> Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.
> *— 1 Corinthians 15:58*

Book: New Testament / 1 Corinthians
Topics: obedience, encouragement, reward, serving, work

Interpretation:
1 Corinthians 15:58 is a verse that encourages us to remain steadfast and constant in the work of the Lord, emphasizing that our labor will not be in vain if we continue to grow in it. This invitation is relevant not only to the Corinthian Christians to whom *the apostle Paul* was writing, but also to us today.

How can we understand this verse?

First, we must understand what it means to be *“steadfast and immovable in the work of the Lord.”* The work of the Lord can refer to the tasks we perform in the church or ministry, but it can also include our daily lives and how we live out our faith in the world.

This means that it is not just about what we do in the church or in our communities, but also how we bring our faith to our work, our families, and our relationships with others.

Why is it important to be steadfast and constant?

Remaining steadfast and constant in the work of the Lord can be difficult in a world that often conflicts with our Christian values. However, it is important because it allows us to grow in our faith and in our relationship with God.

Moreover, when we are steadfast and constant, we influence the world around us. We can be an example to other Christians and to those who have not yet come to know God. So, instead of conforming to the world’s standards, we must remain true to our values ??and beliefs and continue to grow in the work of the Lord.

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Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.
>
> *— 1 John 2:17*

Book: New Testament / 1 John
Topics: obedience, desires, Eternal life, world

Interpretation:
1 John 2:17 is a reminder that everything in this world is temporary and transitory, including desires and material things. In contrast, those who do the will of God will abide forever. This tells us that true strength and stability in our lives comes from seeking and following the Lord, not from seeking satisfaction in the fleeting pleasures of the world.

How can this verse help us?

This verse can be of great help during times of trial and turmoil. Often, we face difficult situations in life that cause us anxiety and stress. However, understanding and applying the teachings of this verse reminds us that everything we pursue in this world will fade away. Therefore, it is important to focus on doing the will of God, trusting that only He can offer us the permanence and security we need.

Likewise, this teaching reminds us of the importance of practicing humility and not depending on the desires and possessions of the world. We often rely on material things for our emotional and spiritual well-being, but by doing God's will, we can find the inner peace and security we seek.

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> Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God and receive from him anything we ask, because we keep his commands and do what pleases him.

> — *1 John 3:21-22*

Book: New Testament / 1 John
Topics: obedience, law, trust

Interpretation:
1 John 3:21-22 tells us about the importance of trusting God. It is a call to have a heart free of guilt, free of regret. Trusting God gives us peace and calm in knowing that we are doing the right thing and are on the right path. When our heart is at peace, our mind is at peace, and we can have a better relationship with God.

What is trusting God?

Trusting God is believing that He is present in our lives and guiding us. It is a strong and deep faith that allows us to believe that God has a plan for us and that everything that happens to us is part of that plan. Trusting God allows us to believe that even when everything seems to be against us, He will be there to guide us.

Why is trusting God important?

Trusting God is important because it gives us the strength and motivation to keep going. Life is not easy, and there are times when we feel lost and directionless. Faith in God reassures us that we are not alone and helps us find direction.

Furthermore, trusting God helps us maintain a positive outlook on life in general. When we trust God, our perspective changes and we can view challenges as opportunities to grow and learn rather than as obstacles to overcome.

Keeping God’s Commandments

1 John 3:21-22 tells us about the importance of keeping God’s commandments and doing what pleases Him so that we can receive everything we ask of Him. In other words, when we follow God’s teachings and do what is right, we can be confident that He will hear us when we ask for help or for something we need.

We should not view this as a “blank check” to ask for whatever we want, but as a guarantee that God will give us what we need if we remain faithful to Him and follow His way.

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translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> Observe what the Lord your God requires: Walk in obedience to him, and keep his decrees and commands, his laws and regulations, as written in the Law of Moses. Do this so that you may prosper in all you do and wherever you go.
> *— 1 Kings 2:3*

Book: Old Testament / 1 Kings
Topics: obedience, blessing, law

Interpretation:
The Bible constantly calls us to follow God's commandments, and this verse reminds us of the importance of walking in the ways of the Lord and keeping His commandments. In *1 Kings 2:3, King David*, at the end of his life, instructs *his son Solomon* to follow God's commands so that he can prosper in every area of ??his life.

One of the main points of this verse is that we are to keep God's statutes and commandments. It is important to remember that God's commands are not meant to limit us or make us feel oppressed, but rather to protect and guide us. God's statutes teach us to love and respect one another, to be fair and loving, and to care for our relationship with God.

Moreover, the promise of *1 Kings 2:3* is that if we follow God's commandments, we will prosper in everything we do and in everything we undertake. This promise does not necessarily refer to material prosperity, but to the prosperity of our soul and spirit. That is, by obeying God, we receive inner peace, joy, love, and other virtues that constitute spiritual wealth.

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> To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.
> *— 1 Peter 2:21*

Book: New Testament / 1 Peter
Topics: obedience, calling, following, suffering

Interpretation:
The Apostle *Peter* was speaking to new Christians, reminding them that *Christ* suffered for us and that we too should be willing to suffer for our faith. He says that *Jesus* is our example and that we should follow in His footsteps. This means that we should live according to the principles that Christ taught and that we should do everything possible to live without sin and do good.

Christ suffered for us

The fact that Christ suffered for us means that He chose to suffer and die for our redemption. He loved us so much that He was willing to do anything for us, even if it meant suffering and dying on the cross. His sacrifice made salvation and eternal life possible for those who believe in Him.

Christ our example

Jesus is the perfect example of how we should live. He always did what was right and loved everyone who crossed His path. He never sinned and always submitted to the will of God. If we want to live according to God's will, then we must follow the example of Jesus and live the same way.

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> For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.
> *— 1 Timothy 4:8*

Book: New Testament / 1 Timothy
Topics: obedience, body, health, life, promises

Interpretation:
The first letter to *Timothy*, written by the apostle *Paul*, is dedicated to instructing and guiding Timothy as a Christian leader. In *1 Timothy 4:8*, Paul discusses the importance of godliness over exercise in terms of eternal value.

Exercise is beneficial, but godliness is profitable for all things

In today's culture, exercise is important, and many people look to it as a means to keep fit and healthy. However, the apostle Paul tells us that while exercise is beneficial, it is not as valuable as godliness. The word godliness refers to devotion to God, obedience to His commands, and worship of His person. Godliness affects not only our life on earth, but also our eternal life.

The promise of the life now and the life to come

Godliness not only leads to eternal life in heaven, but it also benefits us here on earth. This life is an opportunity to develop our relationship with God and experience His love and guidance in our lives. Godliness helps us to define the purpose of our lives, which is important for effective living. Moreover, it can bring peace and emotional stability in an unstable world.

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> Therefore, my brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling and election. For if you do these things, you will never stumble, and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
>
> *— 2 Peter 1:10-11*

Book: New Testament / 2 Peter
Topics: obedience, calling, Kingdom, reward

Interpretation:
2 Peter 1:10-11 reminds us of the importance of keeping our calling and election secure. The word *"calling*" refers to God's calling on our lives, and the word *"election"* means that God has chosen us to be part of His people.

This is the promise *Peter* makes to believers who have confessed *Jesus Christ* as their Lord and Savior. Peter assures us that if we live according to God's principles and do His will, we will be received into the everlasting kingdom with a rich and generous entrance.

Perseverance in Faith

In this verse, Peter encourages us to persevere in faith and take steps to strengthen our calling and election. Life can be difficult, and often we feel like we are about to fall. But if we maintain faith in God

and work to strengthen our calling and election, we can be confident that we will never fall.

The Lord's Eternal Kingdom

These verses are a promise that God makes to every person who trusts in Him. He assures us that no matter our circumstances or trials on earth, we can be assured of eternal life in heaven, in the presence of our *Lord and Savior Jesus Christ*.

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> Then Peter began to speak: “I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right.”
> — *Acts 10:34-35*

Book: New Testament / Acts
Topics: obedience, Evangelism, righteousness

Interpretation:
To understand the meaning of *Acts 10:34-35*, we need to have a historical and religious context. This passage is about a Roman official named *Cornelius* who was a righteous and godly man. Although he was a Gentile, meaning he was not Jewish, he believed in God and did good works.

At that time, the Jews considered Gentiles unclean and unworthy of being part of the religious community. However, God showed *Peter* in a vision that he should not call unclean what He had sanctified. Peter then visited Cornelius and preached *the gospel of Jesus Christ*.

What does it mean that God does not show favoritism?

People often have preconceived notions about religion and believe that only certain groups of people are worthy of salvation. However, *Acts 10:34* teaches us that this is not the case. God does not show favoritism or choose certain people based on their ethnicity, wealth, nationality, or any other characteristic.

In fact, God is available to everyone, regardless of their background, race, gender, or social status. In fact, this idea is not new in the Bible; we can find it in other passages, such as *Romans 2:11*, which

says, *“For God does not show favoritism.”*

The meaning of the phrase “God does not show favoritism”

The principle that *“God does not show favoritism”* has important implications. First of all, it means that everyone is equal before God. No one is more worthy of His love, grace, and mercy than another. Furthermore, it means that everyone has the right to find *salvation in Christ* and to be accepted as *God’s children*.

This principle also means that Christians should refrain from judging others based on their gender, race, or background. All Christians should strive to be inclusive and accepting of all people, regardless of their background or personality.

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> They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.
>
> *— Acts 2:42*

Book: New Testament / Acts
Topics: obedience, bread, Church, community, Prayer

Interpretation:
Acts 2:42 tells us about the importance of persevering in the apostles’ teaching. This means standing firm in the teaching of *God’s Word* as delivered by the apostles. This is fundamental because it is the apostles’ teaching that leads us to understand and live God’s will for our lives.

Some of the apostles’ teachings that we are to follow are love for our neighbor, humility, honesty, chastity, and faith in *Jesus Christ* as our *Savior*. These teachings enable us to live a full life in fellowship with God, our families, and our friends.

Fellowship with one another

The next aspect mentioned in *Acts 2:42* is fellowship with one another. Communion signifies the bond of love and friendship that exists between Christians. This fellowship is necessary because it allows us to grow together in our love for God and to learn from one another.

Communion also allows us to support each other in prayer, in material and emotional support, and in many other aspects of life. When we come together, we can share our struggles, successes, and worries. And together, we can help each other find solutions and keep our faith strong.

Breaking bread

Breaking bread is another aspect mentioned in *Acts 2:42*. The term refers to the *Lord's Supper*, also known as *the Eucharist* or *Holy Supper*. The Lord's Supper is a constant reminder of Christ's death and resurrection and their importance for our salvation.

The Lord's Supper is an opportunity to come together as a community around the word of God. By sharing bread and wine, we remember the importance of Christ's sacrifice and renew our faith in Him. Moreover, the Lord's Supper unites us in an act of reverence and humility and encourages us to live according to the will of God.

Prayers

Finally, *Acts 2:42* mentions prayers. Prayers are fundamental to the Christian life because they are a way to communicate with God. Prayer allows us to thank God for His blessings, ask for His help in difficult times, and seek His guidance at all times.

Prayers are also a way for us to unite as a community around God. When we pray together, we can share our requests together and encourage each other to grow in faith and trust in God. Moreover, prayer allows us to sense God’s presence in our lives and helps us feel His grace and love.

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> We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.
> — *Acts 5:32*

Book: New Testament / Acts
Topics: obedience, Holy Spirit, receiving, Spirit

Interpretation:

The *book of Acts* tells of the early years of the Christian church and how the disciples preached the *gospel* in Jerusalem and throughout the known world at that time. In this chapter, *Peter and John* were arrested for preaching in the temple and miraculously released by an angel, but were later arrested again and brought before the Sanhedrin, where they were ordered not to speak in the name of *Jesus*, but to obey God rather than men.

It is in this context that we find *verse 5:32*, where Peter and the apostles claim to be witnesses of what they saw and heard, namely the resurrection of Jesus and all that He did and taught. But they further claim that the *Holy Spirit* also bears witness to these things and is given by God to those who obey Him.

This verse then goes on to relate two fundamental aspects of the Christian life: the importance of personal testimony of what we have experienced and learned about Jesus, and obedience to the Holy Spirit, where faith is demonstrated in concrete actions.

The importance of testimony for a christian

Personal testimony is a powerful tool for helping others come to know Christ. No matter how well people know the Bible, they need to hear about how God works in our lives. People want to hear real stories of people who have faced difficult situations but found *in Christ* the hope, peace, and transformation they needed.

Moreover, our testimony allows others to see the authenticity and credibility of our faith. People can argue about theological concepts, but they cannot refute what we have experienced in our own relationship with God. This is why testimony is a powerful and effective way to evangelize.

