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Chapter 1 : Read the Bible. A free Bible on your phone, tablet, and computer. | The Bible App | [blog.quintoblog.com](#)

Bible verses related to Spiritual Life from the King James Version (KJV) by Relevance - Sort By Book Order 1 John - Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?

Subscribe to the CompellingTruth. Spiritual warfare - What does the Bible say? There are two primary issues to address regarding spiritual warfare and the Bible. First, does spiritual warfare exist? Second, what does the Bible say about engaging in spiritual warfare? The Bible is very clear on the existence of spiritual warfare. Peter warns "Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour" 1 Peter 5: Our adversary or enemy, the devil, refers to Satan, who is a real entity, not a mythical creature or invention. Other titles of Satan include the tempter 1 Thessalonians 3: Satan also transforms himself into "an angel of light," a description that highlights his capacity and inclination to deceive 2 Corinthians Spiritual warfare, the idea that humans battle in some way with supernatural powers, is also the testimony of the apostle Paul in Ephesians 6: Paul further describes the warfare in which we are engaged as we battle throughout our lives "against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places" Ephesians 6: Clearly, such powers exist. The second question—what does the Bible say about engaging in spiritual warfare? The problem typically arises when we either over emphasize spiritual warfare by seeing every occurrence in life as part of it or under emphasizing it by ignoring the spiritual realm altogether. Several biblical texts inform our understanding of this issue. First, Christians must remember we are already conquerors Romans 8: Second, the power of Christ within the believer is greater than the power of Satan 1 John 4: We have no reason to live in fear of Satan or evil spirits as believers. Satan can harm, but he cannot defeat the believer in Christ. Third, we must not forget that Satan can be allowed to attack believers 2 Corinthians However, we cannot blame every temptation on Satan, since the Bible also teaches that we are tempted and enticed by our own evil desires James 1: Fifth, the method to defeat Satan is to resist him and stay near to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Sixth, Paul exhorts us to arm ourselves for the spiritual battle which is part of the Christian life by putting on the "whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil" Ephesians 6: This armor includes truth, righteousness, the gospel, faith, salvation, the Word of God, and prayer. These weapons will enable us to "be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might" Ephesians 6: Ultimately, spiritual warfare is not about a technique to defeat Satan or demons, but a heart that walks closely with God. When God is first and foremost in our lives, Satan lacks power over us, despite his attempts to weaken our efforts to pursue Christ. As a final warning, it is important that we do not take our God-given power over Satan as an opportunity to display arrogance. This stern warning should reveal our need to depend on a humble and personal walk with Christ to overcome evil rather than an external display to feed human pride. In summary, spiritual warfare is a very real part of the Christian life, but should not be an opportunity for either fear or pride. Instead, the reality of Satan and his evil forces should cause us to draw near to God all the more, realizing His power can conquer any foe we may encounter.

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Chapter 2 : Bible Stories: The Purpose Behind the Stories - Life, Hope & Truth

Life Bible Verses Share Tweet Save Bible Verses About Life - Scripture not only talks about the life of human flesh that begins with birth and ends at death, but also about Spiritual life that begins with Jesus Christ and is eternal life after death.

