## Our Practical Plan for Personal & Congregational Growth in 2015



Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

- 1 Corinthians 15:57

## Laurel Canyon church of Christ



"I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

- John 16:33

the Laurel Canyon church of Christ

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## Our Theme for 2015

**VICTORY.** A powerful word that conveys a precious accomplishment. "Victory" is invoked throughout the Bible to describe what God *has* accomplished, is *presently* achieving, and will *ultimately* secure.

- "Let not your heart faint. Do not fear or panic or be in dread...for the LORD your God is he who goes with you to fight for you against your enemies, to give you the victory." (Deut 20:3-4)
- \* "The LORD gave victory to David wherever he went." (2 Sam 8:6)
- \* "The LORD brought about a great victory that day." (2 Sam 23:10)
- \* "The LORD saved them by a great victory." (1 Chron 11:14)
- \* "Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours. Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and you are exalted as head above all." (1 Chron 29:11)
- \* "The horse is made ready for the day of battle, but the victory belongs to the LORD." (Prov 21:31)
- \* "A bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not quench, until he brings justice to victory; and in his name the Gentiles will hope." (Matt 12:20-21)
- \* "The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." (1 Cor 15:56-57)
- \* "For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world--our faith." (1 John 5:4)

Our King in heaven is the ultimate victor. Come what may, if we are his, we are not victims. We are graciously allowed the opportunity to share in his triumph as victors.

God reigns in 2015. We are dedicating this year to growing in our appreciation of that fact, humbly serving him in all aspects of life, and anxiously preparing for his glorious return.

# The Steps to Victory

God has recorded and preserved numerous accounts of victorious men and women in the Old and New Testaments "for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope" (Rom 15:4). As we study the examples of Abraham, Deborah, Moses, Esther, Joseph, Rahab, Gideon, Hannah, Elijah, Mary and many others, we begin to discern consistent steps of believing, planning, acting, and praising that lead to eventual victory.

The steps these men and women took in their walks with God are the same steps we want to study, imitate, and share throughout 2015:

- 1. Acknowledge your desperate need for a deliverer. "On my own, I'm lost and without hope."
- 2. Believe that God is and will reward those who diligently seek him. "God is my refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."
- 3. Discern his will.

"Do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is."

- 4. Do whatever he tells you to do with all your heart. "I present myself as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God."
- 5. Trust in what God *has* accomplished, is *presently* achieving, and will *ultimately* secure.

"In all your ways submit to him and he will make your paths straight."

6. Thank him and praise him for who he is and what he has done. "I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously."

#### 7. Unashamedly share your hope with others.

"Let your light shine so that others may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

In the very shadow of the cross, Jesus encouraged his disciples, "In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world" (John 16:33). The victory **of** Jesus has opened the door to victory **in** Jesus. It is simply a question of whether we will triumphantly walk with him in 2015.

## A Wealth of Opportunities

- $\Rightarrow$  Assemblies of worship on Sundays at 10:30 AM and 6:00 PM
- ⇒ Bible classes for people of all ages on Sundays at 9:45 AM and Wednesdays at 7:00 PM
- $\Rightarrow$  **Daily Bible Reading Calendars** available at the start of each month
- ⇒ Kids Songs & Bible Drills every 2nd Sunday of the month at 5:30 PM
- ⇒ March 14 (Saturday): Men's Morning-in-the-Word discussion led by Jason Hardin
- ⇒ March 22 (Sunday): Bring-a-Friend Sunday evangelistically-focused sermon presented by Jason Hardin
- ⇒ April 19-22 (Sunday-Wednesday): Spring Gospel Meeting The Victorious Mindset presented by Antoine Holloway
- ⇒ May 16 (Saturday): Women's Morning-in-the-Word discussion led by Mary Beth Henderson & Shirley VanDyke
- ⇒ June 28 (Sunday): Bring-a-Friend Sunday evangelistically-focused sermon presented by Jason Hardin
- ⇒ **July 12-17 (Sunday-Friday): Vacation Bible School** *Having a Heart for God: Lessons from the Story of David* sermons for adults presented by Jonathan Brown
- ⇒ August 7-9 (Friday-Sunday): Youth Lectureship Connecting with Millennials - Daniel Matthews & Wyatt Taylor
- ⇒ September 12 (Saturday): Women's Morning-in-the-Word discussion led by Mary Beth Henderson & Shirley VanDyke
- ⇒ September 27 (Sunday): Bring-a-Friend Sunday evangelistically-focused sermon presented by Jason Hardin
- ⇒ October 17 (Saturday): Men's Morning-in-the-Word discussion led by Jason Hardin
- ⇒ November 8-11 (Sunday-Wednesday): Fall Gospel Meeting Be Strong in the Lord presented by Aaron Kemple

