

Q → Quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry. (James 1:19)

As sinful human beings our tendencies can be the opposite of this verse, so let us: Listen before answering, choose our words carefully, and do not be easily angered. *God's ways are for our benefit!*

R → Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. (Exodus 20:8)

This is the third commandment. The OT Sabbath of Saturday rest pointed ahead to Jesus, our rest! Now, in the NT, we focus on Sunday, the Lord's Day, *when Jesus rose from the dead!* God wants us to gather and receive his blessings each week!

S → Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness. (Matthew 6:33)

For many their lives are consumed by their pursuit of food, clothing, and shelter, but God calls us *first* to be members of His kingdom and righteous in His sight – *both through faith in Jesus!* For all who put Him first, *God promises to provide every need!*

T → Trust in the LORD with all your heart. (Proverbs 3:5)

To trust with our "heart" means to trust with our entire being? Then we will have confidence in His promises and His peace in every circumstance!

U → Understand that the universe was formed at God's command. (Hebrews 11:3)

God is so awesome that He simply spoke creation into existence! Look at the facts; *they strongly point to creation*, not to evolution. God made us sinless; then we sinned; now we all need Jesus; *through Him we are blessed now and forever!*

V → Victory rests with the LORD. (Proverbs 21:31)

What battles are you currently fighting? In whom is your trust for help, strength, and victory? Let us trust in the Lord; *He will give us the victory!*

W → Walk as Jesus did. (1 John 2:6)

We cannot live without sin, so Jesus *did that for us!* But, *forgiven through Jesus and powered by the Holy Spirit*, we can speak the truth in love and take action to love others in Jesus' name!

X → Excel in gifts that build up the church. (1 Corinthians 14:12)

The church is not a religion or a building, *but all who trust in Jesus as Savior!* We build up such people by teaching them the Bible. They benefit when they understand it, live it, and, finally, share it with others! Parents: *Teach your children!*

Y → You are the light of the world. (Matthew 5:14)

Jesus is the true light of the world, but we, His followers, are called to reflect His light – *His truth and love* – to the world! As the moon reflects the sun, *so Christians reflect Jesus to others!*

Z → Zion will be redeemed with justice. (Isaiah 1:27)

God the Father is the Redeemer; He purchased us (Zion) with the precious blood of Jesus. God did not overlook our sins; instead, He punished Jesus for them. *Now, through Jesus, we are redeemed!*

All verses are from the New International Version.

Connect and Benefit

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Bible Verses

**A Special Blessing
For Parents and Children!**

***Memorize the Verses!
Be Blessed by Their Meanings!***

The Bible is *God's Holy Word!* It has been written for our *temporal* and *eternal* benefit. Here are some examples:

- **Spiritual Birth:** "He chose to give us birth through the word of truth ..." (NIV James 1:18)
- **Eternal Life:** "... these [words of John's Gospel] are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name." (NIV John 20:31)
- **Christian Living:** "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work." (NIV 2 Timothy 3:16-17)

A → All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. (Romans 3:23)

What is the “glory of God”? To live without sin; *BUT all have fallen short!* Imagine the need to cross a 40 foot canyon to get to heaven. Some could jump 10 or 20 feet, the world record is 29.4 feet, but no one could jump 40 feet. *Without Jesus we can never get to heaven!*

B → Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved. (Acts 16:31)

Since we have fallen short, Jesus lived a sinless life for us. Then, *on the cross*, He received our sins and our punishment. Now, believing in Jesus as our Savior, *our sins are forgiven and we are saved!*

C → Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. (Colossians 3:20)

Because the Lord has saved us from our sins and promised us a place in heaven, we are filled with joy and desire to *know* and *do* His will. That includes children obeying their parents, *who are God’s visible representatives in their lives!*

D → Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. (Romans 12:21)

Even Christians are tempted to get revenge. But, *as God’s forgiven children through Jesus*, we try to honor the Lord by doing good to all people – *even to those who do evil against us!*

E → Even a child is known by his actions. (Proverbs 20:11)

We know the phrase: *Actions speak louder than words!* If we claim to be Christians, but live like the world, *people will see that our words are not true.* So let us ♦be sorry for our sins, ♦rejoice in our Savior, and ♦honor Him in all we do!

F → Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us. (Luke 11:4)

This verse is from Luke’s version of the Lord’s Prayer; see Matthew 6:9-13 for the full version. As God has *freely* and *fully* forgiven us in Christ, God calls us to extend that same *free* and *full* forgiveness to *all* who sin against us!

G → God is love. (1 John 4:8)

God’s love moved Him to take *loving and powerful action to save us!* As He took action for us, *so let us take loving action for others!*

H → Honor your father and your mother. (Exodus 20:12)

This is the fourth commandment. Parents are God’s *visible* representatives to their children – *to honor parents is to honor God*; to dishonor them is to dishonor God. Children honor their parents by *loving, cherishing, serving, and obeying them!*

I → I am the vine; you are the branches. (John 15:5)

A vine *CAN* survive without a branch, but a branch *CANNOT* survive without a vine. We received spiritual life through Jesus; *NOW, God nourishes that life through the Bible to keep us in Christ!*

J → Jesus wept. (John 11:35)

Jesus is true God, *begotten of His Father from eternity*, and also true Man, who lived in our place, died for sins, and wept in connection with the death of His friend Lazarus and with all who were grieving. *Jesus truly cares about everyone!*

K → Keep your tongue from evil. (Psalm 34:13)

When God made us His children through Baptism (Titus 3:5), He also gave us a *new nature* that desires to please Him in every way. However, until we physically die, we also continue to have our *old nature*, which is opposed to God. Though we can go against God, *let us honor Him with our words!*

L → Lead us not into temptation. (Matthew 6:13)

This is the sixth petition of the Lord’s Prayer. *God does not tempt us* (James 1:13-15). But we ask Him to lead us away from people and places that may tempt us to sin and could lead us away from Jesus!

M → My sheep listen to my voice. (John 10:27)

All who trust in Jesus as Savior are His sheep; they *desire to listen to Him* by doing whatever He says!

N → No one can serve two masters. (Matthew 6:24)

Who controls your life? *God or money!* To which one are you more devoted? *Having our loving God as our Master is always best!*

O → O LORD my God, I take refuge in you. (Psalm 7:1)

Psalm 46:1 declares: “God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.” Therefore, may the Almighty God always be our refuge – *thus our place of safety and protection!*

P → Praise the LORD. (Psalm 149:9)

The Lord has created us, saved us, and daily provides all of our needs! *He is worthy* of all these words and more: “Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!” (Rev. 7:12) *Let us praise Him every day and in every way!*