Obedience to the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is one of the three persons of the Trinity, the One who guides and accompanies us in our Christian life. However, it is not enough to know about Him; we must submit to Him and allow Him to guide our decisions and actions.

Obedience to the Holy Spirit involves being willing to give up our personal plans and desires in order to follow the paths God has for us. Sometimes this may seem difficult or contrary to our desires, but when we submit, we experience His guidance and blessing in our lives.

It is important to remember that obedience to the Holy Spirit is not optional, but essential to our Christian life. It is through His guidance that we can advance in our relationship with God and fulfill His purpose for our lives.

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from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> If you fully obey the Lord your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations on earth.
>
> *— Deuteronomy 28:1*

Book: Old Testament / Deuteronomy
Topics: obedience, blessing, law

Interpretation:
Deuteronomy 28:1 tells us about the exaltation that the Lord God gives to those who listen to Him and keep His commandments. It is important to remember that this verse occurs in the context of *the Mosaic Law*, which set forth rules of conduct and rituals that the Israelites were to follow.

This passage reminds us of the importance of listening to God and following Him. Obedience is not only an act of love for *the Creator*, but also a demonstration of our faith and trust in Him. When we believe that God knows what is best for our lives and follow His teachings, we are blessed with His favor and protection.

Achieving the exaltation that the Lord offers in this verse is possible if we keep His commandments. We must read and study the Bible to know its teachings and apply them to our lives. It is also important to pray and ask God for wisdom to understand *His Word* and the strength to fulfill His commandments.

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> Do not add to what I command you and do not subtract from it, but keep the commands of the Lord your God that I give you.
>
> *— Deuteronomy 4:2*

Book: Old Testament / Deuteronomy

Topics: obedience, following, law

Interpretation:
Deuteronomy 4:2 is a clear warning from God not to add to or subtract from His Word. This means that God has given us the complete and final guide for life in the Bible, and we should not try to change it to suit our own preferences or desires.

The danger of adding to God's Word

Adding to God's Word is extremely dangerous because it can lead to heresy or false teaching. It is important to remember that the Bible is the complete and final guide for the believer's life, and any addition or subtraction can distort God's original message.

The danger of removing from God's Word

On the other hand, removing from God's Word is also dangerous because we risk losing valuable information that is essential to our journey of following God. Over time, even a small distortion of Scripture can become a serious vulnerability to our faith.

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> Keep his decrees and commands, which I am giving you today, so that it may go well with you and your children after you and that you may live long in the land the Lord your God gives you for all time.
> — *Deuteronomy 4:40*

Book: Old Testament / Deuteronomy
Topics: obedience, blessing, children, law, life

Interpretation:
The Book of Deuteronomy is a collection of sermons and speeches delivered *by Moses* before his death and the arrival of the Israelites in the Promised Land. In verse 40, we are called to keep God's statutes and commandments so that we can prosper and live long and fulfilling lives. This commandment is not only addressed to us; we are also called to pass it on to our children and future generations.

What are God's statutes and commandments?

God's statutes and commandments are the laws and standards He has set for us. They are found throughout the Bible, from the Ten Commandments in the Old Testament to the commandments of love and service in the New Testament. Essentially, they are God's instructions for living a full and grateful life.

How can God's statutes and commandments help us?

By following God's statutes and commandments, we can experience God's blessing and protection in our lives. Moreover, we can testify to His love and grace by glorifying Him through our actions and decisions. Sometimes it's easy to mistake God's commandments for restrictions. But in reality, they are like a loving father who sets rules to protect his children and guide them on the true path. God's commandments help us make informed decisions and avoid negative consequences.

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> Oh, that their hearts would be inclined to fear me and keep all my commands always, so that it might go well with them and their children forever!
> *— Deuteronomy 5:29*

Book: Old Testament / Deuteronomy
Topics: obedience, awe, blessing, children, law

Interpretation:
Deuteronomy 5:29 is found in *Moses'* account of God's commandments to the Israelites. The importance of this commandment is emphasized in this verse, where Moses laments that the people do not always preserve in their hearts the fear and obedience of God, which are vital for their eternal well-being and the well-being of their children. Moses reminds the people of Israel of the importance of keeping God's commandments and living a life of obedience and devotion to Him.

The path of obedience to God

The commandment in *Deuteronomy 5:29* is a call to obedience and the fear of God. The people of Israel were always called to obey God and follow His commandments, promising to receive blessings and prosperity for this obedience. This is true for us today as well. Keeping God's commandments and

following His way is the path to a life full of spiritual fruit and blessings.

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> Walk in obedience to all that the Lord your God has commanded you, so that you may live and prosper and prolong your days in the land that you will possess.
>
> *— Deuteronomy 5:33*

Book: Old Testament / Deuteronomy
Topics: obedience, following, reward

Interpretation:
Deuteronomy 5:33 is a call for the people to follow God's commandments and walk in the path He has laid out for them. In this verse, God instructs the Israelites to follow His teachings in order to live a long and happy life in the land He has promised them.

Why should we keep God's commandments?

As humans, we are often inclined to take shortcuts and do what we think is best for our lives. However, the commandment in *Deuteronomy 5:33* reminds us that God knows what is best for us, and that following His ways will lead us to a fuller, happier life. By following God's commandments, we can avoid the mistakes and regrets that may arise from our own decisions and instead live a life full of purpose and meaning.

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> Be sure to keep the commands of the Lord your God and the stipulations and decrees he has given you.
>
> *— Deuteronomy 6:17*

Book: Old Testament / Deuteronomy
Topics: obedience, law

Interpretation:
Deuteronomy 6:17 is a call from *Moses* to the people of Israel to keep the commandments of the Lord. This commandment applies not only to the Jews of that time, but is also relevant to all Christians today. Keeping God’s commandments is the key to living a full and complete life of faith.

What are the commandments, testimonies, and statutes of the Lord?

The commandments are divine principles found in *Scripture*, such as “You shall not murder” or “Honor your father and your mother.” The testimonies are accounts of God’s actions in human history; for example, the story of the Exodus or the life of *Jesus Christ*. The statutes are specific details of divine instructions, such as the purity laws *of the Old Testament*.

How can we keep the commandments of the Lord?

First, we must know the commandments of God through the Scriptures and the teachings of the church. Then we must internalize them, meditate on them, and apply them in our daily lives. We must also trust in God's grace when we fail, and ask Him for help to follow His commandments.

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> The Lord commanded us to obey all these decrees and to fear the Lord our God, so that we might always prosper and be kept alive, as is the case today.
> — *Deuteronomy 6:24*

Book: Old Testament / Deuteronomy
Topics: obedience, blessing, law

Interpretation:
Deuteronomy 6:24 is a very important verse in the Bible. It is the Lord's command to the people of Israel to observe all His statutes and to fear Him for their own well-being and survival.

The meaning of the commandment

The Lord is loving and merciful, but also just and holy. His command in *Deuteronomy 6:24* is a call to His people to fear His power and follow His decrees in order to live just and blessed lives. God knows that we are prone to error and sin, and fearing Him is a way to protect ourselves from temptation and evil.

Keeping God's commandments means not only doing what is right in God's eyes but also benefiting ourselves. By following God's commandments, we can live healthy and peaceful lives. We protect ourselves from the negative consequences of our actions and ensure a life of blessing and prosperity.

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> And if we are careful to obey all this law before the Lord our God, as he has commanded us, that will be our righteousness.
> — *Deuteronomy 6:25*

Book: Old Testament / Deuteronomy
Topics: obedience, law, righteousness

Interpretation:
Deuteronomy 6:25 teaches us the importance of keeping God's commandments to achieve righteousness. Righteousness is the defining characteristic of what is right and just, and one of the most important values ??of the Christian life.

Obedience to God's commandments

This verse teaches that to achieve righteousness, one must keep all of God's commandments. Commandments are laws and rules established by God to maintain order in the world and guide people toward goodness and righteousness. Keeping the commandments is fundamental to achieving righteousness, as it allows us to remain on the true path and brings us closer to God.

The importance of justice in the christian life

Justice is a fundamental value of the Christian life, as it allows us to follow God's teachings and find our purpose. Justice is a value we should all strive for, as it allows us to live a balanced, just, and loving life. In our interactions with our neighbors and family, justice allows us to be honest, kind, and a witness to God's will in this world.

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> Observe the commands of the Lord your God, walking in obedience to him and revering him.
>
> — *Deuteronomy 8:6*

Book: Old Testament / Deuteronomy
Topics: obedience, awe, following, law

Interpretation:
One of the central themes of the Bible is the importance of keeping God's commandments. One of the most famous quotations on this topic is found in *Deuteronomy 8:6*, where we are called to keep the commandments of the Lord our God, to walk in His ways, and to fear Him. This phrase is significant because it encompasses a number of values ??and teachings important to believers.

Understanding the context

Before delving into this verse, it is important to understand the context in which it was written. Deuteronomy is one of the books of the Old Testament, considered a kind of "second law" given by God to His people after the Exodus from Egypt. This law was intended to prepare the people of Israel for the conquest of the Promised Land and to lay the foundation for peaceful and just coexistence within the nation.

The importance of keeping God's commandments

The primary commandment in *Deuteronomy 8:6* is to keep God's commandments, which implies adherence to the precepts and teachings set forth in the Bible. Through the commandments, we can discern God's will for our lives and act in accordance with it. By obeying *God's Word*, we demonstrate our dependence and trust in Him, which is a sign of humility and respect.

Walking in God's ways

"Walking in obedience to him" is the second part of this verse, and it refers to how we should live as believers. These ways are actions that are in harmony with God's will and allow us to live in peace and justice. The most striking example of this can be found in the teachings *of Jesus*, who calls us to love our neighbors, forgive, and be merciful.

Fear of God

The last commandment given to us in *Deuteronomy 8:6* is the fear of God. Fear in this context does not imply a feeling of dread, but a deep respect and reverence for God. The fear of God motivates us to act righteously and avoid actions that distance us from Him. He encourages us to seek His presence and follow His commandments, even though it may be difficult.

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> When you make a vow to God, do not delay to fulfill it. He has no pleasure in fools; fulfill your vow.
> — *Ecclesiastes 5:4*

Book: Old Testament / Ecclesiastes
Topics: obedience, promises, reliability

Interpretation:
Ecclesiastes 5:4 speaks of the importance of keeping promises to God. If we make a promise to Him, we must fulfill it without delay. God does not favor those who fail to fulfill their promises and commitments.

Keeping promises

Keeping promises and commitments is an undervalued skill in our society. We often see people making promises without intending to keep them, or changing them to suit their needs. However, God expects something different from us. He calls us to be honest with ourselves and others and to keep our promises, even when they are difficult or unpleasant.

Faith is not only believing in God but also trusting Him enough to do our part. This means we must be willing to strive to fulfill our promises, despite the obstacles and difficulties that may arise along the way.

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Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> If you listen carefully to the Lord your God and do what is right in his eyes, if you pay attention to his commands and keep all his decrees, I will not bring on you any of the diseases I brought on the Egyptians, for I am the Lord, who heals you.
>
> — *Exodus 15:26*

Book: Old Testament / Exodus
Topics: obedience, healing, law, listening, righteousness, sickness

Interpretation:
Exodus 15:26 presents a very important promise from the Lord to His people: if they keep His commandments and hold His will above all else, the Lord will protect them from the diseases and disasters that befell the Egyptians. In other words, obedience to God and His will is the key to a healthy life.

But what does it mean to obey God?

The literal translation of the Hebrew word *"obey"* means *"to listen attentively."* This implies not only listening to the Lord's words but also paying attention to His instructions and following His will. The foundation of obedience to God is keeping His law. The Bible reminds us that if we love the Lord and desire to follow Him, we must strive to always keep His commandments.

The importance of obedience for health

This divine promise is especially important today, given the growing concern about health. Many people actively seek ways to stay fit and healthy, and this verse seems to indicate that following God's will is a sure way to secure divine protection from life's obstacles.

However, we must remember that obedience is not a guarantee of eternal health. Each of us is mortal and susceptible to illness. Obedience to God is not a magic cure for illness, but a path to abundant life and spiritual peace.

The role of prayer in health

Another way to apply the Lord's promise to our lives is through prayer. When we face illness or difficulties in life, we can turn to the Lord for strength and patience to overcome these trials. It is important to maintain a close relationship with God and remember that He is always present in our lives.

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> Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine.
> *— Exodus 19:5*

Book: Old Testament / Exodus
Topics: obedience, covenant, valuable, world

Interpretation:
The Book of Exodus tells the story of the Israelites' exodus from Egyptian slavery to the Promised Land. During this time, God gave them special instructions and made a covenant with them. In *Exodus 19:5*, God outlines the terms of this covenant and offers the Israelites His love and protection if they keep His commandments.