2015

## **Bible Reading**

To help you grow in understanding and enhance your personal experience of victory in Jesus, our 2015 Bible reading plan takes us on a journey through all sections of God's written revelation.

- Sundays: a psalm (to lift our hearts in worship)
- Weekdays: a chapter from the Gospels (to fix our eyes on Jesus), a chapter from Acts or one of the New Testament epistles (to refresh ourselves on what it means to be followers of Jesus), and a chapter from the Old Testament (to expand our knowledge of God's great plan to save mankind)
- Saturdays: a chapter from Proverbs (to grow in wisdom)

"Man shall not live by bread alone." Let's take Jesus' prescription seriously and interact with God's word every day in 2015.

### Care Groups for 2015

"Church" is not somewhere we go on Sundays. It's who we are. We're a body with many members (1 Cor 12:12-13). We're family (Eph 2:19), brothers and sisters in Christ who care for one another (1 Cor 12:25). As family, our heavenly Father wants us to love one another earnestly from pure hearts (1 Pet 1:22). As a unified body, our Head has called us to pursue mutual upbuilding (Rom 14:19). "Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others" (Phil 2:4).

To this end, every Sunday evening immediately following our PM assembly, the following Care Groups will meet in Classroom #1:

- 1st Sundays (Last Names A-C) led by Jason Budd & Ed Moore
- 2nd Sundays (Last Names D-G) led by Mark Berry & David Pike
- 3rd Sundays (Last Names H-Q) led by David Lord & Kevin Joy
- 4th Sundays (Last Names R-Z) led by D. Campbell & Eric Tustin
- 5th Sundays (Groups Leaders & their Wives)

## Sunday Adult Classes

#### JANUARY-MARCH

Beyond the Veil: A Study of the Tabernacle, the Temple, and the Transforming Glory of the Lord (taught by Jason Hardin)

- Jan 4 Awe-Inspiring Encounters with God
- Jan 11 Perfect Fellowship Interrupted
- Jan 18 Altars of the Patriarchs
- Jan 25 "Let Them Make Me a Sanctuary"
- Feb 1 The Exterior of the Tabernacle
- Feb 8 The Interior of the Tabernacle
- Feb 15 The Priesthood of the Tabernacle
- Feb 22 The Sacrifices of the Tabernacle
- Mar 1 The Temple: The House for the Name of the LORD
- Mar 8 "It is Finished"
- Mar 15 We All, With Unveiled Face Are Being Transformed
- Mar 22 "And I Saw No Temple in the City"

#### **APRIL-JUNE**

The Letter to the Hebrews (taught by Craig Davis)

- Mar 29 Hebrews 1
- Apr 5 Hebrews 2
- Apr 12 Hebrews 3
- Apr 26 Hebrews 4
- May 3 Hebrews 5
- May 10 Hebrews 6
- May 17 Hebrews 7
- May 24 Hebrews 8
- May 31 Hebrews 9
- June 7 Hebrews 10
- June 14 Hebrews 11
- June 21 Hebrews 12
- June 28 Hebrews 13

## Sunday Adult Classes

#### JULY-SEPTEMBER

*Vice & Virtue* (taught by Nathan Matthews)

- July 5 Introduction: Worldliness vs. Godliness
- July 19 Pride
- July 26 Humility
- Aug 2 Wrath
- Aug 9 Patience
- Aug 16 Lust vs. Chastity
- Aug 23 Sloth
- Aug 30 Diligence
- Sept 6 Greed
- Sept 13 Charity
- Sept 20 Envy vs. Kindness
- Sept 27 Self-Control (Discipline & Moderation)