The word has a frightening air of finality. But then one day that word entered your thoughts in a different way. You found yourself in an unbearable situation. You felt trapped and powerless. Ultimately, "ending it all" seemed to be the only answer. There is another solution. This is your chance to discover just how valuable you are and how your life can be transformed. Where Are You Now? Everyone goes through periods in their lives when they feel down. Usually, in time, the sadness leaves and life goes on. When that happens, life can become a daily struggle with uneasiness, gloom, and emptiness. Ultimately, depression and hopelessness can take hold, creating a feeling of dissatisfaction with life in general. Depression has many causes. Often it is associated with a sense of loss that can be caused by a number of things -- illness, the death of a loved one, sudden unemployment, divorce, and so on. A chronic illness, or permanent disability, can rob you of your independence, making you feel worthless, helpless, and angry. Losing someone you care about, through death or divorce, can leave a tremendous void in your life. Guilt is another trigger for depression. A childhood trauma may have left you feeling damaged and unworthy of happiness. Whatever the cause, depression often leads to a sense of hopelessness. You may feel as though your life is out of control. You may think that ending your life is the only way to take control. You can keep going the way you have been, knowing where that may lead. Or you can give yourself a real chance for a better life. So, here it is. There is only one real source of hope for a life that possesses meaning, fulfillment, and joy. That source is Jesus Christ. Speaking about His followers, Jesus said, "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full" John Through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, you can experience overflowing love, forgiveness, peace, and joy in your life. That is a promise from God found in the Bible. He promises either to deliver you from afflictions, or give you the strength to endure them, according to His plan for you By accepting Jesus Christ as your Savior and choosing to follow Him you place Jesus on the throne of your life. Jesus described this experience as being "born again. Why not get a Bible right now and read these wonderful promises for yourself? Look up these Scripture verses: If you have never made a decision to accept Jesus Christ as your personal Savior, you can do that right now and take the first step toward a new life. Simply pray this prayer and mean it in your heart: Lord Jesus, I ask you to come into my life. I want to turn from living my life under my own control. Come now and live your life in me. Cleanse me from my sins. I receive you as my Lord and my Savior. I will live for you and serve you all the days of my life. If you prayed that prayer, please send us an e-mail to let us know. Or you can call The Club Prayer Center at We would love to talk with you and send you some literature to help you begin your walk with the Lord. Jesus said, "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 him and he with me" Revelation 3: If you just prayed and asked Him to come into your life, He did. And He promises to share intimate friendship with you. Now you need to do a few things. First, begin reading the Bible on a daily basis. Start with the Gospel of John in the New Testament. Next, try to spend time in prayer every day. Just talk to God like you would a good friend. This is critical to your development as a Christian. Learn more by reading our teaching sheet on finding a church , and find a local church in your area through the church finder tool. For more information about your new relationship with God, please feel free to call The Club at Rather, He desires your heartfelt devotion and willingness to live according to His Word, the Bible. Christians can feel depressed and have suicidal thoughts too. It can happen for all of the same reasons mentioned above. The trials of life touch everyone, including believers. Trust Him to respond in a way that will be to your best interest. That includes the possibility that He will give you strength and peace to endure your trial rather than deliver you from it. Believe that He will see you through every storm in your life. Read these Scripture verses and make them your own declarations of

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faith: Psalm 23; Psalm Ask your Heavenly Father to help you live in the power of the Holy Spirit. The Bible is full of His promises to love, strengthen, heal, and guide. Also, be prepared to acknowledge any sin that might be interfering in your relationship with your Heavenly Father. Ask God to search your heart and pinpoint any problems. Read these Scripture verses for more understanding about dealing with sin: Do Something to Help Yourself Professional help in the form of a qualified Christian counselor is one of the best ways to fight depression and thoughts of suicide. Look in the phone book and make some calls. A good counselor can help you get a new perspective on your problems. Get a medical check-up. Sometimes depression can be caused by a chemical imbalance or other biological factor. Seek out a support group starting with your church that ministers to the area of difficulty in your life. Interacting with others who are facing similar challenges in their lives will help you feel less isolated. Force yourself to do something the next time you feel down. Inactivity only makes depression worse. Here are some things to try: Call a friend and share your feelings. Exercise causes your blood and oxygen to circulate faster, which makes you feel invigorated. Your brain produces chemicals called endorphins that fight depression. Do something to help someone else. Choose your favorite songs and sing along. If you need ongoing support, we encourage you to contact the pastor of your local church. With the guidance of your pastor, you might also consider seeking professional Christian counseling. Here are some national ministries that we can recommend:

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Chapter 3 : What Does the Bible Say About Spiritual Life?

