

12 Days of Thanksgiving: Day 10, The Gospel



Day 10: The Gospel

"The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor: He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed; 19 To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD."

Gospel [gos-puh l] noun

Definitions:

1. the teachings of Jesus and the apostles; the Christian revelation.
 2. the story of Christ's life and teachings, especially as contained in the first four books of the New Testament, namely Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.
 3. (usually initial capital letter) any of these four books.
 4. something regarded as true and implicitly believed:
 5. a doctrine regarded as of prime importance:
 6. glad tidings, especially concerning salvation and the kingdom of God as announced to the world by Christ.
- Many people believe the truth of the **Gospel** pertains to a

moment of decision; when Jesus is accepted as Savior. While the life-giving words of the **Gospel** are the key to salvation, they also unlock the plan for daily life. As Christians we have the privilege of speaking the **Gospel** into our everyday trials and tribulations and our greatest challenges and hardships. Let the truth of the **Gospel** transform your life from day one until Jesus calls you home.

Give Thanks for the Gospel

I am so thankful that the **Gospel** is our hope for eternity and for the everyday. What are some ways you can let the **Gospel** transform your daily life? Perhaps we can try one of the following suggestions this week.

1. To offer tangible help to the brokenhearted. We can be the hands and feet of Jesus by taking a meal to a grief-stricken person, offering time to listen, sending a card, or calling.
2. Pray for those caught in sin or addictions. While we cannot force people to give up drugs or alcohol, we can fervently pray that they will be convicted of their sin and see their need to be set free.
3. Volunteer our time. Many churches and ministries need help with their programs. Consider serving in a food pantry, volunteering at a pro-life clinic, teaching a Sunday school class, or working at a homeless shelter.

More Gospel

1 Thessalonians A Life of Faith, Part 3: The Gospel a Bible study by Mary Kane

Knowing Who I am in Christ an article by Joyce Meyer

Comment

Please leave a comment below in the **Comment** section on what God teaches you today about *gospel*.

gospel. Dictionary.com. *Dictionary.com Unabridged*. Random House, Inc. <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/gospel> (accessed: November 24, 2014).

By Mary Kay Kane

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12 Days of Thanksgiving: Day 8, Purpose



Day 8: Purpose

"But indeed for this purpose I have raised you up, that I may show My power in you, and that My name may be declared in all the earth." Exodus 9:16

purpose[**pur-puh s**] noun

1. the reason for which something exists or is done, made, used, etc.
2. an intended or desired result; end; aim; goal.
3. determination; resoluteness.
4. the subject in hand; the point at issue.
5. practical result, effect, or advantage: to act to good purpose.

One of the Greek words for *purpose* is *prothesis*. At its root, *prothesis* means *to set forth to be looked at, to place in public view*. According to this definition, part of our *purpose* in Christ is to make manifest the power of God in our life. We are to shine forth how He has redeemed, restored and shaped us into the image of Christ. We place ourselves in public view when we *purposefully* use our gifts to speak God's truth to the lost of the world. How are you using your gifts to show the world there is purpose to your life?

Give Thanks for Purpose

Purpose of Life: Dear Father, we give thanks for You have called us to live a life of *purpose*. Thank you we have a reason to get up each day and we have important work to do for Your kingdom. We also give thanks because You use all things for Your *purposes* ... good things, bad things, hard things, painful things. You even re-purpose our failings and mistakes to work for our good and Your glory. Father, You have specifically gifted us to be fruitful and effective ministers of your Word. We are Your hands and feet. Please send us and use us according to Your *purpose*. We thank you for the gift of *purpose*.

More Purpose

One Anna, One Purpose a Bible study by Mary Kane

On Purpose a short Bible study by Mary Kane

Believer or Achiever? an article by Joyce Meyer

Comment

Please leave a comment below in the **Comment** section on what God teaches you today about *purpose*.

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“Exodus 9 (New King James Version).” Blue Letter Bible. Sowing Circle. Web. 22 Nov, 2014. <<http://www.blueletterbible.org/Bible.cfm?b=Psa&c=111&p=0&rl=0&t=NKJV>>.

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12 Days of Thanksgiving: Day 7, Redemption



Day 7: Redemption

"He has sent redemption to His people: He has commanded His covenant forever:" Psalm 111:9

redemption [ri-demp-shuh n] noun

1. an act of redeeming or atoning for a fault or mistake, or the state of being redeemed.
2. deliverance; rescue.
3. atonement for guilt.
4. repurchase, as of something sold.
5. recovery by payment, as of something pledged

Redemption is one of the most beautiful words in the whole of human language. The fact that One would atone for the sin of another is inhuman ... in fact, it's divine. In Hebrew the word *redemption* transliterates as *peduwth*, which means, "a division or distinction; from the primary sense of cutting." Cutting. The cutting of the whip in the flesh of Jesus ... the cutting away of the bonds of sin from our hands and feet. The cutting away of old habits, attitudes and mindsets of the old life. The cutting away of sin and shame by the cutting of Jesus. **Redemption** enables us to live as God created us to be,

righteous and free.