#### OCTOBER-DECEMBER

*Why?* (taught by Jason Hardin & Nathan Matthews) *Why We Believe...* 

- Oct 4 It Makes a Difference What One Believes
- Oct 11 Baptism is Essential for Salvation
- Oct 18 One is Not Saved by Faith Alone
- Oct 25 There is Only One Church
- Nov 1 Hell is Real and Eternal
- Nov 15 We Have the Lord's Supper Every Sunday
- Nov 22 Why We Don't Use Instrumental Music in Worship
- Nov 29 Miracles Have Ceased
- Dec 6 Why We Are Different From Other Churches
- Dec 13 The Mission of the Church Must Be Kept Pure
- Dec 20 Why We Don't Have Women Preachers
- Dec 27 Why We Withdraw from the Unfaithful

## Wednesday Adult Classes

#### JANUARY-MARCH

Heaven Rules: A Study of Daniel (taught by Jason Hardin)

- Jan 7 Daniel 1: The God Who Works Behind the Scenes
- Jan 14 Daniel 2: The God Who Establishes His Kingdom
- Jan 21 Daniel 3: The God Who Delivers
- Jan 28 Daniel 4: The God Who Rules the Kingdom of Men
- Feb 4 Daniel 5: The God in Whose Hand is Your Breath
- Feb 11 Daniel 6: The God Who Rescues
- Feb 18 Four Great Empires in Old Testament History
- Feb 25 Daniel 7: The God Who Judges
- Mar 4 Daniel 8: The God Who Bestows and Breaks Power
- Mar 11 Daniel 9: The God Who Sees, Hears, and Acts
- Mar 18 Daniel 10: The God Who Wins the Ultimate Victory
- Mar 25 Kings and Kingdoms of Intertestamental History
- Apr 1 Daniel 11-12: The God Who Reigns Over History

#### APRIL-JUNE

Victory in Jesus: A Study of Revelation (taught by Jason Hardin)

- Apr 8 "Babylon" in Scripture
- Apr 15 Life in the Era of the Roman Empire
- Apr 29 Connecting the Books of Daniel and Revelation
- May 6 The Nature of Apocalyptic Literature
- May 13 Apocalyptic Literature in the Old Testament
- May 20 Revelation's Impact on First-Century Christians
- May 27 Rev 1: John's Vision of the Glorified Christ
- June 3 Rev 2: To the Churches in Ephesus and Smyrna
- June 10 Rev 2: To the Churches in Pergamum and Thyatira
- June 17 Rev 3: To the Churches in Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea
- June 24 Rev 4-5: Worthy is the Lamb Who was Slain
- July 1 Rev 6-7: Salvation Belongs to Our God!

## Wednesday Adult Classes

#### JULY-SEPTEMBER

*Victory in Jesus: A Study of Revelation* (taught by Jason Hardin)

- July 8 Rev 8-9: Woe to Those Who Dwell on the Earth
- July 22 Rev 10-11: The Time for Wrath and Reward
- July 29 Rev 12: The Pregnant Woman and the Great Dragon
- Aug 5 Rev 13: The Beast of the Sea and Beast of the Earth
- Aug 12 Rev 14-16: A Call for the Endurance of the Saints
- Aug 19 Rev 17: The Judgment of the Great Prostitute
- Aug 26 Rev 18: Fallen is Babylon the Great!
- Sept 2 Rev 19: The Marriage Supper of the Lamb
- Sept 9 Rev 20: The Great White Throne
- Sept 16 Rev 21: New Heaven, New Earth, New Jerusalem
- Sept 23 Rev 22: Behold, I am Coming Soon
- Sept 30 The Bookends of God's Revelation to Mankind

#### OCTOBER-DECEMBER

*Premillennialism: Examined and Refuted* (taught by David Pike)

- Oct 7 Introduction
- Oct 14 Literal or Spiritual Interpretation?
- Oct 21 Promises to Abraham
- Oct 28 Restoration of Israel
- Nov 4 Kingdom Prophecies and Rejection of Jesus
- Nov 18 The Kingdom/Church Has Been Established and Jesus is On His Throne
- Nov 25 The "Rapture"
- Dec 2 Matthew 24: The Destruction of Jerusalem
- Dec 9 Matthew 24: The "Tribulation"
- Dec 16 The Battle of Armageddon
- Dec 23 The Millennial Reign
- Dec 30 Judgment Day and Eternity

## **Children's Bible Classes**

The development of young hearts matters to God.

