

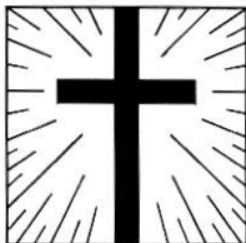
Diary Devotions

Year 12

Term 2

Studies on the character and nature of God

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SAVIOUR

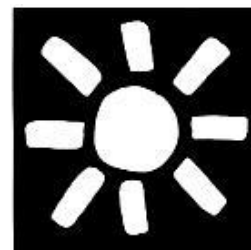
God so loved
the world...



PURE & HOLY

Whiter than
snow

Psalm 51:7



CREATOR

From the rising
of the sun, to its
setting, His name
is to be praised.

Jesus is Our Saviour Week 1

Through Him all things were made; In Him is life, and that life was the life of men (John 1:3-4)

God is a living person:

New life from the grain of wheat that dies (John 12:24)

The Sower (Mark 4:1-8)

Eternal life (John 17:3)

Made new in Christ (2 Cor. 5:17)

The Vine (John 15:1-11)

Jesus, the Living Water:

Jesus, the Living Water (John 7:37-39)

The woman at the well (John 4:5-30)

The Holy Spirit (John 14:26 & Acts 1:8)

The disciples receive the Holy Spirit (Acts 2 & Acts 10:44-48 & Acts 11:15-17)

Ask for the Holy Spirit (Luke 11:9-13)

God is the sustainer of life:

Life is more important than food (Matt. 6:25-34)

Man shall not live by bread alone (Matt. 4:4)

God sustained the Israelites in the wilderness (Exodus)

Jesus, the Vine (John 15)

Trees by a stream (Ps. 1:1-3)

Abundant life (John 10:10)

Jesus is Our Saviour Week 2

God is our Redeemer

But now in Christ Jesus, you who were once far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ.

For He Himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier (Ephesians 2:13-14).

God gives new life:

Jesus called the disciples to a new life (Matt. 9:9-12; Luke 5:27-32; John 1:43-50)

Nicodemus asks about new life (John 3:1-3)

The Great Feast (Luke 14:15-24)

For God so loved the world that He gave his only Son (John 3:16)

And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled you...through His death (Colossian 1:21).

But now in Christ Jesus, you who were once far away, have been brought near through the blood of Christ.

For He Himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier (Ephesians 2:13-14).

We have been reconciled to God through Christ's death (Col. 1:20 & 2 Cor. 5:17-20)

God has made us His friends (Rom. 5:10)

We are bought with a price (1 Cor. 7:23)

Christ broke down the barrier (Eph. 2:13-14)

We have peace with God through Jesus (Rom. 5:1)

Jesus is Our Saviour Week 3

God is our Peace and Joy

Peace

The peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:7).

Peace is an attitude of heart and mind, irrespective of the circumstances in which we find ourselves.

Peace is the result of a clear relationship between the individual and his God.

Psalms 23 and Psalm 91 are two of many examples in scripture of this inner peace.

Isaiah 32: 17 - The effect of righteousness shall be peace, and the result of righteousness, quietness and trust forever. It is good to apply this truth to the state of discipline in a classroom, school or home.

Galatians 5:22 - Peace is the fruit of the fruit of the Spirit. If we have all the other fruits of the Spirit operating in our lives: love, joy, patience, truth, goodness etc. then we have peace within our inner spirits. Peace is the gift of God to His children.

John 14:27; John 16:33 - Jesus *gives* His peace to us; we don't have to work for it.

Romans 5: 1. Being justified by faith we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Peace is a characteristic of secure people. Secure children are children with an inner peace, because they know who they are— (children of God.)— why they are here— (to live for God)—and where they are going— (following Jesus, the Way, the Truth and the Life).

Jesus was a secure child. e.g. the 12-year-old in the temple with the Pharisees.

People with peace in their hearts will be peacemakers with others.

Joy

The joy of the Lord is your strength (Nehemiah 8:10).