Obedience and keeping My covenant

God told the Israelites that if they obey Him and keep His covenant, they would become His special treasure. God has a covenant with His people, and this relationship with Him is fundamental to the life of any believer. Obedience is key to maintaining this relationship and resolving any problems that arise. We must show our obedience with gratitude and worship.

You will be My special treasure

God promises the Israelites that if they obey Him, He will consider them His "special treasure." From those ancient times to the present day, this promise remains true for all who love God. In *Jesus Christ*, we become God's people, and He considers us His special treasure. God always loves us, despite our weaknesses and sins, and He also promises us protection and blessings if we faithfully follow Him.

For the whole earth is Mine

God claims that the earth is His, which means we will never need anything He cannot provide. As followers of God, we must remember this in the face of any adversity we face. God is the Sovereign of the universe, and through our love for Him, we can receive everything we ask for and need.

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from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> The Lord said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain and stay here, and I will give you the tablets of stone with the law and commandments I have written for their instruction.”
> — *Exodus 24:12*

Book: Old Testament / Exodus
Topics: obedience, law, receiving

Interpretation:
In *Exodus 24:12*, God commands *Moses* to go up the mountain and fetch the stone tablets containing the commandments and the law. This command is clear and emphasizes the importance of God's laws and commands. These commandments and laws are crucial to Christian faith and life, as they serve as a guide for following God's will in our daily lives.

Why do we need commandments?

God's commandments and law reflect His perfect will and character. They provide us with clear and specific guidance for living a life pleasing to Him and help us avoid sinful acts. Often, our sinful nature prompts us to choose the wrong path, but God's commandments point us to the right path and show us how to live a holy and righteous life.

God's commandments as teaching

In *Exodus 24:12*, God asks Moses to go up the mountain and fetch the stone tablets containing the commandments and the law to teach them to the people of Israel. This shows us that God's commandments are not only for our own observance, but also for sharing with others so they can learn and follow them. Teaching God's commandments is a way to share God's love and truth with others.

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> Therefore say to them, ‘This is what the Sovereign Lord says: None of my words will be delayed any longer; whatever I say will be fulfilled, declares the Sovereign Lord.’
>
> *— Ezekiel 12:28*

Book: Old Testament / Ezekiel
Topics: obedience, reliability, Word of God

Interpretation:
The Bible is a source of wisdom and knowledge for millions of people around the world. In it, we can find comfort, direction, and hope for our lives. Its pages are filled with verses that strengthen our faith and help us deepen our knowledge of God. One of them is *Ezekiel 12:28*.

What does this verse mean?

This verse reminds us that God is faithful to His word and will always fulfill His promises. We often feel impatience or frustration when it seems that God doesn't answer our prayers or is slow to act. However, this verse assures us that there are no delays in God's plan and that His word always comes true in His perfect timing.

How can this verse help us?

This word from God can help us trust Him and His plan for our lives. Knowing that God will always fulfill His Word strengthens our faith and helps us endure in difficult times. We can also find comfort in the knowledge that God is at work in our lives, even when we can't see it.

Furthermore, this verse reminds us of the importance of listening *to God's Word* and following it. In a world full of distractions and noise, it's sometimes easy to lose sight of God's desire for our lives. But if we are open and attentive to His Word, He will guide us on the right path and give us the courage and strength to overcome the difficulties we face.

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> But if a wicked person turns away from all the sins they have committed and keeps all my decrees and does what is just and right, that person will surely live; they will not die.
>
> — *Ezekiel 18:21*

Book: Old Testament / Ezekiel
Topics: obedience, conversion, law, sin

Interpretation:
The Bible is full of important teachings that help us understand God's plan for our lives. One such passage is found in *Ezekiel 18:21*, which speaks of divine forgiveness and justice.

Context of the verse

This verse is found in Ezekiel chapter 18, which speaks of individual responsibility for sin and God's justice. In this chapter, *Ezekiel* explains that we are all responsible for our actions and that the consequences of our decisions fall solely on us.

The importance of repentance

In *Ezekiel 18:21*, God promises mercy and forgiveness to those who turn from sin and begin to live according to His statutes and commandments. This passage reminds us of the importance of repentance and returning to the ways of the Lord. If we turn from sin and strive to live righteous and just lives, God forgives us and grants us abundant life and eternal salvation.

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> I am the Lord your God; follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws. Keep my Sabbaths holy, that they may be a sign between us. Then you will know that I am the Lord your God.
>
> — *Ezekiel 20:19-20*

Book: Old Testament / Ezekiel
Topics: obedience, law, sabbath

Interpretation:
Ezekiel 20:19-20 tells us that God desires us to walk in His statutes, observe His commands, and put them into practice. These verses also speak of the importance of keeping the Sabbath holy, indicating that this day should be used as a sign of the connection between the Lord and us.

What does it mean to walk in His statutes?

When God speaks to us about walking in His statutes, He means that we must follow His commands and laws based on love and justice. It's important to remember that these statutes often seem difficult to fulfill, but we need to focus on the fact that God has given us the tools to fulfill them. In this sense, we must remember that accepting *Jesus* into our lives does not mean we are free from all sin, but rather that we now have the ability to live righteously and with love for others, thanks to *the Holy Spirit* given to us.

What does it mean to keep His commandments?

When God commands us to keep His commandments, He means that we must be committed to constant obedience to His commands. We must love His Word, meditate on it, and apply it in our daily lives. To keep God's commandments, it is not enough to have merely a theoretical knowledge of them; we must put them into practice in our daily lives, so that we can be transformed into His image and likeness.

The significance of the sabbath

The Sabbath was established by God as a day of rest and worship in His name. It is the seventh day of the week (in Hebrew, "Shabbat"), and from the very beginning of creation, it was intended for humanity to rest and devote itself to the worship and contemplation of the Lord. By observing this day, we acknowledge God as the Creator and Master of time and recall the eternity of His purpose. Moreover, the Sabbath is a sign of the connection between God and His people, a reminder of His covenant of love and faithfulness.

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> Am I now trying to win the approval of human beings, or of God? Or am I trying to please people? If I were still trying to please people, I would not be a servant of Christ.

> — *Galatians 1:10*

Book: New Testament / Galatians
Topics: obedience, relationships, reward

Interpretation:
This Bible verse invites us to reflect on the motives that guide our actions. Specifically, it makes us think about how much weight we place on others' opinions of our lives and how we make decisions.

The idea of ??seeking approval from people is a concept we find in many different religions and philosophies. Basically, it involves doing what we think others will like with the intention of gaining their approval, even if it means going against our own beliefs. While this may seem like a noble attitude, it can actually be very damaging to our lives and our relationship with God.

Seeking approval from people is dangerous for a number of reasons. First, it can cause us to become overly dependent on the opinions of others, which means we risk losing our self-esteem and our ability to make consistent decisions. Second, seeking approval from people can cause us to lose our connection with God. When our decisions are based solely on what society expects of us, we distance ourselves from divine truth and the wisdom it implies. Consequently, our spiritual life can suffer and we can lose purpose and meaning.

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> For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want.
> — *Galatians 5:17*

Book: New Testament / Galatians
Topics: obedience, Spirit

Interpretation:
The book of Galatians was written by the Apostle *Paul* to the Christian community in the region of Galatia. In this text, the Apostle talks about the freedom we have *in Christ* and how it affects our

relationship with the Law. In *Galatians 5:17*, Paul emphasizes the internal struggle we experience as believers when our fleshly desires conflict with our spiritual life.

The desire of the flesh

When we talk about the *“desires of the flesh”* in this verse, it doesn’t just refer to our physical needs, but it also includes our selfish thoughts and desires that lead us to sin. By nature, we tend to seek our own satisfaction and pleasure, even at the expense of others. But these desires conflict with *the Spirit of God* and our relationship with Him.

The inner struggle

Paul tells us that there is a constant struggle going on within us between the flesh and the Spirit. On the one hand, our sinful nature causes us to do whatever we want to satisfy our desires, but on the other hand, *the Holy Spirit* works within us, guiding us toward abundant life and God's will.

The importance of the Holy Spirit

This verse reminds us of the importance of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Without Him, our flesh would lead us away from God. But with the Holy Spirit, we can fight our fleshly desires and live a life that glorifies God. It is important that we stay in fellowship with Him through prayer, Bible reading, and community.

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> I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and will give them all these lands, and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because Abraham obeyed me and did everything I required of him, keeping my commands, my decrees and my instructions.
> *— Genesis 26:4-5*

Book: Old Testament / Genesis
Topics: obedience, blessing, law, listening

Interpretation:

The Bible tells the story *of Abraham*, a man who lived in a time and culture very different from our own, but whose life and legacy still teach us valuable lessons. In these verses, God speaks to *Isaac*, Abraham's son, about his father's obedience and how he listened to and kept the commandments and laws God gave him.

The importance of listening to and keeping God's commandments

The first thing we can highlight in these verses is the importance of listening to and keeping God's commandments. Abraham not only listened to God's words but also consciously sought to keep them and apply them in his daily life. This is an important lesson for us, as we can often listen to a sermon or read the Bible and be inspired by the words we hear, but then forget to apply them in our daily lives. Abraham's obedience reminds us that it is important not only to listen but also to put what we learn into practice.

The importance of keeping commandments and decrees

The second point we can highlight in these verses is the importance of keeping the commandments and decrees given to us by God. In the Bible, we find many commandments and laws that God gave to His people. These commandments and decrees are not simply arbitrary rules; *they have a purpose and a reason for their existence*. By keeping these commandments, we not only obey God but also protect our lives and our relationship with Him.

An example of faith and obedience

The third point we can highlight in these verses is the importance of Abraham's example of faith and obedience to God. In the Bible, Abraham is considered one of the fathers of faith, and his story teaches us the value of trust and obedience to God, even in difficult and incomprehensible situations. His example is a call to emulate and a reminder that faith and obedience are essential in our relationship with God.

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> You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised.
> *— Hebrews 10:36*

Book: New Testament / Hebrews

Topics: obedience, patience, promises, receiving

Interpretation:
One of the most important values ??in the Christian life is patience. The Bible repeatedly tells us about the need for patience and perseverance in our daily lives, as it is fundamental to the fulfillment of God's promise.

Hebrews 10:36 gives us a clear teaching. Here, *the apostle Paul* tells us that patience is necessary for us to achieve what God has prepared for us. But why is this so important?

The importance of patience

Patience is a virtue that allows us to remain calm and balanced during difficult times or times of waiting. It helps us trust God and His plans for our lives, even when we do not understand what is happening or do not see the end result.

In the Christian life, we must patiently wait for God's promises, because He has a specific time and way to fulfill them. It doesn't always happen the way we expect or when we want it to, but if we remain faithful and trust Him, we can receive the blessings and promises He has given us.

God's will

This verse also says to do God's will. What does that mean? Simply put, God's will is everything He wants for our lives. It includes our decisions, our thoughts, and our actions. When we do God's will, we walk in obedience and submission to Him.

To know God's will, we must seek His presence through prayer and Bible reading. He will speak to us and guide us in the path we should take. The closer we are to Him, the clearer His voice will be and the better decisions we will be able to make in our lives.

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> Let us, therefore, make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will perish by following their example of disobedience.
> — *Hebrews 4:11*

Book: New Testament / Hebrews

Topics: obedience, rest, sabbath

Interpretation:
The book of Hebrews is known for its strong emphasis on the supremacy *of Jesus* and His saving work. Chapter 4 focuses on the Sabbath rest that God instituted after the creation of the world, and presents it as a type of spiritual rest that we can all experience *in Christ*. In verse 11, the author urges us to strive to enter into this rest to avoid disobedience, referring to the experience of the people of Israel in the wilderness.

The meaning of spiritual rest

The spiritual rest that the author of Hebrews speaks of has nothing to do with mere physical rest, but with the peace and contentment that comes from complete trust in God. It is a state of freedom from stress and worry that comes when we recognize our dependence on God and surrender ourselves completely to Him. This idea is present throughout the Bible, from the Psalms to the Gospels, and is expressed in many ways.

Disobedience as a hindrance to rest

The author of Hebrews warns us that disobedience can prevent us from entering into spiritual rest. Disobedience to God can take many forms, from unbelief to outright rebellion, all of which have negative consequences for our spiritual lives. Instead of experiencing peace and contentment, we experience anxiety, frustration, and confusion. For this reason, the author encourages all readers to do everything possible to avoid falling into disobedience.

The importance of effort

In verse 11, we are encouraged to *“press on”* to enter into spiritual rest. The idea is that we should not wait for this state of peace and contentment to fall from heaven, but should do everything possible to achieve it. This involves making a conscious effort to trust God, to give up control and worry, and to seek His will in each moment. Although salvation is a gift from God and we cannot earn it on our own, we can and should strive to live according to God's will in order to experience the spiritual peace He promises us.