My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments, for length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you. Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart. So you will find favor and good success in the sight of God and man. (Prov 3:1-4)

Young people can grow to be fantastic examples in speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity (1 Tim 4:12). But they don't develop those qualities by accident. They must be taught, molded, led, and equipped to form faith of their own. Parents, teachers, and mentors must walk with them and guide them.

We take our Bible classes very seriously at Laurel Canyon. Our goal is to use God's word to shape and inscribe seven fundamental truths on the tablets of young hearts:

- 1. A grasp of the big picture of the Bible (Acts 8:30-31; 18:26)
- 2. Respect for authority (Eph 6:1; Lev 19:32; Rom 13:1; 1 Pet 5:6)
- 3. A sincere commitment to personal purity (2 Tim 2:22; 1 Cor 6:19-20)
- 4. Solid reasons for faith and hope (Rom 1:16; 2 Tim 1:12; 1 Pet 3:15)

- 5. The ability to make wise choices (Prov 3:13-18; Col 4:5)
- 6. A "God-first, others-next" way of thinking (Matt 6:33; 22:36-40; Phil 2:3-4)
- 7. An authentic, developing connection with Jesus (John 15:4-5; Matt 4:4; 1 Thes 5:17)

Those seven ideals from Scripture form the cornerstone of our Bible classes at all age-levels:

- Our littlest hearts (6 mths-4th grade): Shaping Hearts for God
- Our developing hearts (5-7th grades): Get Them Talking
- Our maturing hearts (8-12th grades): Making It Personal

#### What Do We Need From You?

- Your involvement: make the most of this opportunity by making sure your children and grandchildren are present and prepared for class.
- Your prayers for our teachers and our collective effort.
- Your willingness to contribute resources and efforts of your own for the good of the body.
- Our teachers to remember:
  - Each teaching opportunity is important, a window we won't get again (Eph 5:16).
  - You are trying to shape and save souls, not simply finish a workbook (Matt 19:14).
  - Teaching is an awesome responsibility (James 3:1), but it is one God enables us to meet and maximize for our good and his glory (Matt 28:19-20; Eph 4:11-16).

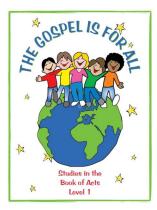
## 6 Months - 4th Grade Classes Shaping Hearts for God

Even the youngest of children brought to Bible class on Sunday mornings at 9:45 AM and Wednesday evenings at 7:00 PM can be taught about God and his word. These sessions aren't about babysitting or killing time while parents and grandparents are doing something more important. These are valuable opportunities that have been carefully designed for the shaping of little hearts in what matters most.

Everything our youngest children will learn in Bible classes throughout 2015 can be summarized by three major points:

- $\Rightarrow$  Jesus is coming
- $\Rightarrow$  Jesus is here
- $\Rightarrow$  Jesus is coming again

Children will learn a different lesson each week. Suggested Bible reading schedules are included in each workbook, along with Memory Verses and Bible Knowledge Challenges. Children *can* learn about God's wonderful plan, the love of Jesus, and the reason for life on this earth. We aim to help in that process.



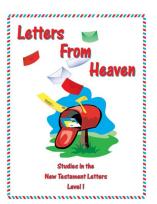
### JANUARY-MARCH

The Gospel is for All Studies in the Book of Acts

## 6 Months - 4th Grade Classes Shaping Hearts for God

APRIL-JUNE

Letters from Heaven Studies in the New Testament Letters

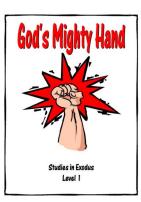




JULY-SEPTEMBER All Things Made New! Studies in Genesis

### OCTOBER-DECEMBER God's Mighty Hand

Studies in Exodus



## **5th-7th Grade Classes** Get Them Talking

The goal of our 5th-7th grade Bible classes? It's simple and straightforward. Get them talking about God's word and how it relates to their lives. Here's our schedule for 2015.