This Thanksgiving, let's give thanks to God for His gift of redemption.

Redemption of Purpose: Father, Your Word says we are Your workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which You prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. Thank You that You created us on purpose, for purpose. We confess we have used our gifts and talents for our own purposes. Please **redeem** every sinful act. We ask You to recommission our lives for Your purpose. Thank You for calling us to live effective, significant, purposeful lives for You.

Redemption of our Mind: We thank You, Father, that You have given us a sound mind. Your word says, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind and all your strength. May we use our mind as tools to pursue You rather than instruments of sin. Please **redeem** every sinful habitual thought pattern by the truth of your Word. Thank you that You train our mind to think Your thoughts, that we might not sin against You.

Redemption of our Past: Dearest Father, we thank You that in Christ Jesus we have been completely redeemed. You have bought us back from the bondage of the Enemy with the precious blood of Christ. We are now free to live as slaves of righteousness. Where we have squandered our talents and treasures on sin and pleasure, Your Word promises to restore the years "the locusts have eaten." We give thanks that You give beauty for ashes. Every act and deed of our past has been redeemed for our good and Your glory. We truly thank you.

More Redemption

Redeeming the Time a blog post by Jane VanOsdol

Walking with God a Bible study by Mary Kane

Comment

Please leave a comment below in the **Comment** section on what God teaches you today about **redemption**.

redemption. Dictionary.com. *Collins English Dictionary – Complete & Unabridged 10th Edition*. HarperCollins Publishers. <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/sacrifice> (accessed: November 15, 2014).

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12 Days of Thanksgiving 2017: Day 5, Restoration



Day 5: Restoration

“Return to the stronghold, you prisoners of hope, even today I declare, *that* I will restore double to you.” Zechariah 9: 12

Restoration: [res-tuh-rey-shuh n] noun

1. a putting back into a former position, dignity, etc.
2. something that is restored, as by renovating.
3. the act of restoring; renewal, revival, or reestablishment. the replacement or giving back of something lost, stolen, etc.

The Garden of Eden. A place of joy, fellowship, righteousness and purity. Man gave away the blessing of Eden by believing a lie of Satan. God waits to restore His blessing to man when he believes the truth of the Gospel. The Enemy comes to kill, steal, and destroy. But God comes to replace, renew, revive, rebuild, re-purpose, recycle and restore. But wait- not just restore, check the verse above—restore **double**. The Hebrew word for **restoration** is *shuwb*, which means *to return, to go back, to turn away from sin, to turn back to God*. Restoration only comes through God and the power of His Word. According to the definition, our responsibility is to turn from sin, and turn to God. Speak His Word into your broken places, and let the restoration begin.

Pray For Restoration

Restoration for Relationships: Dearest Father, because of our sin, we have many broken, damaged relationships. First and foremost is our relationship with You. Thank You that by accepting Jesus’ death on the cross, our relationship with You is **restored**. We pray for Your healing in strained relationships with our spouses, parents, friends, coworkers, in-laws and siblings. Your specialty, Lord, is bringing dead things to life. Please restore our relationships. We give

thanks for Your goodness and healing. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Restoration for Hearts: Father, we give thanks that You provide restoration for broken hearts. Our hearts have been shattered because of our choices, the choices of others, sickness, death, and job loss. Your Word promises that You use ALL things for our good. Please **restore** our hearts to health so they will beat only for You. We thank You, Father. Amen.

Restoration for Minds: Heavenly Father, we thank You for healing of our minds. Help us to think correctly so we may act correctly. Our minds have been influenced and damaged by lies we have been exposed to by the Enemy and by our own choices. Please **restore** our minds so we will love You with all our hearts, souls and minds. Thank You that You have given us sound minds. May the words of our mouths and the meditations of our minds be pleasing in Your sight, oh God, our Rock and our Redeemer.

It is God's will that you be restored in every area of your life. Go boldly forth to the throne of grace and ask God for the restoration that was provided for you at the cross 2000 years ago.