Bible verses about Spiritual Life. James ESV / 15 helpful votes Helpful Not Helpful. But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

Bible stories are helpful for teaching children, and they also have vital lessons for people of all ages. The Bible is full of stories, from Genesis clear to Revelation. Entire books of the Bible are dedicated to telling a specific story. Some of these are stories of good triumphing over evil, while others are heartrending stories that tell of death and destruction. Some stories are funny; some are poignant; and some just make you shake your head. What is the purpose behind all of these stories? Are they simply fairy tales? Did God supply the stories to break the monotony between genealogies and laws? There is a purpose for the wide variety of stories. Every Bible story has a purpose—as would be expected of a book inspired by the great and purposeful Almighty God. The apostle Paul listed some of the purposes for the Bible in 2 Timothy 3: God also recorded these stories to help parents in the vital job of teaching their children. We hope the Bible stories in this section see the links below this article will help people of all ages, and especially parents reading them to their children. Whether for our education or to encourage us, there is always a reason God placed each story in the Bible. Though some of the stories of the Bible, such as the parables, are illustrations used to teach a lesson, all the examples in this article refer to real-life, historically accurate accounts that God also recorded for our learning.

Learning from the bad examples One purpose of Bible stories is so we can learn from the bad examples 1 Corinthians The Bible has many stories that reveal to us examples of humans trying to live life without God or succumbing to one of many human weaknesses. Uzziah became king when he was only 16 years old, and he had a long reign that was full of military victories. He was one of the few kings who had a personal relationship with God and was successful. Proud because of his power and the strength that God had given him, he decided that he would offer incense up to God, something God had commanded that only the priests should do. When the priests resisted Uzziah and tried to tell him that it was not his place, he grew angry with them. While he was arguing with the priests who had dared to go against him, God cursed him with leprosy. He was forced to live by himself for the rest of his life. There are many good examples in the Bible as well. One of these is the example of Hezekiah, another king of Judah. When threatened with imminent destruction at the hands of the mighty Assyrians, Hezekiah asked God for assistance. Instead of being arrogant like Uzziah had been, Hezekiah tore his clothes and knelt before God. When he received a letter from the enemy, he laid it before God and humbly asked God for His help 2 Kings If Hezekiah had relied on his own feeble strength to pull him through, he would have almost certainly been annihilated. However, since he relied on God, his enemy was destroyed and his kingdom was safe for many more years. Another excellent example in the Bible is that of the heroine of the book of Ruth. After losing her husband and father-in-law, Ruth stayed loyal to Naomi, her grieving mother-in-law, and went with her to the land of Israel. After arriving in Israel, she worked diligently to provide for both herself and Naomi. Her loyalty and hard work were noticed by several, including a wealthy farmer named Boaz. He made sure that Ruth and Naomi were taken care of, and he eventually married Ruth. She was rewarded, and God greatly blessed her and the woman to whom she was so loyal.

Learning about God Because God is a great, infinite and invisible Being, how do we come to comprehend who He really is? How can we learn about God? How do we know who God is and what He is like? We can learn about Him through what others say in the Bible. There we see the extreme measures to which God will go in order to keep His word. He did this in order to free the enslaved Israelites due to a promise He had made to Abraham hundreds of years before. God demonstrated clearly to the descendants of Abraham—and to us—that He is completely truthful and fulfills all His promises. The Gospels also help us learn more about God. More than that, these four books record His story for us to read. For example, most people know that Jesus Christ was a man of peace, but did that mean He would just always let people disrespect God and His temple? We can find the answer in Mark During a visit to the temple in Jerusalem, Christ saw that there were

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profiteers who were making money off of the poor, God-fearing people who came to worship their Creator in the temple. We know God better and more clearly through the real-life stories documented in the Bible.

Giving encouragement Some Bible stories are also very encouraging on a personal level. In the midst of all of the rich men giving large offerings to God in the temple, Jesus Christ took the time to notice a poor widow who gave two little coins. He realized that it was everything she had, and He pointed this out to His disciples. There are many encouraging stories of God miraculously delivering His people as well— from Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-Nego, whom God saved from death in an incredibly hot furnace Daniel 3 , to the apostle Paul, who was stoned to the point that his enemies thought he was dead Acts The great Creator God healed or perhaps even resurrected Paul! They can lift up our spirits when times are tough. Why is there evil in the world? Why do the good suffer? There are Bible stories that help us more deeply understand the answers to many questions like these. The Bible tells us that there is evil in the world because of the rebellion and deceitfulness of a demonic being called Lucifer and Satan Isaiah After swaying a third of the angels to his evil way of thinking, he started a rebellion against the Almighty and was cast to the earth. He even tried to tempt Christ to disobey God Matthew 4: Without the Bible, the answers to these key questions of life would remain hidden or only academic. The biblical stories bring the answers to life and give us hope. There is a purpose for Bible stories The many stories in the Bible are given for a reason and a purpose. New articles are being added frequently, so check back often.