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> And, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.
> — *Hebrews 5:9*

Book: New Testament / Hebrews
Topics: obedience, Blameless, Eternal life, Salvation, Savior

Interpretation:
Hebrews 5:9 is an important reminder of the perfection that *Jesus* experienced to accomplish His work of redemption on the cross, and how this, in turn, can benefit us as believers if we obey Him. In this verse, the use of the term *"perfect"* is fundamental; it refers to the process of sanctification that Jesus underwent during His earthly life. It was this constant and stoic training that enabled Him to bear the burden of sin and die with the assurance that He had given everything for our salvation.

It is interesting to note that, as the verse mentions, this process of perfection was not easy or instantaneous. Through the temptations of the devil in the wilderness and the difficulties He faced in everyday life, Jesus was tested repeatedly to refine His character and strengthen His abilities for the work of ministry.

Another important point made in this verse is that Jesus became the *"Author of eternal salvation."* That is, through His sacrifice, Jesus not only gave us salvation, but guaranteed it forever to all who obey Him. The fact that Jesus is the Author of our salvation assures us that He is not subject to human imperfections or change. The Bible then tells us that *"to all who obey Him,"* Jesus becomes the being to whom we can trust our eternal salvation, allowing us to live prosperous and peaceful lives.

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> Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.
> — *James 1:22*

Book: New Testament / James
Topics: obedience, listening, Word of God

Interpretation:

James 1:22 calls us to be doers *of God's Word*, not just hearers. This verse reminds us that it is not enough to simply read the Bible and listen to sermons; we must also take concrete action and apply the teachings in our daily lives.

This verse calls us to put God's Word into practice. It is vital to follow what the Bible teaches us, because only then will we be able to grow in our faith and have a close relationship with God. The Bible is like an instruction manual that guides us in our daily lives, but like any manual, it must be applied and used for everything to work perfectly.

How can we be doers of the Word?

To be doers of the Word, we must be diligent in applying what we learn in our daily lives. It is important that we set clear and distinct goals for how we will apply God's Word in our lives. We must strive to apply the Bible's teachings in every area of ??our lives.

One of the best examples of being a doer of the Word *is Jesus*, who perfectly applied the teachings of the Bible in His daily life. *Jesus* lived a perfect life, without a single sin, because He applied the teachings of the Bible in every aspect of His life. We should follow His example and strive to apply the Word of God in every aspect of our lives.

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> But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.
>
> *— James 1:25*

Book: New Testament / James
Topics: obedience, blessing, freedom, law, listening

Interpretation:
The Bible verse in *James 1:25* tells us about the importance of carefully following the perfect law and persisting in it, rather than hearing it and forgetting it. It also mentions that those who are "doers of the work" and who abide in this law will be blessed in what they do.

What is the law of liberty?

The law of liberty that *James* speaks of in this verse is a law that is found in the New Testament. When *Jesus* came to earth, He brought a new understanding of how we should live. He taught us to love God and others, and this law sets us free from sin and allows us to draw closer to God. Jesus gives us the freedom to choose to follow this law and live by it. Instead of being slaves to our sin, we can walk in freedom and experience the fullness of life that God has for us.

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> Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.
> — *James 4:7*

Book: New Testament / James
Topics: obedience, addiction, devil, safety

Interpretation:
The first thing we must do *is submit to God*. This means that we must submit to Him, be willing to listen to Him, and obey Him. We must be sensitive and broken, not proud and stubborn.

Then we must *resist the devil*. We resist by closing our ears and hearts to his overtures and temptations. We resist by using *the Holy Scriptures* as the sword of the Spirit to repel his attacks. If we resist, he will flee from us.

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> But I gave them this command: Obey me, and I will be your God and you will be my people. Walk in obedience to all I command you, that it may go well with you.
> — *Jeremiah 7:23*

Book: Old Testament / Jeremiah

Topics: obedience, blessing

Interpretation:
Jeremiah 7:23 is a powerful Bible verse that speaks to the importance of listening to God's voice. In this verse, God tells us that if we listen to Him and follow His commandments, He will be our God and we will be His people. Moreover, He promises us that if we follow His path, all will be well.

What does it mean to hear God's voice?

Hearing God's voice means having a close, personal relationship with Him. It means spending time communicating with Him, reading *His Word*, and seeking His will for our lives. When we listen to God's voice, He can guide us and help us make wise decisions to live a full and joyful life.

Why is it important to follow God's ways?

Following God's ways is important because He knows us better than anyone else and knows what is best for us. By following God's commandments, we are on the path to well-being and happiness. He protects us from the dangers of the world and guides us along the path of justice and love. When we distance ourselves from God, we also distance ourselves from His protection and care.

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> I have not departed from the commands of his lips; I have treasured the words of his mouth more than my daily bread.
> — *Job 23:12*

Book: Old Testament / Job
Topics: obedience, law, speaking, Word of God

Interpretation:
The book of Job is one of the most profound and mystical books in the Bible. It tells the story of a righteous man who, despite going through various trials, remains faithful to God. In *Job 23:12*, we find a declaration of loyalty and faithfulness to God in how His word is kept. This verse shows the importance of following *God's Word* and keeping it even in the most difficult circumstances.

Observing the life of Job

Job 23:12 shows us that despite all the hardships and suffering, he maintained his loyalty to God's Word. *Job* not only listened to God's words, but he kept them and obeyed them. This quality sets him apart from many of us, because in times of trial and pain, it is easy to deny our faith and disobey God. In other words, Job teaches us the importance of remaining steadfast in our commitment to God's Word.

Keeping God's Word in our hearts

When we keep God's Word in our hearts, we are better prepared to deal with life's challenges. In times of pain, we can turn to God's Word and find comfort there. Through God's Word, we can find spiritual strength to keep going even when our minds and hearts are broken. God's Word gives us a solid foundation on which to build our lives and overcome trials.

Our daily struggle

However, keeping God's Word does not happen overnight. It is a daily struggle that we must face. In *Job 23:12*, we see that Job *"I have treasured the words of his mouth more than my daily bread,"* meaning he put God's Word above his physical needs. In other words, Job shows us that we must be willing to make sacrifices in order to follow God's way.

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> Jesus replied, "Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them."
> *— John 14:23*

Book: New Testament / John
Topics: obedience, Father, love

Interpretation:
In *John 14:23, Jesus* makes a clear and direct statement. Simply put, Jesus shows that the key to receiving God's love and presence in our lives is to love Him and keep His teachings.

"Obey my teaching" means not only reading and knowing Jesus' teachings, but actively applying them in our daily lives. Knowing God's word is easy, but applying it in our daily lives takes dedication and effort. This includes a consistent practice of humility, love, forgiveness, and gratitude.

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> I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful.
>
> *— John 15:1-2*

Book: New Testament / John
Topics: obedience, Fruitfulness, sin

Interpretation:
John 15:1-2 presents us with a powerful metaphor in which *Jesus* compares himself to the true vine and God to the vinedresser. This image invites us to think deeply about the importance of staying connected to the true source of life.

The true source of life

Just as the branches of a vine must remain connected to the trunk to receive nutrients, we need to remain *connected to Jesus* to receive the breath and support we need to thrive.

In this passage, we see how God plays a critical role in our lives, just as the farmer cares for and nourishes the vine, so God cares for us and gives us the life we ??need.

The metaphor also emphasizes the importance of community and connection with other believers, since the branches of the vine cannot survive and bear fruit on their own, but must be connected to other branches and the main trunk.

Seeking a connection with God

These deeply symbolic verses encourage us to seek a deeper connection with our Creator through prayer, meditation, and the study of God’s Word. Jesus reminds us that our journey of faith is not just about keeping commandments, but about finding that intimate connection with God that will allow us to bear abundant fruit.

Connecting with God also reminds us that we are part of something much greater than ourselves. The way we love and serve others is a reflection of our love and devotion to God. As part of the true vine,

we must seek to do God’s will in our lives and in the communities in which we live.

What does the branch represent?

In *John 15:2, Jesus* uses the branch as an analogy to illustrate an important lesson for his disciples. The branch represents believers, the vine represents Jesus, and the Father represents the vinedresser. The vinedresser’s purpose is to care for believers so that they can grow and bear fruit in their lives.

What is fruit in the Bible analogy?

The *“fruit”* mentioned in the verse refers to the work and results of a believer’s life. For example, fruits could be love, faith, kindness, patience, self-control, and other fruitful qualities of a Christian. A believer who bears this fruit is one who is in fellowship with Jesus and allows the Holy Spirit to work in his or her life.

What does it mean to “prun”?

The term *“pruning”* in this verse refers to pruning or removing parts of a plant or branch that are not producing fruit. This pruning may be painful for the plant, but it is necessary for its growth and development. This is true in our lives too. There are often attitudes and behaviors that can hinder our growth in God, and therefore our pruning is necessary.

Why is pruning and trimming important in our spiritual lives?

It is vital to realize that pruning and trimming are necessary to produce spiritual fruit. Jesus taught his disciples that we cannot grow on our own, we need someone to care for us and help us bear fruit in our lives. The vinedresser is responsible for caring for his believers and nurturing them to produce abundant fruit.

How to bear more spiritual fruit?

To bear more spiritual fruit, we must remain in fellowship with Jesus. We must *connect with the vine (Jesus)* and maintain that contact. To the extent that we are committed, we will receive the nourishment and strength to grow and produce fruit.

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Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you.
>
> *— John 15:16*

Book: New Testament / John
Topics: obedience, calling, Fruitfulness, Prayer

Interpretation:
At first glance, these words of Jesus may seem confusing and difficult to understand. What does it mean that He chose us and appointed us to bear fruit? What does Jesus mean by **“fruit”** in this context? How can we apply this verse to our daily lives?

In the first part of the verse, Jesus declares that we did not choose Him, but He chose us. This is a fundamental truth of the Christian faith: *salvation is a divine gift, not a reward that we earn through our own merit*. It was God who took the initiative to redeem us and reconcile us to Him through the work of Jesus on the cross. Divine election is an expression of God’s love and grace toward us, even when we do not deserve it.

In the second part of the verse, Jesus tells us that He chose us to go and bear fruit. What do you mean by **“fruit”**? Fruit is often used as a metaphor in the Bible to describe the tangible results of living a God-directed life. This can include righteous deeds, converting sinners, making disciples, and personal spiritual growth.

So fruit is anything we do as Christians that has a positive and lasting result.

Furthermore, Jesus adds that this fruit is to remain. That is, our actions and efforts are to have a long-term impact on people’s lives and on the expansion of God’s kingdom. This is not about doing good deeds just to feel good temporarily, but about working diligently in God’s plan and leaving an everlasting mark on the world.

Finally, Jesus tells us that whatever we ask the Father for in His name, He will give it to us. This is a powerful and comforting promise for any believer. The key to this promise is that we are to ask in Jesus’ name. This means that our requests are to be in line with His will and purpose. This is not about asking for selfish or unnecessary things, but about seeking the well-being and blessing of others.

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from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God.
> *— John 3:21*

Book: New Testament / John
Topics: obedience, life, Light, truth

Interpretation:
The Gospel of *John* records the words of *Jesus* when He spoke to *Nicodemus*, a Pharisee who wanted to know more about Jesus' miracles and teachings. On this occasion, Jesus spoke about the purpose of His coming to earth – *to save all who believe in Him* – and how we can achieve this salvation.

One who practices the truth

This verse speaks of *"one who practices the truth,"* which means more than just believing the truth. A true disciple not only believes, but also commits to living the truth daily. There can be no true faith without sincere and consistent works. Thus, faith and works go hand in hand.

Truth refers to the Word of God, which is the very foundation of our faith. Practicing the truth means actively applying biblical principles in our lives and changing the way we think and act to align with God's will.

Coming to the light

This verse also speaks of *"coming to the light."* The light here symbolizes God's truth shining through our darkness and revealing what is hidden. Coming to the light involves an honest self-assessment and a voluntary disclosure of our actions and works to God's truth. When our works are exposed to the truth, we are given the opportunity to correct what is wrong and move forward in the light.

Works are done in God

Finally, this verse says that our works are to be *"done in God."* This means that our actions are to be in accordance with God's will and to accomplish His purposes. Without a personal relationship with God, our works may be in vain. By seeking God in prayer and studying His Word, we can be sure that our works are being done to His glory.

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> Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God’s wrath remains on them.
> *— John 3:36*

Book: New Testament / John
Topics: obedience, Eternal life, faith, Salvation

Interpretation:
In *John 3:36*, we find a profound statement about the importance of faith in *Jesus, the Son of God*. This verse confirms that whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, a wonderful promise that speaks to us of God’s gift to us. But it also prompts us to consider the consequences of refusing to believe in the Son.

Eternal Life as a Divine Gift

“Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life” is a phrase that speaks to us of the grace of God. Eternal life is a promise that can only be given by a divine Being, since it transcends human powers.