God is the joy of life

Joyful praise to the Lord (Ps. 95:1-5; Ps. 100; Ps. 147:1 & 7; Ps. 66:1; Ps. 148; Ps. 149; Ps. 150)

The people praised Jesus as He entered Jerusalem (Luke 19:37-40)

Joy is a fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22)

The lame man healed (Acts 3:1-10)

Paul and Silas sang praises in jail (Acts 16:23-26)

Rejoice in the Lord (Phil. 4:4-7)

God is Pure and Holy Week 1

God is without sin

He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth (1 Peter 2:24).

How can a young man keep his way pure? By living according to God's word (Psalm 119:9)

God cleanses us from sin

1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sin God will forgive us.

Psalm 51:1-7 - Wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.

Isaiah 1:18 - I will wash you as clean as the snow.

Psalm 145:17 - The Lord is righteous in everything He does.

1 Peter 1:19; Hebrews 9:14 - Jesus was without sin.

Isaiah 43:25 - I am the God who forgives your sins.

Matthew 9:1-7 - Jesus not only healed the paralyzed man but forgave his sin.

John 4 - Jesus forgave the sins of the woman at the well.

John 18 - 19 - Because Jesus was without sin He was able to die for us.

Exodus 30:17-21 - Those presenting an offering had to wash their hands for purity.

God is Pure and Holy Week 2

God is Righteous

God is righteous in all His ways and holy in all His works (Psalm 145:17).

Isaiah 6 is Isaiah's account of how he learned that God requires holiness in His people before they can be called into special work for Him.

We are called to be righteous. Goodness is a fruit of the Spirit:

Galatians 5:22-23 - The fruits of the Spirit

Mark 12:30-31 - **Love** your neighbour as yourself.

Acts 3 - The lame man healed, walking and leaping with **joy**.

Matthew 6:26 - Do not worry. (Have **peace**)

Ezra 4-6; Nehemiah 1-6 - **Patience** in rebuilding Jerusalem

2 Samuel 4 & 9 - **Kindness** to the lame prince, Mephibosheth
Luke 10: 25-37 - The Good Samaritan is a story of **kindness** and **gentleness**
Ephesians 5:8-11 - Show **goodness**, by living as children of the light
Jonah - Being **faithful** is obeying the Lord.
1 Samuel 17; 1 Samuel 26 - King Saul lacked **self-control**. His jealousy caused him to lose his temper.
Ephesians 6 - Put on the armour of God so that we may do the things God wants us to do.

God's righteousness, not self-righteousness:

The righteous Pharisee (Luke 18:9-14)
The tower of Babel (Gen. 11:1-9)
The woman caught in adultery (John 8:4-11)
Jesus and Nicodemus (John 3:1-6)

God is Pure and Holy Week 3

God is Holy

Be holy for I am holy (Leviticus 19:2)

Keep my decrees and follow them. I am the Lord who makes you holy. (Leviticus 20:7).

God is pleased when His people reflect His goodness, righteousness, holiness.

God has provided a way for His people to be good, righteous, holy through Jesus Christ:
Hebrews chapters 9, 10; 2 Cor. 5:21

Matt. 5:48 - Be perfect even as your Father in heaven is perfect.

Romans 8:1 - There is therefore now no condemnation for those that are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death.

1 Cor. 6:19 - Do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God? And you are not your own, you are bought with a price. So glorify God in your body and in your spirit which are God's.

Holiness through Jesus:

Acts 2:1-18 - The disciples received the Holy Spirit.

Leviticus 16:11-13 - God chose fire to remind people of purity and holiness.

Hebrews 10:5-9 - God no longer requires sacrifices.

Hebrews 10:10 - We are made holy through Jesus.

Luke 18:9-14 - The righteous Pharisee

1 Kings 18:1-40 - God of Israel or Baal? The fire of the Lord burned up the sacrifice.

Hebrews 12:29 - Our God is a consuming fire.

