city, had him stand on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down. For it is written:

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'He will give his angels orders concerning you,'
and 'they will support you
with their hands
so that you will not strike
your foot against a stone.'"

⁷Jesus told him, "It is also written: 'Do not test the Lord your God.'"

⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. ⁹And he said to him, "I will give you all these things if you will fall down and worship me."

¹⁰Then Jesus told him, "Go away, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

¹¹Then the devil left him, and angels came and began to serve him.

Ministry in Galilee

¹²When he heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee.

¹³He left Nazareth and went to live in Capernaum by the sea, in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali.

¹⁴This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah:

—

¹⁵ “Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali,
along the road by the sea,
beyond the Jordan,
Galilee of the Gentiles.

¹⁶ The people who live in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those living in the land
of the shadow of death,
a light has dawned.”

—

¹⁷From then on Jesus began to preach, “Repent, because the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

The First Disciples

¹⁸As he was walking along the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter), and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the sea — for they were fishermen.

¹⁹“Follow me,” he told them, “and I will make you fish for people.”

²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him.

²¹Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They were in a boat with Zebedee their father, preparing their nets, and he called them. ²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

Teaching, Preaching, and Healing

²³Now Jesus began to go all over Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among

the people. ²⁴Then the news about him spread throughout Syria. So they brought to him all those who were afflicted, those suffering from various diseases and intense pains, the demon-possessed, the epileptics, and the paralytics. And he healed them. ²⁵Large crowds followed him from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and beyond the Jordan.

The Sermon on the Mount

5 When he saw the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to teach them, saying:

The Beatitudes

³ “Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for the kingdom of heaven
is theirs.

⁴ Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.

⁵ Blessed are the humble,
for they will inherit the earth.

—

⁶ Blessed are those who hunger
and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.

⁷ Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.

⁸ Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.

—

⁹ Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called
sons of God.

¹⁰ Blessed are those who
are persecuted because
of righteousness,
for the kingdom of heaven
is theirs.

¹¹"You are blessed when they insult you and persecute you and falsely say every kind of evil against you because of me. ¹²Be glad and rejoice, because your reward is great in heaven. For that is how they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Believers Are Salt and Light

¹³"You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt should lose its taste, how can it be made salty? It's no longer good for anything but to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.

¹⁴"You are the light of the world. A city situated on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵No one lights a lamp and puts it under a basket, but rather on a lampstand, and it gives light for all who are in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

Christ Fulfills the Law

¹⁷"Don't think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or one stroke of a letter will pass away from the law until all things are accomplished.

–
¹⁹Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commands and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven. But whoever does and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your

righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.

Murder Begins in the Heart

²¹"You have heard that it was said to our ancestors, 'Do not murder,' and whoever murders will be subject to judgment. ²²But I tell you, everyone who is angry with his brother or sister will be subject to judgment. Whoever insults his brother or sister will be subject to the court. Whoever says, 'You fool!' will be subject to hellfire.

–
²³So if you are offering your gift on the altar, and there you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, ²⁴leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled with your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift.

–
²⁵Reach a settlement quickly with your adversary while you're on the way with him to the court, or your adversary will hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the officer, and you will be thrown into prison. ²⁶Truly I tell you, you will never get out of there until you have paid the last penny.

Adultery Begins in the Heart

²⁷"You have heard that it was said, 'Do not commit adultery.' ²⁸But I tell you, everyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹If your right eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of the parts of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.

³⁰ And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of the parts of your body than for your whole body to go into hell.

Divorce Practices Censured

³¹ "It was also said, 'Whoever divorces his wife must give her a written notice of divorce.' ³² But I tell you, everyone who divorces his wife, except in a case of sexual immorality, causes her to commit adultery. And whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

Tell the Truth

³³ "Again, you have heard that it was said to our ancestors, 'You must not break your oath, but you must keep your oaths to the Lord.' ³⁴ But I tell you, don't take an oath at all: either by heaven, because it is God's throne; ³⁵ or by the earth, because it is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, because it is the city of the great King.

—

³⁶ Do not swear by your head, because you cannot make a single hair white or black. ³⁷ But let your 'yes' mean 'yes,' and your 'no' mean 'no.' Anything more than this is from the evil one.

Go the Second Mile

³⁸ "You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye' and 'a tooth for a tooth.' ³⁹ But I tell you, don't resist an evildoer. On the contrary, if anyone slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also. ⁴⁰ As for the one who wants to sue you and take away your shirt, let him have your coat as well. ⁴¹ And if anyone forces

you to go one mile, go with him two. ⁴² Give to the one who asks you, and don't turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you.

Love Your Enemies

⁴³ "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor' and hate your enemy. ⁴⁴ But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵ so that you may be children of your Father in heaven. For he causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.