Eternal life is not a reward for our actions, but a free gift offered to us. It is important to emphasize that faith in the Son is necessary to receive this gift. It is not enough to believe in God or something higher, we must believe in the Son whom God sent to save us.

Consequences of Refusing to Believe

But there is also a warning in this verse: *“but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God’s wrath remains on them.”* This is a strong statement that speaks to the seriousness of our decision to refuse to believe in Jesus. It is not just a personal choice, but has important consequences for our relationship with God.

A person who refuses to believe cannot see life, that is, cannot receive the fullness of what God offers us. Moreover, he is under the wrath of God, which implies alienation and separation from God.

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translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> But I, with shouts of grateful praise, will sacrifice to you. What I have vowed I will make good. I will say, ‘Salvation comes from the Lord.’
> — *Jonah 2:9*

Book: Old Testament / Jonah
Topics: obedience, gratitude, sacrifice, Salvation

Interpretation:
The Book of Jonah is one of the prophetic books of the *Old Testament* and tells the story of a man who runs from God, disobeying His call to preach in Nineveh. *Jonah* is eventually thrown into the sea and swallowed by a large fish, where he remains for three days. In this *chapter 2*, Jonah finds himself in the belly of the fish and cries out to God for his salvation.

Thankfulness as a Response to Salvation

Verse 9 is an expression of praise and gratitude to God for His salvation. Jonah acknowledges that it is only by God’s grace and power that he has been delivered from the fish and has another opportunity to fulfill his mission. The voice of praise is a sacrifice given to God in recognition of His grace and love.

The Importance of Keeping Promises to God

Jonah also promises to fulfill what he told God in *verse 9: “But I, with shouts of grateful praise, will sacrifice to you. What I have vowed I will make good.”* In this sense, we can understand that offering praise is not only a verbal act, but rather involves concrete actions in accordance with what God has asked.

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> Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.

> — *Joshua 1:8*

Book: Old Testament / Joshua
Topics: obedience, blessing, law

Interpretation:
Joshua 1:8 speaks of the importance of meditating on God's law, which may be confusing to some. Meditation isn't simply reading Scripture and then forgetting it. It's reflecting on what we've read to gain a deeper and more personal understanding *of God's Word*.

Meditation helps us connect more closely with God. In Hebrew, meditation is *"haga,"* which means muttering or repeating. This means we must constantly reflect on God's Word and always relate it to our daily reality.

How can meditating on God's Law help us?

Meditation on God's Law brings many benefits to believers. First, it helps renew our minds and better focus on God. Furthermore, it is also beneficial for our practical lives, for by knowing God's Word, we can understand His will for our lives and make wise and righteous decisions.

The psalmist *David* wrote that those who meditate on God's law *"That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither—whatever they do prospers" (Psalm 1:3)*. Meditating on God's law leads to blessing and prosperity in every aspect of our lives.

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> And the people said to Joshua, “We will serve the Lord our God and obey him.”
> — *Joshua 24:24*

Book: Old Testament / Joshua
Topics: obedience, listening, serving

Interpretation:

The Book of Joshua tells the story of the conquest of Canaan by the Israelites under the leadership *of Joshua* after the death *of Moses*. Joshua was a pious and faithful man of God, charged with leading the people of Israel to the Promised Land and conquering it by force.

Chapter 24 of the Book of Joshua describes the leader's final speech before his death. In his message, Joshua calls the tribes of Israel to serve and obey God, reminding them of what He has done for them in the past and their role in the future.

The importance of serving and obeying God

In this verse, we see how the people of Israel respond to Joshua's call to serve and obey God. The decision they made is crucial not only for the people of Israel then but also for us today.

Serving God means putting Him first in your life, keeping His commandments, and living according to His will. We often succumb to the temptation to follow our own desires and goals, leaving God and His teachings aside. Obedience to God's voice means paying attention to what He speaks to us through His Word and Spirit and acting accordingly. It is an active and conscious response to God's will for our lives.

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> Keep my commands and follow them. I am the Lord.
>
> *— Leviticus 22:31*

Book: Old Testament / Leviticus
Topics: obedience, God, law

Interpretation:
The word *Leviticus* comes from the tribe of *Levi*, whose job it was to serve in the temple and help the people worship God properly. Many of the details in *Leviticus* concern the laws and ceremonies that had to be followed in order to fulfill God’s requirements. These laws were given by God to the people of Israel in the context of their relationship with him, God’s chosen people.

God is the source of all knowledge, and His commands are perfect and just. So, by keeping these commands, we protect ourselves and keep ourselves on the right path. We should strive to obey the commands God has set forth in the Bible and learn from them.

Moreover, keeping God’s commands brings us into a closer relationship with Him. When we obey God, we show that we love Him and want to follow Him. If we are faithful, God will reward us and guide us in our lives.

By focusing on God’s commands, we can ensure that we live by His standards and not our own. We must remember that we exist to serve God, not the other way around.

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> If you follow my decrees and are careful to obey my commands, I will send you rain in its season, and the ground will yield its crops and the trees their fruit.
> — *Leviticus 26:3-4*

Book: Old Testament / Leviticus
Topics: obedience, blessing, Fruitfulness, harvest, law

Interpretation:
The Bible verses in *Leviticus 26:3-4* talk about the importance of keeping God’s commandments and applying them to our daily lives. This shows us that it is not enough to know *God’s Word*, but we must also keep it and follow it at all times.

Keep God’s commandments

When we walk in God’s commandments and keep them, we demonstrate our devotion and love for Him. These precepts do not only refer to the commands found in the Bible, but also to the principles and values ??that define a life filled with faith and love.

God’s blessings

Leviticus 26:3-4 are Bible verses that emphasize God's promise to send rain in due season so that the earth and the trees in the field can bear fruit. This phrase is one of the greatest promises God makes to His people, guaranteeing His provision and blessing in a constant and tangible way.

The meaning of rain in the Bible

In the Bible, rain symbolizes God's provision for human life and the renewal of the earth. Throughout biblical history, rain served as a symbol of God's blessing on His people, especially in times of drought, famine, and need.

In other words, the book of Deuteronomy says that the lack of rain is a sign of God's anger toward His people: *"Then the Lord's anger will burn against you, and he will shut up the heavens so that it will not rain and the ground will yield no produce, and you will soon perish from the good land the Lord is giving you" (Deuteronomy 11:17)*. Rain plays an important role in the lives of people in the Bible, and its presence is seen as a reminder of divine providence and care.

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> He answered, 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'
>
> *— Luke 10:27*

Book: New Testament / Luke
Topics: obedience, law, love

Interpretation:
Luke 10:27 tells us the most important commandment in the Christian life: *you shall love the Lord with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind*. This commandment sums up the entire Law and the Prophets and is the foundation of our relationship with God.

Loving the Lord with all our being means putting Him first in every area of our lives. In every aspect of our existence, we are to honor Him, worship Him, and seek His will above our own. We are to make Him the center of our lives, always relying on His love and guidance.

Love your neighbor as yourself

The second commandment mentioned in this verse is to love your neighbor as yourself. In other words, we are to treat others with the same love and respect that we desire for ourselves.

In this commandment, *Jesus* gives us an example of how to interact with others, regardless of their race, gender, religion, social or economic status. We must love all our neighbors, even those who treat

us badly or are different from us.

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> But the one who does not know and does things deserving punishment will be beaten with few blows. From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked.
> — *Luke 12:48*

Book: New Testament / Luke
Topics: obedience, punishment, righteousness

Interpretation:
Luke 12:48 is found in the context *of Jesus'* teaching on watchfulness and service in *the Kingdom of God*. In this passage, Jesus emphasizes the responsibility of those who have been entrusted with much. Those who have been given more, whether knowledge, skills, or resources, are called to be better stewards of what they have been given and to use it responsibly.

Interpretation of the verse

In this verse, *Jesus* speaks of the responsibility we have as followers *of Christ* to use our abilities, resources, and knowledge wisely to serve God and others.

This verse makes it clear that those who have been given much will be required to do much in terms of stewardship and responsibility. This means that we must be diligent in using what we have been given to serve God and others, and avoid complacency and laziness.

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> But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.
> — *Luke 6:27-28*

Book: New Testament / Luke
Topics: obedience, blessing, Prayer

Interpretation:
In these verses, *Luke* introduces his followers to the core teaching *of Jesus*. It is easy to love and do good to those who love us and treat us well, but the real challenge is to love and do good to those who hate us and treat us badly.

Context

To fully understand these verses, it is important to consider the context in which they were written. In Luke 6, *Jesus* is telling His disciples how they should live as followers *of Christ*. He teaches them to love their enemies, do good to those who harm them, and treat others as they would like to be treated.

Bless those who curse you

The word “bless” here means to wish or proclaim well-being. Instead of responding with anger and vengeance, we should wish the best for those who treat us badly. This can be difficult in situations where we are deeply hurt, but our Christian response should be full of love and kindness.

Pray for those who slander you

The word “slander” here means to tell a lie about someone in order to damage their reputation. When someone slanders us, it’s natural to want to protect ourselves and our reputation, but Jesus teaches us to pray for that person. It’s a countercultural response, but it’s the response Jesus calls us to.

Resolving doubts

The question always comes up: How can we love those who harm us? But it’s important to remember that the love Jesus teaches us is sacrificial love, not sentimental love. It’s about doing good no matter what.

We might also wonder if this means we should tolerate abusive or violent behavior. But it doesn’t mean we should tolerate abusive behavior or behavior that threatens our physical or emotional integrity. We should set boundaries and have conversations about reconciliation, but always in a loving and respectful way.

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> Then he said to them all: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.”
> *— Luke 9:23*

Book: New Testament / Luke
Topics: obedience, Crucifixion

Interpretation:
Luke 9:23 is a verse that challenges all believers. *Jesus Christ* calls His followers to follow Him not only in appearance but also in truth. *The Master* begins the conversation with the phrase *“Whoever wants to be my disciple,”* making it clear that discipleship is not a one-sided initiative.

Jesus is not looking for volunteers. Instead, only those who have chosen to follow the Master can do so. This choice is not superficial, but involves denying oneself and taking up one’s cross daily.

Self-denial

“Self-denial” is an expression that has been interpreted in various ways. Some preachers have used it to preach asceticism, the renunciation of all pleasures and the rejection of worldly life in favor of pursuing a higher spiritual life. However, this can lead to self-denial and a lack of self-love.

Instead, a more healthy understanding of this Christian requirement is to understand self-denial as a complete submission of one’s will to God. *The Apostle Paul* speaks of this act of denial in *Romans 12:1*, calling believers to present their bodies as living sacrifices acceptable to God.

Take up your cross

Based on the historical context in which this phrase was written, the cross was a symbol of suffering, pain, and torment in Jesus’ day. By taking up his cross, Jesus is speaking of accepting the trials that life brings to Christians, even seeing them as opportunities to grow in faith and character.

True, for some Christians, taking up the cross may mean persecution, suffering, and martyrdom. But for most, it refers to the daily struggles of life. Whether it is illness, loss of a job, family crisis, or hard times, taking up the cross means facing the trials head-on.

Follow Me

After calling His followers to deny themselves and take up their cross, Jesus Christ concludes by saying, “And follow Me.” Following Jesus is an ongoing process, not a one-time action. When we *accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior*, we begin this journey of following Him. As we progress, we learn to trust Him at every step.

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> “If you do not listen, and if you do not resolve to honor my name,” says the Lord Almighty, “I will send a curse on you, and I will curse your blessings. Yes, I have already cursed them, because you have not resolved to honor me.”
>
> *— Malachi 2:2*

Book: Old Testament / Malachi
Topics: obedience, blessing, listening

Interpretation:
Malachi 2:2 invites us to listen and make a heartfelt decision to give glory to God. The Word reminds us that if we do not obey and heed God’s teachings, a curse will come upon us. This verse emphasizes the importance of true devotion to God, which not only benefits us, but also glorifies our Creator.

Obedience

The first thing this verse teaches us is the idea of ??obedience. Obedience is a fundamental act in the Christian life because it allows us to learn, receive direction, and grow in our faith.

God speaks to His people in many ways in the Bible, such as prayer, reading Scripture, and preaching. It is important to take the time to listen to what God has to say to us and be attentive to His voice.

Heartfelt Decisions

The second point is the importance of making a heartfelt decision. God not only seeks our obedience, He wants it to come from our love for Him. Forced obedience or obedience without sincere devotion has no value in the eyes of God.

It is important to realize that we must dedicate ourselves to God with all our being, with a firm and determined heart. This not only protects us from curses, but also brings us closer to God and strengthens us in our faith.