Zechariah 13:9 - God's refining of His people like the purifying of silver and gold.

Genesis 19 - Sodom and Gomorrah destroyed by fire.

Jeremiah 18:1-4 - God can change us.

Malachi 3:2-3 - The refiner's fire

God is Pure and Holy Week 4

God is Light

God is light; in Him there is no darkness at all. If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another and the blood of Jesus His Son purifies us from all sin (1 John 1:5-7).

Light is a symbol of purity:

Genesis 1 - God's light

Ephesians 5:8-11 - Live as children of the light.

Deuteronomy 6:18 - Do that which is right and good.

Galatians 5:22 - Goodness is a fruit of the Spirit.

Romans 13:12 - Put on the armour of light.

James 4:7 – Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

Matthew 5:13-16 - Christians as salt and light.

John 8:12 - Jesus, the light of the world

1 John 2:28-29 - Everyone who does what is right is of God.

Matthew 6:22-23 - If your eye is clear your whole body will be full of light.

Genesis 9 - The sign of the rainbow

Christians should be lights to the world:

Live as children of the light (Eph. 5:8-11)

Christians as salt and light (Matt. 5:13-16)

Jesus, the light of the world (John 8:12)

Walk in the light (1 John 1:5-7)

The armour of light (Rom. 13:12)

Goodness, a fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22; Deut. 6:18)

Things that are true, noble, right and pure (Phil. 4:8-9)

Life and light in the spirit of man:

In the spirit, as the light of God's love is allowed to shine into our inner being, it changes what is there and transforms us first internally, in our inner self. As God's light works on us and in us, the change and transformation is evident externally. The light of the knowledge of God shines in our faces. This is the external evidence of internal, spiritual growth.

Light enables life to exist.

New life in God is associated with light.

God is Creator Week 1

Genesis 1: In the beginning God created the whole universe.

He continues to create new things, animals, plants and human beings. God can make every person a new being, having His character, when they trust in Jesus as their Saviour.

God can help us to create new things that will be a blessing to Him and to other people.

You gave life to every living thing (Nehemiah (:16).

God is the giver of life. He created life.

God gave life to man (Gen 2:7)

In Him we live, move and exist (Acts 17:28)

We are wonderfully made (Psalm 139)

All creation praises the Lord (Psalm 148:9-13; 150)

God is Creator Week 2

God is Ordered

And God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good (Genesis 1:31).

God was orderly in the way He created everything:

- First He created **light** to work by.
- Next He needed **space** to work in. He made **a space** between the vapours above and the waters below.
- Third, He made **the dry land**, in preparation for the **plants** that would provide food.
- Fourth He created the **sun, moon and stars** to provide man with light by day and night.
- Fifth God made **the birds and sea creatures**. As God created the living creatures to inhabit the earth, He made first those that could exist in water and in the air, nesting in the trees above the ground. Was this because the land was not sufficiently dried out to allow animals to survive?
- On the sixth day He created **animals and man**. God prepared for man's coming to the earth following an **orderly plan**. He prepared a place for man to live, then plants to provide food, clothing and shelter, then animals birds and fish over which to have dominion, and provide help with food and labour.

God is Creator Week 3

God is a Designer

You created the moon to mark the months; the sun knows the time to set. Psalm 104:19 (GNB)

Only a carefully designed universe could contain such beauty and precision. This could not have been possible through chance, but only through the work of an Intelligent Designer.

Isaiah 45:18 “For this is what the Lord says, the Creator of the heavens, who stretches them out, who spreads out the earth with all that springs from it, who gives breath to its people, and life to those who walk on it.”

Psalms 139:13 “For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb.”

Romans 1:20 “For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.”

Colossians 1:16 “For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him.”

Psalms 104:24 “How many are your works, Lord! In wisdom you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.”

Nehemiah 9:6 “You alone are the Lord. You made the heavens, even the highest heavens, and all their starry host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. You give life to everything, and the multitudes of heaven worship you.”

John 1:3 “Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.”