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Chapter 4 : Online Bible Study Resources | Bible Q&A Section | blog.quintoapp.com

Bible teaching about spiritual life. The Bible teaching about spiritual life is vitally important. We take care of our psychological, social, and physical parts, but sometimes neglect the most important part of our personality.

Do you have serious questions about spiritual teaching and issues? This free study provides Bible answers! Christianity and Christian doctrine offer the true answers to questions such as: Does God really exist? What is the purpose and meaning of life? What is the origin of the human race? Can we receive eternal life after death? How can we be forgiven of our sins and receive the favor and blessings of God? The teaching of Jesus can lead you to a fulfilling spiritual life and true hope for eternal life. Please study this free lesson showing why this is so. This material is also available in print as part of our book on Bible Inspiration and Preservation. For more information, go to www. All people everywhere at some time in their lives recognize that they have spiritual needs. They need guidance and direction to find hope for eternity and answers to the questions of life. People alone cannot provide this spiritual guidance. Many learned men do not even attempt to provide answers for the meaning and purpose of life and other serious spiritual questions. If they do try, they cannot prove their answers are right or wrong, and they often contradict one another. You need to find and study a source of spiritual direction and guidance from someone who really knows the answers. Bible teaching affirms that belief in the gospel of Jesus Christ and Christian teaching will give the spiritual direction you need to show you the meaning and purpose of life. The purpose of this free study is to urge you to consider Bible teaching -- the gospel of Jesus Christ -- as the answer to your need for spirituality. Why should you spend your time and effort to understand Bible teaching? Consider these reasons why belief in Bible doctrine is important to you: See the links at the end of this article for more free studies of topics regarding Bible doctrine, spiritual guidance, and Christian teaching. [The Bible Tells Your Origin](#). Most people wonder about the origin of the earth and mankind. But often they are confused because they have been told we evolved from "lower animals," which came from simpler organisms, all the way back to some original life form. [Evolution Cannot Answer Basic Questions](#). Evolution requires that non-living matter produced the first life form by chance where there was no life before. But what we see around us is that life comes only from life. This is called the "Law of Biogenesis. Evolution says that all life forms evolved from the first life. But human experience and the fossil record both confirm that living things reproduce "after their own kind. The "missing links" - fossils of organisms halfway between the kinds of plants or animals we have now - are all still missing! Why do we appreciate beauty in art, music, and poetry? Why do we have a conscience and a sense of morals? Why do we possess rational thought so superior to animals? Life came from the living God. We were made with unique characteristics that God possesses. The Bible agrees with what we see around us. Surely it deserves your serious study. See the links below for further information about the [Consequences of Evolution](#). When people think no one cares, they may become discouraged or even think life is not worth living. [God Cares about Our Lives](#). If so, think how much He must care about what happens to us. He knows even how many hairs you have. Surely He will care for us, if we will serve Him. Every blessing we receive shows that God cares about us. Men may fail, mistreat, or disappoint us. He always remains faithful to us, provided that we remain faithful to Him. The Bible clearly affirms that God loves every human being [John 3](#): Most people would think it a great honor to be a child of some important person in history. Consider then how great a blessing it would be if you were a child of God Himself. This indicates His love for us. How wonderful to be a child of the King of the Universe! Surely we ought to study the Bible to understand how to receive this great blessing. See the links below for further information about the [Importance of the Church](#). Surely everyone wants to understand the real purpose for life. Why do you exist, anyway? Some pursue riches and material possessions: Some pursue pleasure - entertainment, recreation, travel, etc. Life has no higher purpose than "fun, fun, fun. They seek to accumulate knowledge and worldly wisdom. There may be some wholesome activities in these areas, but is there really no higher goal in life? Surely the benefits are temporary and incomplete at best. The average