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> “Abba, Father,” he said, “everything is possible for you. Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will.”
> *— Mark 14:36*

Book: New Testament / Mark
Topics: obedience, Almighty, Easter, Father, Jesus, sacrifice

Interpretation:
Mark 14:36 ??presents us with *Jesus’* prayer in Gethsemane moments before His arrest and subsequent crucifixion. At this point, Jesus is upset and overwhelmed by what is about to happen, so He prays with all His heart to God, asking for His will to be done.

Who is Abba, Father?

In this verse, Jesus addresses God as *“Abba, Father,”* which is Aramaic for *“Papa, Father.”* This language is used to refer to God in a more personal way, reflecting *Jesus’* deep love and emotional connection with *His Father*.

What does “everything is possible for you” mean?

In this verse, Jesus acknowledges God’s omnipotence and His ability to do whatever He wants. However, He also accepts and submits to God’s will. This is an example of how we should always trust God, even when we are faced with difficult situations.

“Take this cup from me”

The *“cup”* mentioned in this verse refers to the bitter experiences that Jesus would have to endure: His arrest, trial, and crucifixion. Jesus did not want to go through these things, but at the same time He knew that they were necessary for the fulfillment *of God’s plan of salvation*. This is an example of how sometimes we have to face painful situations as part of a larger plan that we may not always fully understand.

“Yet not what I will, but what you will”

In this verse, Jesus demonstrates His humility and submission to the will of God. He knew that God had a larger and more important plan than His own wants and needs. This is a call for us to learn to submit and trust in God’s will, even when we do not understand why we must go through certain situations.

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> He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.”
> *— Mark 16:15*

Book: New Testament / Mark
Topics: obedience, Evangelism, Jesus, world

Interpretation:
Mark 16:15 states that every believer *in Christ* has a responsibility to preach the gospel to others throughout the world. The mission of spreading the message of love and salvation must be fully accomplished; there will be no more excuses for ignoring this vital task.

This verse is found in the last chapters of Mark’s Gospel, in a section known as *“The Great Commission.”* Here *Jesus* addresses the disciples after His resurrection and commissions them to take the good news of the gospel to all the world. This commission was given not only to the disciples, but to all Christians in the world.

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> You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.
>
> — *Matthew 5:13*

Book: New Testament / Matthew
Topics: obedience, addiction, Evangelism, sin

Interpretation:
Matthew 5:13 is a well-known Bible verse in which Jesus compares his disciples (all Christians) to salt. You may have wondered what this comparison means and how we can apply it to our daily lives.

Salt as a Seasoning

Salt has been used as a seasoning for centuries. A pinch of salt can completely change the taste of a dish. In the same way, we as Christians have the opportunity to impact the world and change our society for the better.

It’s not about doing big things to make a big difference, but about small actions that can impact those around us. We can be kind and compassionate, respectful and fair, treating everyone with dignity and love.

Salt as a Preservative

In addition to being a seasoning, salt is also known for its ability to preserve food and prevent it from spoiling. Likewise, as Christians, we have a responsibility to preserve the values ??and principles we have been taught (from corruption, from the decay of society).

This means fighting corruption and injustice, standing up for the disadvantaged, and fighting for justice and equality in our society. We must strive to share Christian truth and values ??with those around us to create a more just and equal world.

Salt Losing Its Smell

The verse also talks about salt losing its flavor and being useless if this happens. Likewise, if we as Christians lose our faith and commitment to God and his teachings, we will be useless to society and to the Kingdom of God.

Furthermore, if we as Christians display a bad attitude, we can alienate people from God and His love. We must maintain faith and be concerned about our actions and attitudes so that we can be a light in

our surroundings.

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> Therefore anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.
> — *Matthew 5:19*

Book: New Testament / Matthew
Topics: obedience, heaven, Kingdom, law, learning

Interpretation:
Matthew 5:19 contains a valuable lesson for each of us. This verse concludes *Jesus'* remarks on the relationship between the Law and His teaching. In other words, Jesus establishes that love must be the foundation of our lives and that we must keep God's commandments and teach them to others in order to be truly good in God's eyes.

What does it mean to be "the least in the kingdom of heaven"?

In this passage, Jesus defends the lesser and less significant commandments with the same zeal as the great ones. He says that no one should break any commandment, no matter how small, and that we should teach others to live by them. Jesus is not saying that the lesser commandments are less important, but that all of God's commandments must be kept equally.

Why is it important to keep God's commandments?

God's commandments are the way to our salvation. God loves us and wants the best for us, and He always gives us commandments to guide us on the right path in life. If we keep God's commandments, we will have a fuller and happier life. Furthermore, Jesus teaches us that we should teach others God's commandments, which means that by doing this, we will also help others have a fuller and happier life.

What does it mean to be "called great in the kingdom of heaven"?

Jesus tells us that if we keep God's commandments and teach them to others, we will be considered "great in the kingdom of heaven." This means that by obeying God and sharing His teachings with others, we will be rewarded in the kingdom of heaven. We must work to be an example of love and obedience to God to those around us.

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Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> 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 who is in heaven.
> — *Matthew 7:21*

Book: New Testament / Matthew
Topics: obedience, Father, heaven, Kingdom, Salvation

Interpretation:
Matthew 7:21 is an incredibly important verse for Christians to understand in order to enter *the Kingdom of Heaven*. In this verse, *Jesus* tells His disciples that not everyone who calls Him "Lord, Lord" will enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Only those who do the will *of the Father in Heaven* can enter.

What does it mean to "do the will of My Father"?

Matthew 7:21 is a simple verse, but it is often misunderstood. Many people think that they can earn God's favor by doing good deeds or following certain religious rules and rituals. However, that is not what Jesus is saying here.

"Doing the will of My Father" ultimately means being in a loving and obedient relationship with God. In other words, when we love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, everything we do is actually doing His will. Jesus confirmed this elsewhere when He was asked which commandment was the most important:

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these" (Mark 12:30-31).

How can we apply this verse to our lives?

Instead of focusing on actions that will earn our favor with God, we should focus on our relationship with Him. We should strive to love Him with all our being and submit to His will. And we should do this not only in religious matters, but in every aspect of our lives.

Moreover, this verse reminds us of the importance of the authenticity of our faith. It is not enough to just call ourselves Christians or say *"Lord, Lord"* if we do not do the will of God in our daily lives. We must be genuine in our faith, living it, and that is really important.

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> You will have these tassels to look at and so you will remember all the commands of the Lord, that you may obey them and not prostitute yourselves by chasing after the lusts of your own hearts and eyes.
> *— Numbers 15:39*

Book: Old Testament / Numbers
Topics: obedience, desires, law, sexuality

Interpretation:
In this verse, God commands the Israelites to wear fringes hanging from the hem of their garments as a constant reminder of their commitment to God’s commands. In this way, every time they looked at one another, they would remember their duty and responsibility to obey God rather than follow their natural instincts, which could lead them to commit ungodly acts.

This verse also invites us Christians to reflect on our relationship with God and how we can strengthen it. Each of us has a responsibility to follow God’s commands and remember His love and presence in our lives. In the same way, we should practice this always and everywhere, to avoid the temptation to fall into sin or to follow our natural instincts instead of obeying God.

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> And every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.
>
> *— Philippians 2:11*

Book: New Testament / Philippians
Topics: obedience, acknowledging, God

Interpretation:
Philippians was written in 60 AD by *the Apostle Paul* while he was in prison in Rome. In his letter, he encourages Christians to remain steadfast in their faith and to remain united in love and spirit in the midst of hardships and adversity.

Philippians 2:11 is in the context of a passage about the humility *of Christ* and how He humbled Himself to death on the cross and then God exalted Him and gave Him the name that is above every name.

Meaning of the Verse

Philippians 2:11 lays out the central doctrine of Christianity. In this verse, Paul confesses *Jesus Christ as Lord*, which means that He is the ruler of all and has absolute authority over everything in heaven and on earth.

Paul uses the word *"Lord"* in reference to *Jesus* because it is a translation of the Greek term "kyrios," which means *"owner"* or *"master."* By proclaiming Jesus Christ as Lord, Paul emphasizes the deity of Christ and His supremacy over all creation, including humans.

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> Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross!

> — *Philippians 2:6-8*

Book: New Testament / Philippians
Topics: obedience, Crucifixion, Jesus, Savior

Interpretation:
In Philippians 2, *Paul* encourages the Philippians to be humble and to consider others better than themselves. He uses the example *of Christ*, who, although He was God, humbled Himself and became obedient to the will *of the Father* even to the point of dying on the cross.

Being in very nature God

Philippians 2:6 speaks of the humility of Jesus Christ and His willingness to give up His divine status for the sake of humanity. The verse begins, *"Being in very nature God…,"* which means that *Jesus* existed before His incarnation as one of the persons *of the Trinity*, that is, as God Himself. However, despite His divine status, Jesus chose not to view equality with God as something to which He should adhere.

Rather, he made Himself

In *Philippians 2:7*, the phrase *"Rather, he made Himself"* may refer to the fact that Jesus had eternal glory as *the Son of God*, but gave it up out of love for humanity. He gave up His divine nature to take on the form of a human servant. This act not only demonstrates His love for all humanity, but also shows that we must be willing to sacrifice our own comfort and convenience for the sake of others.

Jesus took the form of a servant

When Jesus became like men, He took on human form and assumed the role of a servant. This meant that He not only gave of Himself to the needs of men as a servant would, but He also did His utmost to serve others in love by healing the sick, feeding the hungry, and teaching the truth.

Humbled Himself

In *Philippians 2:8*, Paul emphasizes the humiliation of Christ when He became a man and His obedience to the point of death. It is important to note that humiliation was not something forced upon Christ, but rather a conscious choice He made. Christ chose to give up His heavenly glory to come to earth as a man and experience pain, suffering, and human limitations. He knew that His obedience to the Father's plan would mean His death on the cross, but He chose to submit to God's will anyway.

Conformity in our lives

Christ's example in *Philippians 2:6-8* has important implications for our daily lives. It shows us that humility and obedience are fundamental in our relationships with God and with others. Humility allows us to realize that we are not superior to anyone, that we need the help of others, and that we must consider the needs and desires of others. Obedience, on the other hand, means that we are willing to give up our ambitions and desires in order to follow God's will.

We can apply these principles in our relationships with others, especially during times of conflict or disagreement. It is important that we treat others with respect and consideration, and that we are willing to compromise and make allowances for the sake of healthy relationships. Moreover, Christ's example also shows us the importance of perseverance in difficult times. Death on the cross was the most difficult and painful moment for Christ, but He went on because He knew that He was following God's will.

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> Whoever heeds discipline shows the way to life, but whoever ignores correction leads others astray.
>
> *— Proverbs 10:17*

Book: Old Testament / Proverbs
Topics: obedience, life, listening

Interpretation:
Wisdom is one of the fundamental themes of the Bible, and it is closely related to the instruction we receive from those more experienced. In the book of Proverbs, we find many verses that encourage us to follow instruction, and verse 10:17 is one of them. Instruction is knowledge we receive from others that teaches us how to deal with specific situations and make better decisions in our lives.

What does it mean to keep instruction?

Instruction is like a path that guides us through life, pointing us in the right direction and helping us avoid mistakes that can harm us. Following instruction means receiving and applying the knowledge we receive from others, and not only that, but also listening to and accepting correction from those who care about our well-being.

Rejecting correction leads to error

Anyone who rejects correction and suppresses their pride and desire to always be right is making a mistake. We must not forget that we are human and are all prone to make mistakes. Accepting correction and learning from it helps us grow as individuals and become better every day.

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> For he guards the course of the just and protects the way of his faithful ones.
> — *Proverbs 2:8*

Book: Old Testament / Proverbs
Topics: obedience, faithfulness, protection, righteousness

Interpretation:
The Bible verse *Proverbs 2:8* talks about God “guarding the paths of righteousness.” The paths that the saints follow are in accordance with God’s will and commandments, and are therefore considered “holy.”

God guards these paths, meaning that no one can stray from them without consequences. This is God’s role: to ensure that His children, those who believe and love Him, follow the right path and are protected from any sin.

The path of the saints preserved

Through *Proverbs 2:8*, God lets us know that He is the guardian and protector of the path of the saints. As believers, we should be grateful and honored for this gift from God, as He provides a life of satisfaction and protection.

In life, we often face obstacles and difficulties that cause us to stray from the path and distance ourselves from God, but we must remember that He will always be there to guide and protect us. Prayer and Bible reading will help us strengthen our relationship with God and gain confidence in His unfailing protection.

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> If anyone turns a deaf ear to my instruction, even their prayers are detestable.
> — *Proverbs 28:9*

Book: Old Testament / Proverbs
Topics: obedience, law, listening, Prayer

Interpretation:
The Book of Proverbs, part of the Old Testament, is a collection of wisdom sayings and teachings attributed primarily to *King Solomon*, who is considered the primary author of the Proverbs. *Proverbs 28:9* speaks of the importance of keeping God's law and how deviating from it can affect our relationship with God.