### JANUARY-MARCH

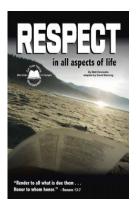


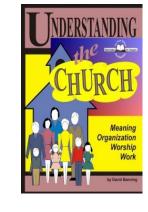
### SUNDAYS at 9:45 AM The Old Testament (3)

From the Divided Kingdom to the Fall of Judah

### WEDNESDAYS at 7:00 PM

Respect in All Aspects of Life





## **5th-7th Grade Classes** Get Them Talking

2015

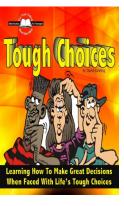
### **JULY-SEPTEMBER**

#### SUNDAYS at 9:45 AM

Understanding the Church: Its Meaning, Organization, Worship, and Work

#### WEDNESDAYS at 7:00 PM

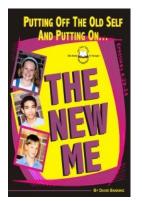
Tough Choices: How to Make Great Decisions When Faced with Life's Tough Choices



### **APRIL-JUNE**

SUNDAYS at 9:45 AM The Old Testament (4) From the Captivity to the Intertestamental Period

WEDNESDAYS at 7:00 PM Putting Off the Old Self and Putting On the New Me





**God Instructs** The Early Christians

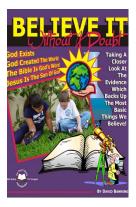
### **OCTOBER-DECEMBER**

SUNDAYS at 9:45 AM

**Epistles:** God Instructs the Early Christians

WEDNESDAYS at 7:00 PM Believe It

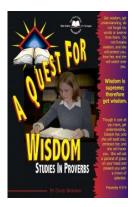
Without a Doubt



## 8th-12th Grade Classes Making It Personal

As young hearts mature, learning how to make God's word personal is absolutely pivotal. On Sundays at 9:45 AM and Wednesdays at 7:00 PM throughout 2015, our dedicated teachers aim to show young people how the Bible applies to them now and for the rest of their lives.

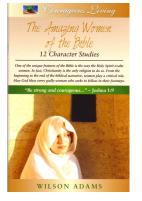
### JANUARY-MARCH



SUNDAYS at 9:45 AM A Quest for Wisdom: Studies in Proverbs (1)

WEDNESDAYS at 7:00 PM Amazing Women

of the Bible 12 Character Studies



## 8th-12th Grade Classes Making It Personal

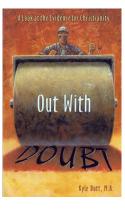
### JULY-SEPTEMBER

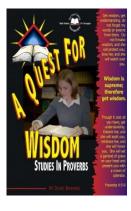
#### SUNDAYS at 9:45 AM

Jesus, the Bread of Life A Study of the Life of Jesus (1)

#### WEDNESDAYS at 7:00 PM Out with Doubt: A Look

at the Evidence for Christianity

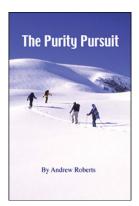




### APRIL-JUNE

SUNDAYS at 9:45 AM A Quest for Wisdom: Studies in Proverbs (2)

WEDNESDAYS at 7:00 PM The Purity Pursuit

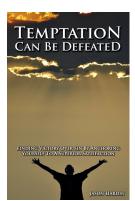


### **OCTOBER-DECEMBER**

#### SUNDAYS at 9:45 AM Jesus, the Bread of Life A Study of the Life of Jesus (2)

#### WEDNESDAYS at 7:00 PM

Temptation Can Be Defeated



## **Special Events**

#### SPRING GOSPEL MEETING • APRIL 19-22

- Developing and Maintaining a Victorious Mindset Presented by Antoine Holloway
- April 19: A Victorious Mindset Defined
- April 19: Developing a Victorious Mindset
- April 19: A Victorious Mindset Towards People
- April 20: A Victorious Mindset Towards Worship
- April 21: A Victorious Mindset Towards Evangelism
- April 22: A Victorious Mindset Towards Personal Commitment

#### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL • JULY 12-17

Having a Heart for God: Lessons for All Ages From the Story of David Lessons for adults presented by Jonathan Brown

- July 13: Having a Caring Heart for God
- July 14: Having a Tender Heart for God
- July 15: Having a Brave Heart for God
- July 16: Having a Respectful Heart for God
- July 17: Having a Passionate Heart for God

#### FALL GOSPEL MEETING • NOVEMBER 8-11

Be Strong in the Lord and in the Strength of His Might Lessons from Ephesians presented by Aaron Kemple

- November 8: Every Spiritual Blessing in Christ
- November 8: And You ... But God
- November 8: I Bow My Knees
- November 9: You Then ... You Now
- November 10: Love and Respect
- November 11: Stand Firm and Fight

# **Special Events**

#### YOUTH LECTURESHIP • AUGUST 7-9

Connecting with Millennials

*Presented by* Daniel Matthews & Wyatt Taylor A weekend series for all ages; interactive lessons crafted with the Millennial Generation (born between 1981-2000) in mind

#### CHARACTER

Who are the Millennials? What's on their mind? What difference does it make?