—

⁴⁶ For if you love those who love you, what reward will you have? Don't even the tax collectors do the same? ⁴⁷ And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what are you doing out of the ordinary? Don't even the Gentiles do the same? ⁴⁸ Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

How to Give

6 "Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. Otherwise, you have no reward with your Father in heaven. ² So whenever you give to the poor, don't sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be applauded by people.

—

Truly I tell you, they have their reward. ³ But when you give to the poor, don't let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴ so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

How to Pray

⁵“Whenever you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites, because they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by people. Truly I tell you, they have their reward.

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⁶But when you pray, go into your private room, shut your door, and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. ⁷When you pray, don’t babble like the Gentiles, since they imagine they’ll be heard for their many words. ⁸Don’t be like them, because your Father knows the things you need before you ask him.

The Lord’s Prayer

⁹“Therefore, you should pray like this:

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Our Father in heaven,
your name be honored as holy.

¹⁰ Your kingdom come.

Your will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.

¹¹ Give us today our daily bread.

–

¹² And forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven
our debtors.

¹³ And do not bring us
into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one.

¹⁴“For if you forgive others their offenses, your heavenly Father will forgive you as well. ¹⁵But if you don’t forgive others, your Father will not forgive your offenses.

How to Fast

¹⁶“Whenever you fast, don’t be gloomy like the hypocrites. For they

disfigure their faces so that their fasting is obvious to people. Truly I tell you, they have their reward.

¹⁷But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸so that your fasting isn’t obvious to others but to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

God and Possessions

¹⁹“Don’t store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves don’t break in and steal. ²¹For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

²²“The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light. ²³But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. So if the light within you is darkness, how deep is that darkness!

²⁴“No one can serve two masters, since either he will hate one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.

The Cure for Anxiety

²⁵“Therefore I tell you: Don’t worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Isn’t life more than food and the body more than clothing? ²⁶Consider the birds of the sky: They don’t sow or reap or gather into barns, yet your heavenly Father feeds them.

Aren't you worth more than they?
²⁷ Can any of you add one moment to his life span by worrying? ²⁸ And why do you worry about clothes? Observe how the wildflowers of the field grow: They don't labor or spin thread. ²⁹ Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was adorned like one of these.

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³⁰ If that's how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and thrown into the furnace tomorrow, won't he do much more for you — you of little faith? ³¹ So don't worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' ³² For the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them.

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³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be provided for you. ³⁴ Therefore don't worry about tomorrow, because tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Do Not Judge

7 "Do not judge, so that you won't be judged. ² For you will be judged by the same standard with which you judge others, and you will be measured by the same measure you use. ³ Why do you look at the splinter in your brother's eye but don't notice the beam of wood in your own eye?

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⁴ Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the splinter out of your eye,' and look, there's a beam of wood in your own eye? ⁵ Hypocrite!

First take the beam of wood out of your eye, and then you will see clearly to take the splinter out of your brother's eye. ⁶ Don't give what is holy to dogs or toss your pearls before pigs, or they will trample them under their feet, turn, and tear you to pieces.

Ask, Search, Knock

⁷ "Ask, and it will be given to you. Seek, and you will find. Knock, and the door will be opened to you. ⁸ For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. ⁹ Who among you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone?

—

¹⁰ Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? ¹¹ If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good things to those who ask him. ¹² Therefore, whatever you want others to do for you, do also the same for them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

Entering the Kingdom

¹³ "Enter through the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the road broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who go through it. ¹⁴ How narrow is the gate and difficult the road that leads to life, and few find it.

¹⁵ "Be on your guard against false prophets who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravaging wolves. ¹⁶ You'll recognize them by their fruit. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes or figs from thistles? ¹⁷ In the same way, every good tree produces good fruit, but a bad tree

produces bad fruit. ¹⁸A good tree can't produce bad fruit; neither can a bad tree produce good fruit. ¹⁹Every tree that doesn't produce good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰So you'll recognize them by their fruit.

²¹"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven. ²²On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, didn't we prophesy in your name, drive out demons in your name, and do many miracles in your name?' ²³Then I will announce to them, 'I never knew you. "Depart from me, you lawbreakers!"'

The Two Foundations

²⁴"Therefore, everyone who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵The rain fell, the rivers rose, and the winds blew and pounded that house. Yet it didn't collapse, because its foundation was on the rock.

–
²⁶But everyone who hears these words of mine and doesn't act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. ²⁷The rain fell, the rivers rose, the winds blew and pounded that house, and it collapsed. It collapsed with a great crash."

²⁸When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were astonished at his teaching, ²⁹because he was teaching them like one who had authority, and not like their scribes.

A Man Cleansed

8 When he came down from the mountain, large crowds followed him. ²Right away a man with leprosy came up and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean."