Historical context

Proverbs 28:9 does not refer to any specific historical context, but rather reflects the eternal truth that God treats His children based on their obedience to His Word. Throughout the Bible, God's message to His people is clear: *"If you love me, keep my commands" (John 14:15)*.

Meaning of the verse

Proverbs 28:9 says that even prayer is an abomination from those who turn their ears away from hearing the law of God. In other words, anyone who refuses to listen to and obey *God's Word* cannot expect a good relationship with God. The prayer of someone who ignores God's law is ineffective and unacceptable to God.

This verse shows us the importance of listening to God's Word and keeping His commandments. We cannot simply pray and ask God to help us in our needs if we are not prepared to follow His teachings.

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> Listen, my son, accept what I say, and the years of your life will be many.
> — *Proverbs 4:10*

Book: Old Testament / Proverbs
Topics: obedience, blessing, law, life, Word of God

Interpretation:
Proverbs 4 calls for wisdom and discernment. In verse 10, the wise father encourages his son to listen to him and take his advice so that he can live a long and fulfilling life. This verse points to the importance of wisdom and lifelong learning.

The phrase *“Listen, my son”* is a call for all of us to be attentive and open to the guidance of the wise. In this case, the wise father is a mentor figure, someone with life experience and knowledge who can be a guide for his son. It can be difficult to listen to the advice of others, especially if we think we already know it all. But as humans, we never stop learning, and there is always room for personal growth and improvement.

The wise father continues, *“accept what I say,”* implying that there is logic to his advice. He is not simply handing out meaningless rules, but is laying out a series of ideas that can help his son navigate life successfully. The wise father's arguments are based on his experience and accumulated knowledge and serve as valuable guidance for those who want to learn from others.

The end of the verse is especially important: *"and the years of your life will be many."* Wisdom not only helps us make good decisions in the present, but it can also have a positive impact on our future. Knowledge and wisdom help us avoid problems and make healthy choices that will extend our lives and make us happier.

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> My son, pay attention to what I say; turn your ear to my words. Do not let them out of your sight, keep them within your heart.
> *— Proverbs 4:20-21*

Book: Old Testament / Proverbs
Topics: obedience, heart, listening, Word of God

Interpretation:
Proverbs 4:20-21 calls us to keep God’s teachings in mind. Wisdom and truth must remain at the center of our lives, and we must strive to keep them deep in our hearts so that they are always present.

It is easy to be influenced by our sinful nature and the worries of our daily lives, which can lead us away from the way of the Lord. However, *God's Word* calls us to remain firm and constant in our faith and not allow anything to separate us from God's love.

It is important to note that this verse calls us to keep God's teachings deep in our hearts. This does not mean simply memorizing them, but also meditating on them and applying them to our daily lives. We must consciously strive to integrate God's teachings into our lives and follow His commands.

Discipline is the key to keeping our minds focused on the things of God. We must be careful in our decisions and habits. The time we devote to Bible reading and prayer should be sacred and a priority so that we can be sure that our minds and hearts are focused on God.

In a world full of distractions, this verse calls us to renew our attention to God's commands and teachings, remembering what is truly important. As we listen to the Bible's wise words and apply them to our lives, we can find our way to peace and happiness, as well as greater balance in our emotions and thoughts.

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> Get wisdom, get understanding; do not forget my words or turn away from them.
>
> — *Proverbs 4:5*

Book: Old Testament / Proverbs
Topics: obedience, understanding, wisdom, Word of God

Interpretation:
Every day in life, we are faced with different situations and decisions that we have to make. It is important to be prepared to make the best decisions at any given moment, and to do this, we need wisdom and intelligence. The Bible tells us about the importance of acquiring these two qualities and how to achieve them. One of the verses that teaches us this is *Proverbs 4:5*.

What does it mean to acquire wisdom?

Wisdom is defined as the ability to make informed decisions based on a deep understanding of the situations we find ourselves in. A wise person has the ability to see things from different perspectives

and make informed judgments. Thus, acquiring wisdom means striving for a deep understanding of things and situations in order to make informed decisions.

What does it mean to acquire intelligence?

Intelligence means the ability to learn new skills and concepts. An intelligent person is able to learn quickly and easily. Thus, developing intelligence means being willing to learn new things, not being afraid to make mistakes, and always being open to new knowledge.

Why is it important to acquire wisdom and intelligence?

Gaining wisdom and intelligence is important because it allows us to make informed decisions. Wisdom helps us see things more clearly and objectively, allowing us to make the right decisions in various life situations. Intelligence, on the other hand, allows us to learn new skills and concepts, which contributes to our personal and professional development.

How do we gain wisdom and intelligence?

The Bible teaches us that we can gain wisdom and intelligence *through God and His Word*. God is the source of all wisdom and all true knowledge. Reading the Bible and praying allows us to gain divine wisdom, which is superior to human wisdom. Moreover, we can gain wisdom and intelligence through formal education and life experience.

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> My son, keep your father’s command and do not forsake your mother’s teaching.
>
> *— Proverbs 6:20*

Book: Old Testament / Proverbs
Topics: obedience, family, listening

Interpretation:
The Bible verse *Proverbs 6:20* reminds us of the importance of obeying and following our parents’ commands and incorporating their teachings into our lives. This ancient wisdom commandment is a reminder to all children of the fundamental value of the parental relationship.

The Bible, in both the Old and New Testaments, mentions the relationship between parents and children many times. It mentions the importance of honoring our parents, submitting to their authority, and following their teachings. It is a sacred and vital relationship for the family structure and society as a whole.

Parents are the ones who provide us with direction and structure in life from the very beginning. They guide us on our path in life, teach us important values, and show us love. The values ??and principles we acquire in our relationship with our parents are not only personally meaningful, but can also affect our relationships and success in the future.

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> I will hasten and not delay to obey your commands.
> *— Psalm 119:60*

Book: Old Testament / Psalms
Topics: obedience, following, law

Interpretation:
In the Book of Psalms, the psalmist expresses his love and devotion to God and His commandments. In verse 60 of Psalm 119, the psalmist speaks of the importance of diligently keeping God's commandments.

A call to action

The psalmist calls us not to waste time in fulfilling God's commandments. We are often lax in our obedience and postpone action until a more convenient time. However, the psalmist calls us to act diligently and with due haste.

Reflections on haste

Modern life has so accustomed us to a fast pace that we can run all day without time to reflect. In the context of this verse, the psalmist speaks of sanctified haste, haste to obey God. We must remember that our time and resources are precious in God's eyes, and our obedience is evidence of our love and devotion to Him.

The importance of obedience

Psalm 119, known as *the Psalm of the Law*, is dedicated to the importance *of God's Word*. God's commandments are how He guides and protects us, and if we keep them in our hearts and lives, we will be on the path to eternal bliss. By keeping God's commandments, we also protect ourselves and those around us from sinful habits.

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> Blessed are all who fear the Lord, who walk in obedience to him.
> *— Psalm 128:1*

Book: Old Testament / Psalms
Topics: obedience, awe, following

Interpretation:
The fear of the Lord is a feeling of deep respect and adoration for God. This is not a literal fear, but rather a recognition of the greatness *of our Lord and Savior* and a life lived according to His teachings, as described in *Psalm 128:1*.

This verse shows us the importance of fearing and respecting God in our daily lives. The fear of the Lord helps us live in accordance with His commandments and receive the blessings He promises to those who follow His way.

How can we apply the fear of the Lord in our lives?

It's important to remember that the fear of God is not simply a passive attitude, but an active one, which involves acting and living in accordance with *His teachings and His Word*. Here are some ways we can apply the fear of the Lord in our lives:

- To study the Bible and develop a close relationship with God through prayer.
- To live honestly and fairly, respecting the rights and dignity of others.
- Be compassionate and merciful, following the example *of Jesus*.
- To give up habits and behaviors that lead us away from God's path and bring us closer to sin.
- Maintain a humble and responsive attitude towards others.

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translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> Teach me to do your will, for you are my God; may your good Spirit lead me on level ground.
> — *Psalm 143:10*

Book: Old Testament / Psalms
Topics: obedience, Holy Spirit, learning, Spirit

Interpretation:
The Bible verse from *Psalm 143:10* is a call to seek the will of God and follow the leading of *His Holy Spirit*.

What does “the will of God” mean?

In its simplest form, *“the will of God”* refers to God’s plans and purposes for our lives and the world as a whole. Even *Jesus* taught his disciples to pray for the will of God, saying, *“your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven” (Matthew 6:10)*.

In other words, we ask that God’s work be accomplished here on earth as it is in heaven, and that we conform to His perfect will.

Why should we seek the will of God?

Seeking God’s will is important because it allows us to know and follow the path God has laid out for us. God created each of us with a purpose and mission, and when we follow that purpose, we experience true joy and satisfaction in life. Moreover, by following God's will, we can help others and make the world a better place.

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> The Lord makes firm the steps of the one who delights in him.
> — *Psalm 37:23*

Book: Old Testament / Psalms

Topics: obedience, following, serving, trust

Interpretation:
Psalm 37 is one of the most famous and frequently quoted psalms in the Bible. Known as a psalm of the righteous, it contains many exhortations relevant to our daily lives.

Divine guidance and the importance of the steps prescribed by the Lord

Psalm 37:23 reminds us that our lives are not random. Rather, our steps are predetermined by God, and He approves of our path. In other words, we are not mere spectators of our lives; rather, the Almighty gives us the direction we need to fulfill our purpose in this world.

It's important to emphasize here that divine guidance does not mean that God forces us to make specific decisions in our lives. Rather, divine guidance is like a beacon that illuminates our path and shows us the right way. We must be wise and make the right decisions based on the direction and purpose God reveals to us.

How divine guidance can help us in our lives

Divine guidance can be especially valuable when we are faced with difficult decisions. When we don't know which path to take, God's guidance can be a beacon that helps us stay on track. Moreover, divine guidance can also help us avoid actions or decisions that could have negative consequences for our future.

Another important aspect is that divine guidance helps us strengthen our faith and trust in God. When we learn to trust divine guidance, we demonstrate our faith in God and our belief that He has a plan for our lives.

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> I desire to do your will, my God; your law is within my heart.
> *— Psalm 40:8*

Book: Old Testament / Psalms
Topics: obedience, heart, law

Interpretation:

Psalm 40:8 is a Bible verse that speaks of God's will and the importance of doing it. But what exactly does it mean to "do God's will"? God's will refers to His plans and purposes for our lives as believers. It's important to remember that God created us for a purpose, and that each of us plays a role in His plan for the world.

In this verse, *David* tells us that doing God's will pleased him, meaning that obedience to God's plans and purposes is a source of great satisfaction and spiritual joy.

How can we do God's will?

God's Word is the best starting point for learning His will. By reading and studying the Bible, we can learn about the nature and character of God, His plan for the redemption of humanity, and how He wants us to live.

Jesus also left us an example to follow. He carried out God's will throughout His life and ministry on earth, even dying on the cross for our sins. By following His example, we can learn more about how to fulfill God's will in our lives.

Finally, it is important to maintain a personal and intimate relationship with God. Through prayer and communication with Him, we can seek His guidance and direction in our lives and be confident that we are following His plans and purposes for us.

God's law in our hearts

The second aspect of this verse is: *"your law is within my heart."* This means that God's law—His commandments and teachings—is at the center of our lives, and our relationship with God should be more important than everything else.

How can we have God's law in our hearts?

Just as it is important to do God's will, reading and studying the Bible are key to having God's law live in our hearts. By meditating on God's Word, we can memorize and apply His teachings in our daily lives.

It is also important to be guided *by the Holy Spirit*, who helps us understand God's Word and leads us in the right direction. By having a close relationship with God and seeking His guidance in our daily lives, we can be confident that His law always abides in our hearts.

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> God sets the lonely in families, he leads out the prisoners with singing; but the rebellious live in a sun-scorched land.
>
> — *Psalm 68:6*

Book: Old Testament / Psalms
Topics: obedience, freedom, friendship, punishment

Interpretation:
Psalm 68:6 is a biblical verse from the Book of Psalms. This passage is a beautiful testimony of God's love and care for those who have been abandoned. The psalmist teaches us that God desires all people to have a home to live in, a family to share with, and prosperity. However, he also reminds us that those who rebel against God will not receive these blessings.

The meaning of homelessness

To fully understand the meaning of this verse, we must understand the word "abandoned." This word refers to someone who has been abandoned, ignored, or left alone in a difficult time. This can manifest itself in many ways in our daily lives: whether it's job loss, family conflict, or a debilitating illness.

In all of these situations, it's easy to feel abandoned and unsure who can help us. It's in these moments that we must remember that God is always there for us and His love is unconditional.