More Restoration

Prayer of Restoration a specific prayer by Mary Kane

Scriptures for a Sound Mind an article by Joyce Meyer

My Peace I Give You Part 2 a blog post by Jane Vanosdol

Comment

Please leave a comment below in the **Comment** section on what God teaches you today about **restoration**.

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Hebrew definition taken from:

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12 Days of Thanksgiving 2017, Day 4: God's Word



Day 4: God's Word

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” John 1:1

God's word [wurd] noun

1. the Bible.

We would not get very far without God's Word.

In Genesis 1:3, God speaks creation into being. The whole universe comes together at His words. Sun, moon, stars, seas, plants, animals, people. Everything. Without God's Word, nothing would be here. Fast forward many years to the birth of Jesus. John 1:14 tells us that Jesus not only speaks God's Word, He *is* God's Word. "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us." God sent Jesus to earth to fix the break in the relationship between man and God brought about by sin. God's Word gives us new life when we accept Jesus as our Savior.

After salvation, God's Word continues to play a most important role in our lives. Through it God instructs and encourages us. He molds us and disciplines us. He shapes us into His image through our obedience to His Word and the Holy Spirit's work in each believer. It's important to grasp the power of His Word. Hebrews 4:12 tells us "For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart."

Pray God's Word

I am so thankful for scripture and it's power in my life. If you've not yet begun praying it, this is a perfect time to begin.

1. Ask the Holy Spirit to give you a scripture for your prayer requests.
2. Begin praying God's Word over people and into situations.
3. Memorize scripture. The more verses you know by heart, the more effectively you can pray.

More of God's Word

If you'd like to explore this theme further, please listen to [How to Pray God's Word](#).

Also, you must check out this beautiful Pinterest pin I found highlighting some of God's Words.

Comment

Please leave a comment below in the **Comment** section on what God teaches you today about **His Word**.

Previous Links

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- Day 1: Light
- Day 2: Cleansing
- Day 3: Sacrifice

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god's word. Dictionary.com. *Dictionary.com Unabridged*. Random House, Inc. [http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/god's word](http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/god's%20word) (accessed: November 18, 2014).

12 Days of Thanksgiving 2017, Day 2: Cleansing



Day 2: Cleansing

"These men called together their fellow Levites, and they all purified themselves. Then they began to cleanse the temple of the Lord, just as the king had commanded. ... The priests went into the sanctuary of the Temple of the Lord to cleanse it, and they took out to the Temple courtyard all the defiled things they found." 2 Chronicles 29:15-16

cleansing [klenz] verb

1. to make clean
2. to remove by or as if by cleaning "to cleanse from the soul."

Being clean is something that many of us take for granted. Running water and soap make it relatively easy to wash away

dirt. It doesn't take too many days of camping, however, before we have a new appreciation for a hot shower and a dishwasher. A few years ago my son went on a fundraising hike across America to raise money for the burn unit of a local children's hospital. As he backpacked his way from California to Florida, he often went several days without a shower or being able to wash the few clothes he had. Dirt was a fact of life, and as his mom I was dismayed at what became acceptable standards of "cleanliness" to him.

A clean body can help protect us from disease and discomfort. A clean home makes for a healthy environment for family and friends. Likewise, regularly confessing our sin keeps our hearts clean before God. Jesus is the One who purifies us permanently from our sin by taking that punishment upon Himself. Being thankful for His sacrifice is a wonderful way to celebrate Thanks Giving.

Pray for cleansing.

After the fall of man due to sin, God instituted many rules that the people had to follow to purify themselves from defilement and sin. In today's verses, King Hezekiah of Judah purges the nation from idolatry and reintroduces the people to true worship. As you can see, this begins with a major cleanup of the people and The Temple of the Lord, as per Old Testament rules. Today we are New Testament people of grace, but we can still learn much from him.

Just as Hezekiah purged the Temple of the Lord from the idols that the people had brought in, we may have to get serious about our temples. In 1 Corinthians 6:19, God tells us that our bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit and that we are not our own. Jesus bought us for a very expensive price – His own life. Keeping that in mind, we may need to throw out some junk to make room for the holiness God desires.

1. Pray and ask God to show you if there is a habit or

pattern of sin in your life that needs to go.

2. Find a verse of scripture that pertains to this struggle and begin praying it into your life.
3. Thank God for how He is already at work cleaning up and redeeming this area of your life.

More Cleansing

If you'd like to explore this theme further, please read [The Cleansing of My Temple](#).

Comment

Please leave a comment below in the **Speak Your Mind** section on what God teaches you today about **cleansing**. We'd love to hear from you!

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"cleansing." *Dictionary.com Unabridged*. Random House, Inc. 16 Nov. 2014. <[Dictionary.com
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