#### COMMUNITY

How did the early church create a sense of community? How can we work together as younger and older to do the same?

#### CULTURAL DISCERNMENT

What can we learn from the commands and examples of the Bible about interacting with our modern culture?

#### CHALLENGE

What can we do as individual disciples of Christ and members of a church to serve others and develop our own faith?

#### COMPASSION

What difference does compassion make? How can we grow to live with the compassion of Jesus in our words and deeds?

#### CONTENT

Where do we go from here in putting the Bible into practice? What will it mean and look like to live for the glory of God?



Victory in Jesus

## Making It Personal

You know dozens of people in desperate need of responding to the gospel. Your heart grieves as you think of brothers and sisters who have walked away from God. **Have you prayed for them?** What could happen if you did? Remember, "the prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working" (James 5:16). With that truth in mind, throughout 2015, pick a different person each month and pray for them every single day. Pray for receptive hearts, opportunities, wisdom, and boldness. Pray that God might use you to impact them.

January:
February:
March:
April:
May:
June:
July:
August:
September:
October:
November:
December:

You can't do everything for everybody, but you *can* do something for somebody.

### **PRAY • SHARE • SERVE**

In an effort to serve through hospitality and develop closer relationships, who could you invite to your home or out for a meal?

January:
February:
March:
April:
May:
June:
July:
August:
September:
October:
November:
December:

Where are the opportunities to make a difference by serving? Can you host a singing or Bible study? Can you help an elderly brother or sister around their house? Can you visit someone who is shut-in? Who could use an extra dose of encouragement?

anuary:
February:
March:
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August:
September:
October:
November:
December:

### **Reflections for the Lord's Supper**

Nearly 2,000 years ago, Jesus instituted a memorial of his death. Following the pattern of the earliest Christians, we share in this observance every first day of the week (Acts 20:7). To help prepare our minds in appreciation for what our Father planned from before the foundation of the world (1 Peter 1:20) and what our Lord has accomplished on the cross, here are fifty-two reasons why Jesus came to die, one for each Lord's day of 2015.

#### January

- 4<sup>th</sup> To Bear the Curse of Sin for Us (Gal 3:10-14)
- 11<sup>th</sup> To Fulfill the Will of His Father (Isa 53:10)
- 18<sup>th</sup> To Learn Obedience and Be Made Perfect (Heb 5:7-10)
- 25<sup>th</sup> To Show the Wealth of God's Love and Grace for Sinners (Rom 5:6-8)

#### February

- 1<sup>st</sup> To Show His Own Love for Us (Eph 5:1-2)
- 8<sup>th</sup> To Cancel the Record of Debt Against Us (Col 2:13-15)
- 15<sup>th</sup> To Become a Ransom for Sinners (1 Tim 2:5-6)
- 22<sup>nd</sup> For the Forgiveness of Our Sins (Eph 1:7-10)

#### March

- 1<sup>st</sup> To Provide the Basis for Our Justification (Rom 5:9-11)
- 8<sup>th</sup> So That We Might Be Made Righteous (Rom 5:18-19)
- 15<sup>th</sup> So That There Might Be No Condemnation For Those Who Are In Him (Rom 8:1, 34)
- 22<sup>nd</sup> To Make Us Holy, Blameless, Above Reproach (Col 1:21-23)
- 29<sup>th</sup> To Purify Our Consciences (Heb 9:13-14)

#### April

- 5<sup>th</sup> To Obtain for Us All Things That Are Good (Rom 8:31-32)
- 12<sup>th</sup> To Bear Our Griefs and Carry Our Sorrows (Isaiah 53:3-4)
- 19<sup>th</sup> That By His Wounds We Might Be Healed (Isaiah 53:5)
- 26<sup>th</sup> That We Might Not Perish But Have Eternal Life (John 3:16)