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> Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me.
>
> — *Revelation 3:20*

Book: New Testament / Revelation
Topics: obedience, food, listening, promises

Interpretation:

Revelation 3:20 is a verse that is familiar to most Christians. This verse describes the call *of Jesus Christ* into the lives of those who listen to Him and respond to Him. The imagery described here is of a closed door that can only be opened from the inside. *Christ* cannot enter our lives until we open the door to invite Him in.

A closed door and an opening from the Inside

A closed door is a metaphor used in the Bible to describe the separation between God and humanity. The Bible teaches us that humanity has been separated from God since the beginning of time when *Adam and Eve* sinned. Since then, people have been separated from God and can only return to Him through faith and opening the door in their hearts.

Jesus Christ is the One who knocks at the door. He calls humanity to open their hearts and allow Him to share a meal with Him. It is important to note that this is a personal invitation. Each person must individually respond to this invitation.

The meaning of the dinner

The dinner that Jesus Christ describes in this verse is an act of fellowship and friendship. Jesus Christ's invitation to share a meal with Him is an expression of His deep love and desire to have a personal relationship with each of us.

In the culture of Jesus Christ's time, sharing a meal was considered a sign of friendship and fellowship. *Jesus Christ's Supper* points to the close relationship between Him and us. It is an important aspect of the Christian faith, based on a personal relationship with God.

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> Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.
>
> *— Romans 12:1*

Book: New Testament / Romans
Topics: obedience, Holiness, mercy

Interpretation:

Romans 12:1 calls us to present our bodies as a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God. It is important to understand that the sacrifice mentioned here does not refer to the offering of an animal in the Temple, but rather to the offering of our own lives. *Paul* calls us to dedicate our whole selves to God—our minds, our thoughts, our emotions, our desires, and our physical bodies.

Presenting our bodies as living sacrifices

The idea of ??presenting ourselves as a living sacrifice may seem radical and impractical, but this idea is found throughout *the New Testament*. These verses are a call to live in obedience to God as an act of worship. That is, our entire being is to be dedicated to serving God, not just at certain times of the day or week.

It is also important to note that this living sacrifice does not involve denying ourselves or denying our needs. Rather, it is about giving our whole selves to God, trusting that He will direct our lives and provide for us along the way.

True worship

When Paul speaks of *“true worship,”* he means something deeper than simply worshiping God in a temple. This worship is about our personal devotion to God, experienced daily. Here Paul suggests that the true act of worship is to give our whole being to God, which means total devotion and living by His principles and values.

It is important to note that when we give ourselves completely to God, we lose nothing, but rather gain everything in Him. When we give ourselves to God, our lives begin to have a greater purpose, our desire for worldly things diminishes, and we begin to experience a peace and joy that transcends the problems we may face.

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Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.
> *— Romans 12:11*

Book: New Testament / Romans
Topics: obedience, serving, Spirit

Interpretation:

In *Romans 12:11, the Apostle Paul* encourages Christians not to be lazy, but to be diligent in everything that requires effort and dedication. He also encourages them to be zealous in spirit in serving the Lord.

Diligence as a christian virtue

The term that the Apostle Paul uses here for diligence is *spoud?*, which means *“zeal,” “enthusiasm,” “effort.”* The basic idea behind this term is to do something with determination and passion, without giving up in the face of difficulties.

Elsewhere in Scripture, we find the same call to diligence. For example, *Proverbs 13:4* says that *“A sluggard’s appetite is never filled, but the desires of the diligent are fully satisfied.”* Diligence, then, is a virtue that is valued in the Bible because it is a sign of responsibility and dedication to what God has entrusted to us.

Fervor in the Spirit

The second exhortation Paul gives in this verse is to be fervent in spirit in serving the Lord. The word used here for fervent is ze?, which means ardor, excitement, or passion for something. In the context of the Christian life, the idea is to be enthusiastic and devoted to the work of God, driven by love *for Christ and His Church*.

In *Revelation 3:15-16, the Lord Jesus* rebukes the church in Laodicea for their spiritual lukewarmness, saying that He would rather have them be cold or hot than lukewarm. That is, a lack of zeal in the faith is something that displeases the Lord and is detrimental to our spiritual life.

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> Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.
> *— Romans 12:2*

Book: New Testament / Romans
Topics: obedience, Blameless, life, self-control, transformation, world

Interpretation:

In *Romans 12:2, Paul* tells Christians not to follow the rules and customs of the world. Instead, they are to renew their minds and focus on the will of God. Paul not only tells them what to do, he shows them how to do it: *by renewing their minds*.

Renewing your understanding

Renewing your understanding is an ongoing process in the Christian life. The Bible tells us that we are to be transformed by the renewing of our minds *(Ephesians 4:23)* and that we are to bring every thought into captivity to the obedience of *Christ (2 Corinthians 10:5)*.

In other words, we are to change our thinking and our views so that we are more in line with God's will. This is not an easy process, since often our thoughts and views are contrary to God's thoughts and views. However, if we are willing to do this, God will help us.

The Bible tells us that God's Word is living and active, able to penetrate the depths of our being and discern our thoughts and attitudes *(Hebrews 4:12)*. With the help of *the Holy Spirit and God's Word*, we can renew our minds and draw closer to God's will.

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> Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God.
> — *Romans 13:1*

Book: New Testament / Romans
Topics: obedience, God, trust

Interpretation:
Romans 13:1 teaches us a fundamental lesson about the role that higher authorities play in our society. *The Apostle Paul* lets us know that all authority on earth comes from God and is established by Him.

As believers, we must understand that we cannot simply ignore or disobey authorities because they are fulfilling a role that God has established.

What does it mean to submit to authorities?

Submitting to authorities can be very difficult for some. This is because we, as humans, often prefer to do things our own way, and it is easy to think that our ideas or methods are better than others.

However, according to *Romans 13:1*, submitting to authorities means respecting their decisions and abiding by their laws. Submission means recognizing that authorities may have knowledge and perspectives that we do not. While we may not always agree with the decisions of authorities, it is important to remember that disobeying legitimate laws and regulations can lead to serious consequences.

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> One person considers one day more sacred than another; another considers every day alike. Each of them should be fully convinced in their own mind.
> — *Romans 14:5*

Book: New Testament / Romans
Topics: obedience, neighbor, sabbath, wisdom

Interpretation:
Romans 14:5 presents us with an important distinction between different interpretations of the importance of days. From a Christian perspective, some believe that certain days should be more sacred than others, while others believe that all days are equal.

This discrepancy has led to disagreements and conflicts between people, but *Paul* suggests in this verse that everyone should be completely sure of what they think.

What does this mean for us?

When we are faced with differences in interpretation of faith, it is important to remember that everyone is entitled to their own opinion. Often these differences arise because of the context around us and how we interpret *the scriptures*. Instead of insisting that we are “right” and others are “wrong,” we should respect the differences in faith and understand that they can enrich our view of the world.

Moreover, *the Bible* teaches us that it is important to trust our own beliefs. We should not allow others to make us feel bad about God just because they do not share our opinions. Instead, we should seek a closer relationship with God and be confident in our own understanding of Scripture.

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> So that I may come to you with joy, by God's will, and in your company be refreshed.
>
> *— Romans 15:32*

Book: New Testament / Romans
Topics: obedience, dependence, joy

Interpretation:
The book *of Romans* was written *by Paul* at the end of his third missionary journey in 57 CE. The letter was addressed to the church in Rome, a Christian community that included both Jews and Gentiles. Paul's main goal was to establish Christian doctrine in Rome and to establish the church in its faith.

In *Romans 15*, Paul speaks of the importance of loving one's neighbor and how this is the responsibility of all Christians, both Jews and Gentiles. In *verse 30*, Paul asks the church members to pray for him that he would be delivered from the unbelievers in Judea and that his ministry in Jerusalem would be accepted by the saints.

Meaning of the verse

In *verse 32*, Paul asks another question of the church in Rome. He asks the Romans to pray that he might come to them with joy and rest among them, God willing. This verse shows that Paul was determined to visit the church in Rome and that his goal was to visit them and share his faith with them.

Furthermore, the use of the phrase *"by God's will"* in this verse is significant because it teaches that the joy and peace we can have in God is not based on our circumstances, but on our faith that God's will is perfect. This verse also shows us that we must seek God's will and that when we follow His will, He blesses us with joy and peace.

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> For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.
> — *Romans 5:19*

Book: New Testament / Romans
Topics: obedience, righteousness, Salvation

Interpretation:
In *Romans 5:19, the apostle Paul* tells us that because of **Adam's** disobedience, many became sinners. However, because of **Jesus'** obedience, many can become righteous.

This verse is a reminder of the importance of our choices and actions. Like Adam, our decisions can have serious consequences not only for ourselves but also for those around us. But unlike Adam, **because of Christ, we have a second chance to do what is right**.

We often wonder if we can be just despite our previous actions and decisions. The answer is yes. While it is true that our actions can have long-term consequences, the act of following Christ and accepting His sacrifice can lead us to justice.

On the other hand, some may wonder why we need Jesus to be righteous. The answer is that **God's justice is perfect**, but our own actions are not. Therefore, we need the divine righteousness of Christ to achieve the perfection necessary to **stand in the presence of God**.

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> For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.
> — *Romans 8:14*

Book: New Testament / Romans
Topics: obedience, children, Spirit

Interpretation:
Romans 8:14 is one of the most important parts of *the New Testament* in the Christian Bible. This verse is full of meaning and has many important implications for believers around the world.

First, it is important to understand the context in which this particular verse is found. Romans was written by *the apostle Paul* and is considered one of his most important works. The letter was addressed to the church in Rome, which consisted of both Jews and Gentiles, and it focuses on Christian doctrine and its relationship to Jewish law.

This verse is found in *chapter 8*, which deals with life in the Spirit. At the beginning of the chapter, Paul compares life in the Spirit to life in the flesh, emphasizing the importance of living a life filled with *the Spirit of God*. *Verse 14* continues this theme and declares *that as many as are led by the Spirit of God are children of God*.

The meaning of this verse is profound and has implications for all Christians. As Christians, we believe *that God is our heavenly Father and that we are His children*. In this verse, Paul states that those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. This means that all who follow God's will and live by His Spirit are considered children of God.

This may seem like a meaningless distinction to some, but it has important implications for our lives. As children of God, we have access to His love, His grace, and His power. We can seek His help and guidance in all the important decisions we make in our lives. We can also count on His protection and care, knowing that we are part of His family.

However, it is also important to note that this verse does not mean that all people are automatically children of God simply because they exist. It is through the Spirit of God that we come to Him and are accepted as His children. The relationship of children of God is based on faith in God and His plan of salvation, not on our own actions or merits.

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> Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set

> on what the Spirit desires.
> — *Romans 8:5*

Book: New Testament / Romans
Topics: obedience, body, dependence, life, Spirit, thoughts

Interpretation:
Romans 8:5 focuses on the idea of ??the duality of the *flesh and the Spirit*. According to this verse, those with a flesh-centered mind think about worldly and temporary things, while those with a Spirit-centered mind think about spiritual and eternal things.

This duality is a central idea in the Bible and challenges us to consider how we live our lives and what we focus our minds on.

Flesh-centered mind

Having a flesh-centered mind means clinging to the desires and passions of the world. The flesh represents the temporary, material, and worldly. This type of mentality focuses on satisfying personal desires and amassing wealth and material possessions. Simply put, the fleshly mind is primarily concerned with itself and its needs.

Spirit-centered mind

On the other hand, having a mind centered on the Spirit means striving for spiritual and eternal life. The Spirit represents the eternal, divine, and transcendent.

This type of thinking is focused on striving for holiness, justice, and fellowship with God. The mind centered on the Spirit is primarily concerned with the will of God and the welfare of others.

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> ‘Return to me,’ declares the Lord Almighty, ‘and I will return to you,’ says the Lord Almighty.
> — *Zechariah 1:3*

Book: Old Testament / Zechariah

Topics: obedience, conversion, reliability, repentance

Interpretation:
The Book of Zechariah is a prophetic book in the Old Testament of the Bible. It was written by the prophet *Zechariah* after the Babylonian captivity, when the people of Israel returned to their homeland and began to rebuild their city and temple. In this context, Zechariah's message was a call for spiritual renewal and the restoration of true worship of God.

In *Zechariah 1:3*, God addresses the people of Israel and calls them to repentance and humility, to return to Him.

How can we apply this in our lives?

This call to return to God is relevant not only to the people of Israel in biblical times but to all humanity throughout history. Each of us needs to return to God at some point in our lives, whether because we have drifted away from Him or because we never knew Him.

The call to return to God implies a change in the direction of our lives. This means turning away from sin and wrongdoing and turning to God with all our being. This change of direction is not something we can accomplish on our own, but requires the work *of the Holy Spirit* within us.

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