

August 13 | Sunday
Habitual (Never-ending) Grace: Treasures in Scripture
Read [Matthew 13:44-46](#)



14 | Mon – Words | Read [Isaiah 55:8-11](#)

Human beings are separated from other living creatures by their ability to communicate through speech. Words are the method by which we express our thoughts. Isaiah reminds us that God's thoughts are higher than our thoughts and the words God speaks do not return empty but will accomplish the purpose for which they were spoken. What would happen if you read the Bible, looking for the thoughts God might be trying to communicate to *you* through the written words?

15 | Tue – Scripture | Read [2 Timothy 3:15-17](#)

Just before Paul was martyred, he writes to Timothy and lays out the unique value of scripture. (The New Testament was not yet written, so Paul was speaking of the Jewish scriptures we call the Old Testament.) Look at the list in verse 16; then see the results in verse 17. The words in the Bible are not just words to appreciate but are words to live by. Is there a specific scripture that has changed the way you think and, consequently, the way you live?

16 | Wed – Why did God 'write' the Bible? | Read [Rom. 15:4](#); [1 Cor. 10:11](#); [2 Peter 1:3-4](#)

These verses can help you answer that question. Some of the keywords Paul uses in Romans and 2 Corinthians include *teach, encouragement, hope, examples, warnings*. Then Peter puts the icing on the cake with his description of the incredible power of promises. What promises has God spoken to your heart through scripture?

17 | Thu – THE Word | Read [John 1:14-18](#) and [12:49-50](#) and [14:8-10](#)

John called Jesus the Word of God come in the flesh. And Jesus was very clear about the source of his own words and actions. Some Bibles have the words of Jesus printed in red type. One young convert to Christianity was so serious about learning to know this Man who had saved his life that he decided to focus on all the "red" words in the Gospels. If Jesus' claims in John 12:49-50 are true, what could happen if you began to study closely what Jesus said?

18 | Fri – Twisted | Read [Matthew 4:1-11](#)

The Gospels show how Jesus dealt with those who misused God's words. First, he had to be so familiar with scripture that he could recognize when it was being twisted. Matthew describes how Satan quoted scripture to justify why his second 'suggestion' to Jesus wouldn't hurt anyone. How did Jesus respond? He also confronted the religious leaders who 'bent' scripture to suit their needs. Are you able to see when someone might be misusing the word of God to lead you astray?

19 | Sat – The Teacher | Read [John 14:25-26](#) and [16:12-15](#)

Many people feel that the Bible is too complicated to fully understand. But did you realize that you have a personal tutor? Jesus told his disciples that he wasn't going to leave them on their own but was sending help... the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Truth who would *guide* them into all truth, *teach* them all things, and would help them to *remember* everything that Jesus had told them. Have you ever asked the Holy Spirit to help you accurately understand the words (and thoughts behind the words) you read in the Bible?