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American has achieved these goals to a greater degree than most people in history, yet our society is filled with crime, suicide, mental illness, drug addiction, and unhappiness. Are these the signs of fulfillment? There must be something more. It was all "vanity and vexation of spirit" 2: Then he learned the real purpose of life: God created man for a purpose. Life is meaningless unless we fulfill that purpose. Each of us can fulfill the purpose for which God created us, but first we must diligently study the Bible. Jesus Came to Seek and Save the Lost. Most people know they have done wrong. At times we all feel a strong sense of guilt. In His eyes, we have all sinned Rom. For our sins, we deserve to be punished Rom. Jesus Died in Our Place. Jesus paid this price for all men 1 Tim. Every one of us needs our burden of guilt removed, but there is no way to accomplish that except through Jesus Acts 4: Surely this book deserves our attention. See the links below for further information about Why We Need Forgiveness. People often wonder what comes after death. Will we be rewarded eternally, or is death the end of our existence? The Bible also answers these questions. After Death Comes Judgment. Then we will face the consequences of our lives. Men Will Be Rewarded Eternally. How does one become a child of God? By faith, repentance, confession, and baptism Gal. Then one must remain faithful to make his calling and election sure 2 Pet. See the link below for further information about Life after Death. Conclusion Surely these are questions that should concern every one of us. The Bible claims that it is the guidebook given by God to answer these questions. The Bible is a book worthy of your study. We urge you to be like the Bereans and search the Scriptures daily with a ready mind Acts If you would like to study further about related Bible topics, we have a number of other free study materials on our web site that should interest you. Please see the links listed below. Local churches and individuals may, within limits, distribute this Bible study guide for free, but not for sale.

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Chapter 5 : Bible Doctrine: Importance of Christian Spiritual Guidance & Direction

Bible verses about Spirituality. John ESV / 26 helpful votes Helpful Not Helpful "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit.

For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing. Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. No one comes to the Father except through me. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld. If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. Because of this he is obligated to offer sacrifice for his own sins just as he does for those of the people. And no one takes this honor for himself, but only when called by God, just as Aaron was. And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil,

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Chapter 6 : 20+ Powerful Bible Verses About Life - Scriptures to Give Hope & Purpose

Just how important is spiritual warfare in the life of a Christian? Subscribe to the blog.quintoapp.com Newsletter: There are two primary issues to address regarding spiritual warfare and the Bible.