³Reaching out his hand, Jesus touched him, saying, "I am willing; be made clean." Immediately his leprosy was cleansed. ⁴Then Jesus told him, "See that you don't tell anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, as a testimony to them."

A Centurion's Faith

⁵When he entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him, pleading with him, ⁶"Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, in terrible agony."

⁷He said to him, "Am I to come and heal him?"

⁸"Lord," the centurion replied, "I am not worthy to have you come under my roof. But just say the word, and my servant will be healed. ⁹For I too am a man under authority, having soldiers under my command. I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this!' and he does it."

¹⁰Hearing this, Jesus was amazed and said to those following him, "Truly I tell you, I have not found anyone in Israel with so great a faith. ¹¹I tell you that many will come from east and west to share the banquet with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the

kingdom of heaven. ¹²But the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

¹³Then Jesus told the centurion, "Go. As you have believed, let it be done for you." And his servant was healed that very moment.

Healings at Capernaum

¹⁴Jesus went into Peter's house and saw his mother-in-law lying in bed with a fever. ¹⁵So he touched her hand, and the fever left her. Then she got up and began to serve him.

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¹⁶When evening came, they brought to him many who were demon-possessed. He drove out the spirits with a word and healed all who were sick, ¹⁷so that what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

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"He himself took our weaknesses and carried our diseases."

The Cost of Following Jesus

¹⁸When Jesus saw a large crowd around him, he gave the order to go to the other side of the sea.

¹⁹A scribe approached him and said, "Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go."

²⁰Jesus told him, "Foxes have dens, and birds of the sky have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head."

²¹"Lord," another of his disciples said, "first let me go bury my father."

²²But Jesus told him, "Follow me, and let the dead bury their own dead."

Wind and Waves Obey Jesus

²³As he got into the boat, his disciples followed him. ²⁴Suddenly, a violent storm arose on the sea, so that the boat was being swamped by the waves — but Jesus kept sleeping.

²⁵So the disciples came and woke him up, saying, "Lord, save us! We're going to die!"

²⁶He said to them, "Why are you afraid, you of little faith?" Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm.

²⁷The men were amazed and asked, "What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the sea obey him!"

Demons Driven Out by Jesus

²⁸When he had come to the other side, to the region of the Gadarenes, two demon-possessed men met him as they came out of the tombs. They were so violent that no one could pass that way. ²⁹Suddenly they shouted, "What do you have to do with us, Son of God? Have you come here to torment us before the time?"

³⁰A long way off from them, a large herd of pigs was feeding. ³¹"If you drive us out," the demons begged him, "send us into the herd of pigs."

³²"Go!" he told them. So when they had come out, they entered the pigs, and the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea and perished in the water. ³³Then the men who tended them fled. They went into the city and reported everything, especially what had happened to those who were demon-possessed.

³At that, the whole town went out to meet Jesus. When they saw him, they begged him to leave their region.

The Son of Man Forgives and Heals

9 So he got into a boat, crossed over, and came to his own town. ²Just then some men brought to him a paralytic lying on a stretcher. Seeing their faith, Jesus told the paralytic, "Have courage, son, your sins are forgiven."

³At this, some of the scribes said to themselves, "He's blaspheming!"

⁴Perceiving their thoughts, Jesus said, "Why are you thinking evil things in your hearts? ⁵For which is easier: to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up and walk'? ⁶But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins" — then he told the paralytic, "Get up, take your stretcher, and go home."

⁷So he got up and went home.

⁸When the crowds saw this, they were awestruck and gave glory to God, who had given such authority to men.

The Call of Matthew

⁹As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax office, and he said to him, "Follow me," and he got up and followed him.

¹⁰While he was reclining at the table in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came to eat with Jesus and

his disciples. ¹¹When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

¹²Now when he heard this, he said, "It is not those who are well who need a doctor, but those who are sick. ¹³Go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy and not sacrifice.' For I didn't come to call the righteous, but sinners."

A Question about Fasting

¹⁴Then John's disciples came to him, saying, "Why do we and the Pharisees fast often, but your disciples do not fast?"

¹⁵Jesus said to them, "Can the wedding guests be sad while the groom is with them? The time will come when the groom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast. ¹⁶No one patches an old garment with unshrunk cloth, because the patch pulls away from the garment and makes the tear worse.

¹⁷And no one puts new wine into old wineskins. Otherwise, the skins burst, the wine spills out, and the skins are ruined. No, they put new wine into fresh wineskins, and both are preserved."

A Girl Restored and a Woman Healed

¹⁸As he was telling them these things, suddenly one of the leaders came and knelt down before him, saying, "My daughter just died, but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live." ¹⁹So Jesus and his disciples got up and followed him.