#### May

- 3<sup>rd</sup> To Deliver Us from the Present Evil Age (Galatians 1:3-5)
- 10<sup>th</sup> To Reconcile Us to God (2 Cor 5:17-20)
- 17<sup>th</sup> To Bring Us to God (1 Pet 3:18)
- 24<sup>th</sup> So That We Might Belong to Him (Rom 7:4)
- 31<sup>st</sup> To Give Us Access to the Holy Places (Heb 10:19-22)

#### June

- 7<sup>th</sup> To Become the Place Where We Meet God (John 2:18-21)
- 14<sup>th</sup> To Replace the Old Testament Priesthood (Heb 9:15-24)
- 21<sup>st</sup> To Become the Eternal High Priest (Heb 7:23-27)
- 28<sup>th</sup> To Become a Sympathetic and Helpful Priest (Heb 4:14-16)

#### July

- 5<sup>th</sup> To Free Us From Our Futile Ways (1 Pet 1:17-19)
- 12<sup>th</sup> To Free Us from the Slavery of Our Sins (Rev 1:4-6)
- 19<sup>th</sup> That We Might Die to Sin and Live to Righteousness (1 Pet 2:24)
- 26<sup>th</sup> To Enable Us to Live for Jesus and Not Ourselves (2 Cor 5:14-15)

### "Do this in remembrance of me."



### **Reflections for the Lord's Supper**

Nearly 2,000 years ago, Jesus instituted a memorial of his death. Following the pattern of the earliest Christians, we share in this observance every first day of the week (Acts 20:7). To help prepare our minds in appreciation for what our Father planned from before the foundation of the world (1 Peter 1:20) and what our Lord has accomplished on the cross, here are fifty-two reasons why Jesus came to die, one for each Lord's day of 2015.

#### August

- 2<sup>nd</sup> To Make His Cross the Ground of Our Boasting (Gal 6:14)
- 9<sup>th</sup> To Enable Us to Live by Faith in Him (Gal 2:20)
- 16<sup>th</sup> To Create a People Passionate for Good Works (Tit 2:11-14)
- 23<sup>rd</sup> To Call Us to Follow His Example of Humility (Phil 2:5-8)
- 30<sup>th</sup> To Create a Band of Crucified Followers (Luke 9:23-25)

#### September

- 6<sup>th</sup> To Free Us From the Fear of Death (Heb 2:14-15)
- $13^{th}$  So That We Would Be with Him After Death (1 Thes 5:9-11)
- 20<sup>th</sup> To Secure Our Resurrection From the Dead (Rom 8:9-11)
- 27<sup>th</sup> To Destroy the Works of the Devil (1 John 3:7-8)

"This is my body, which is given for you."



#### October

- 4<sup>th</sup> To Unleash the Power of the Gospel (1 Cor 1:18)
- 11<sup>th</sup> To Gain His Joy and Ours (Heb 12:1-2)
- 18<sup>th</sup> So That He Would Be Crowned with Glory and Honor (Heb 2:9)
- 25<sup>th</sup> To Show That the Worst Evil Can be Used by God for Good (Acts 4:23-28)

#### November

- 1<sup>st</sup> To Serve as a Fragrant Offering to God (Eph 5:1-2)
- 8<sup>th</sup> To Fulfill Old Testament Prophecy (1 Pet 1:10-12)
- 15<sup>th</sup> To Serve as Our Passover Lamb (1 Cor 5:6-8)
- 22<sup>nd</sup> To Fulfill the Charge of His Heavenly Father (John 10:17-18)
- 29<sup>th</sup> To Give Marriage Its Deepest Meaning (Eph 5:25-32)

#### December

- 6<sup>th</sup> To Create in Himself One New Man in Place of Jews and Gentiles (Eph 2:11-16)
- 13<sup>th</sup> To Ransom People from Every Tribe and Language and People and Nation (Rev 5:9-10)
- 20<sup>th</sup> To Rescue Us from the Fear of Judgment (Heb 9:27-28)
- 27<sup>th</sup> That We Might Regularly Examine Ourselves and Remember Him (1 Cor 11:23-28)



"This is my blood of the covenant."