The Beatitudes Matthew 5: It is the first of the five major discourses that Matthew includes. We first need to fill in what Matthew has included between this passage and the last one we studied. Matthew followed the account of the temptation of Jesus with a brief note that Jesus began to preach a message of repentance because the kingdom of heaven was near 4: In order to reach a wider audience, He moved from Nazareth to the city of Capernaum, on the shores of the Sea of Galilee, but more importantly, on the main highway through the land. His declaration of beatitudes would come, but not until He called for repentance. Matthew then reported the calling of the first disciples, Simon Peter and his brother Andrew, who were fishing 4: Jesus promised to make them fishers of men, for He was beginning to build His kingdom. He then called James and John, also fishermen, who were mending nets in their boat 4: The authority of the king to call people to follow Him is clearly portrayed by these events. He went throughout the region proclaiming the message of the kingdom, and authenticating His claims by healing people. Throngs of people responded to His ministry from as far away as Jerusalem. So that brings us to the present lesson, from the Sermon on the Mount. Jesus saw the crowds coming to Him, so He went up on a mountainside and sat down, the well-known posture of the teacher. His disciples came to Him, and so Jesus began to teach them. Jesus had been announcing that the kingdom of heaven was at hand, and He had been calling for people to repent. Now, in what has been described as the manifesto of His kingdom, Jesus unveils the foundations and character of life in that kingdom. Here He teaches the ethical guidelines for life in His kingdom; and the guidelines point to the quality of righteousness that characterizes life in the kingdom, now in part, but fully in the future. But it was delivered immediately to the disciples. Or to put it another way, Jesus spoke to all the people of the true will of God, the righteousness that they must all exhibit if they repent and enter His kingdom, but which the disciples had already begun to perform. So the entire sermon is directed to all. And its theme is the righteousness that is the standard of his kingdom. So in some ways this sermon will tell people just how righteous they must be to enter the kingdom, and what that righteous life should look like for citizens of the kingdom. But it does not include the details of how this righteousness may be attained. The sermon begins with the beatitudes. These qualities give a picture of the character of the true people of God, those who are a part of his kingdom and have the full blessings of the kingdom to look forward to. Taken together they give the picture of the perfect disciple of Christ who is the heir of the promises. Jesus does not here tell people how to become like this; that will come in subsequent teachings. One of the most convincing descriptions of the meaning of the beatitudes at the beginning of this sermon is that they are planned echoes of Isaiah Matthew constantly shows how Jesus came in the light of the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies, and so this one would fit as well. The Beatitudes are a little different to study than ordinary story-passages. Each saying is proverb-like. Cryptic, precise, and full of meaning. Each one includes a topic that forms a major biblical theme. So you could spend a lot of time on each one--and that would be worth doing if you so desired. But we will make this a brief, introductory Bible study on the passage, and leave more to be done later. Reading the Text Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to Him, 2and He began to teach them, saying: Observations on the Text So here we have a series of proclamations without a narrative. The narrative introduction simply sets up the sermon; and the sermon begins with these proclamations. Each of the beatitudes is formally a declarative sentence; but each is implicitly hortatory, calling for a response. The method of studying these will be a little different. We still must think in terms of the contexts, not only the historical context of the first century Jewish culture and beliefs, but also the context of the beatitudes in the sermon on the mount, the proclamation of the nature of the kingdom. The study of this section will have to deal primarily with the meanings of the words within those contexts, especially the

context of the culture that knew these ideas from their Hebrew and Aramaic languages. To understand these sayings we will have to relate the teachings to the biblical understanding of the kingdom of heaven as it is presented in both testaments. So we will have to fit these sayings into both aspects of the idea of the kingdom. This term is an exclamation of the inner joy and peace that comes with being right with God. Happiness may indeed be a part of it; but it is a happiness that transcends what happens in the world around us, a happiness that comes to the soul from being favored by God. That is why it can call for rejoicing under intense persecution. Those woes pass judgment on the apostate people who refuse to recognize and do the full will of God. The woes describe their character as well, but it is an evil and hypocritical character; and the woes are a divine pledge of judgment if those lives continue in their wickedness. One interesting Old Testament connection that would make a good related study is the section in Proverbs 6: These have been taken as the antithesis of the righteous who receive this blessing from the Lord. In between the characteristics include lying, killing, scheming wicked things, rushing to do evil, and bearing false witness. These differ sharply from the spiritual characteristics that the Lord loves. A Close Analysis of the Beatitudes Probably the best way to study these beatitudes would be to work through the basic process for each one--the definitions, the backgrounds, the connections and the applications. If you were teaching the beatitudes to a class you would do better by applying each one as you discuss it, rather than to wait til the end to try to apply them one by one. Part of the understanding of the beatitudes is to see the Old Testament background concerning these descriptions of the Messianic kingdom and the people who enter it. I mentioned Isaiah That is part of it, but there is a spiritual side to it too. The word Isaiah uses describes the people who had been taken into exile. They were of course poor, having their land and possessions ripped away; but they were also afflicted and oppressed, they were powerless and without hope, and they were desperate. The physical poverty was intensified by the poverty in their spirit. The Meaning of the Text. They had no resources to fall back on; they had to depend on others for survival. Isaiah brought the people of his day good news--they would be delivered from bondage. He did not make them rich in earthly possessions and power; but he fulfilled their greatest need. They realize that they have nothing in this life that they can contribute to receiving the kingdom of heaven. They have afflicted their souls, meaning that they have humbled themselves and repented with deep contrition; and they have come to the king as helpless and hopeless sinners. There is no arrogance in them, no self-righteousness, no self-sufficiency. They are free from their own pretensions, and therefore they are free for God. And that is the good news for the genuinely poor and oppressed in this world. The poor person is not excluded because of his poverty; and the rich person is not accepted because of his wealth. Both must humble themselves before the Lord in order to be part of the kingdom. It is often easier for the down and out of this world to do that, than for the rich to do it. One thinks of the self-made poverty of the prodigal son. No, the poverty is not the chief thing, but the qualification of the spirit it. It is the poor in spirit, those who have humbled themselves and become dependent on God--they have the kingdom of heaven. In fact, everyone who is in the kingdom had to become poor in spirit. They all come with a broken heart and a contrite spirit seeking the Savior. The clear lesson is that if any are going to enter the kingdom of heaven they must become poor in spirit. This is the message of the kingdom; it is the call of repentance. They must humble themselves before God and acknowledge that they bring nothing of their own power, possessions or merit to gain entrance. Those who truly humble themselves and express their need of the Lord, they have the kingdom of heaven. And in this they find heavenly bliss. So how does one become poor in spirit? The implication from the context preceding this is that one would hear the message of the kingdom and learn what kind of a kingdom it is and how to enter it--through repentance for sin and submission to the will of God. The first step is to confess that by themselves they can do nothing, and then seek the gracious provision that God has made. A secondary application would be to develop how this attitude is to characterize the attitude of the believers who are in the kingdom. They do not simply humble themselves to get in and then become self-sufficient although some try to do it ; they are to live their lives in total dependence on God to supply their needs. This will open the study to themes such as humility, faith, prayer, and obedience. In the last one the promise was that those who are

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poor in spirit have the kingdom. Here now the promise is for the future, for those who mourn will be comforted. Isaiah also said that the Messiah would bind up the brokenhearted and proclaim the hour when the mourners would be comforted, when their ashes would be replaced by a crown of joy, and their mourning would be replaced with the oil of gladness. Mourning indicates the pain and the grief and the anxieties of the soul over some loss, often the death of a loved one. But it could be over the loss of a valued life, such as those Israelites who went into exile had to mourn. Or it could be over the loss of possessions, or status, or health. People mourn over any disaster or tribulation. And in times of mourning they look for hope.

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Chapter 7 : The Bible and the Spiritual Life | St. Paul Center

This article is part of our larger Spiritual Life resource meant to answer your questions about the Bible, God and the Christian faith. Visit our most popular questions on "What does the Bible.

Since God inspired the entire Bible , it can be challenging to choose just 50 inspirational Bible verses. Passages can be inspirational in many different ways. They can be awe-inspiring. They can be reassuring. They can be encouraging or motivational. Here are 50 inspirational Bible verses that are meaningful and memorable. He turned the sea into dry land; they went through the river on foot. And a windstorm came down on the lake, and they were filling with water, and were in jeopardy. And they ceased, and there was a calm. For He commands even the winds and water, and they obey Him! And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. Reassuring inspirational Bible verses God also gives powerful reassurance to those who turn to Him for strength and comfort. Have you not heard? His understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might He increases strength. Motivational inspirational Bible verses The Bible is designed to help those God is calling have a better life€”now and forever. It does this by showing us the purpose of our lives and motivating us to change our lives for the better. Change is not easy, but changing to please God is worth it! It will pay off with contentment, joy and peace of mind now, and with a mind-boggling eternal inheritance as children of God! Here are some verses that can inspire and motivate us to change: Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household, to give them food in due season? Run in such a way that you may obtain it. And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. Obviously these 50 verses only scratch the surface of the inspiration we can find in the Bible. What are your favorite inspirational Bible verses?

Chapter 8 : 8 Habits of a Healthy Spiritual Life - Topical Studies

The Bible is full of His promises to love, strengthen, heal, and guide. Begin reading God's Word with a new purpose -- to discover new insights about God's love for you. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide your journey and to reveal truths you've never seen before.

Chapter 9 : Spiritual warfare - What does the Bible say?

These are the marks of a healthy spiritual life that takes the sting out of death. v. 1 Believe in Him that He is listening and watching and respond in love. v. 2 Cry out to Him.