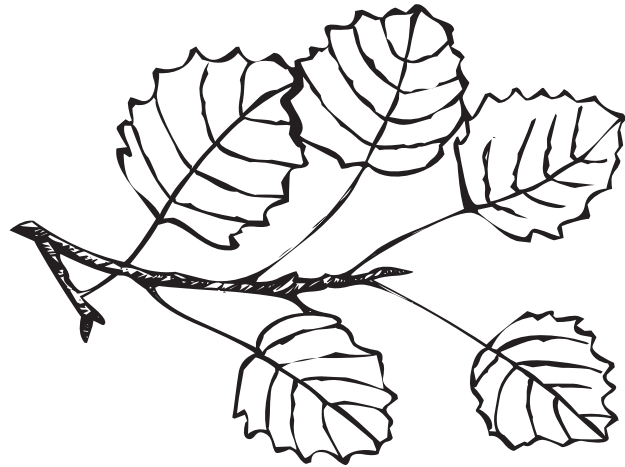


# His Joy

JANUARY

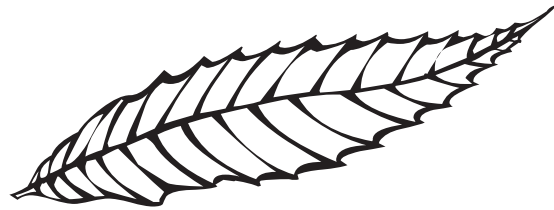


1. Luke 2:13-14
2. Matthew 2:9-11
3. Matthew 5:11-12
4. Psalm 5:11-12
5. Isaiah 12:3-4
6. John 16:32-33
7. James 1:2-4
8. Psalm 95:1-3
9. Psalm 30:4-5
10. Isaiah 61:10-11
11. Matthew 9:2,8
12. Hebrews 12:1-2
13. Psalm 16:9-11
14. Matthew 13:44
15. Isaiah 51:3
16. Romans 15:13
17. 1 Peter 1:8-9
18. Isaiah 65:17-18
19. Revelation 19:7-8
20. Luke 15:3-7
21. Luke 15:8-10
22. Matthew 25:21-23
23. Acts 2:44-46
24. John 15:9-11
25. Acts 16:23-25
26. Acts 5:41-42
27. John 17:12-13
28. Philippians 2:1-4
29. Isaiah 61:1-3
30. Psalm 92:1-4
31. Romans 5:10-11

*The New Testament begins with a multitude of angels singing at the birth of Jesus. It ends with the annihilation of pain and sorrow. We may sometimes think of Jesus as a man of sorrows, but he described himself and his disciples as a bridal party exempt from fasting! He displayed what sooner or later we all discover, that those who are doing the most for others are in fact the happiest people. Jesus found joy in his hope for the future, the knowledge that he was doing what was God's will for him, and that he was doing a great service for mankind. Jesus saw a magnificent outcome out of what appeared to be meager beginnings. He was certain of the ultimate victory of right over wrong. In this way I think we can see a connection between joy and courage. Dwelling on how much you gain from sacrifice and giving instead of what you give up helps us not only to be joyful, but also to have courage. No one ever has found real joy in a selfish life or by doing wrong. Be of good cheer!*

1. Pray. Help me to store up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against thee.
2. Read through slowly a couple times.
3. Write out by hand.
4. Highlight what the passage is saying about joy.
5. What can I do to add joy to my life today?

# His Generosity



1. Matthew 18:21-22
2. Mark 11:25
3. Luke 23:33-34
4. Colossians 3:12-13
5. 1 Peter 3:10-11
6. Proverbs 19:11
7. Proverbs 24:28-29
8. Romans 12:19-21
9. Leviticus 19:33-34
10. Zechariah 7:9-10
11. Galatians 5:14-15
12. Romans 15:1-2
13. 1 John 3:17-18
14. Matthew 9:10-13
15. Matthew 5:39-42
16. Matthew 5:43-45
17. Matthew 5:46-48
18. 1 Peter 2:19-20
19. Luke 6:34-36
20. Luke 6:37-38
21. Ephesians 4:31-32
22. James 3:17-18
23. Matthew 14:19-20
24. Matthew 19:21
25. Deuteronomy 15:10-11
26. 2 Corinthians 8:13-14
27. 2 Corinthians 9:6-7
28. 2 Corinthians 9:11-12
29. Isaiah 49:6

*The parable of the good Samaritan tells us about the evil robbers who left a man beaten and half-dead on the side of the road; it tells of a Levite and Priest who crossed to the other side, and the Samaritan who stopped to help. All that we know about the injured man is that he was in need. Jesus was willing to help anyone in need. True religion involves generosity: it involves unselfishness in giving and also unselfishness in receiving. When Jesus was wronged, he did not think first of the wrong that was done to him, but of the needs of those who did him wrong.*

*Love does not keep a record of wrongs. When you find others difficult, think what they must endure in you. Jesus loved his enemies and forgave them. He befriended all sorts of people. Be generous.*

1. Pray. *Help me to rejoice in the way of thy testimonies, as much as in all riches.*
2. Read.
3. Write out by hand.
4. Highlight what the passage is saying about generosity.
5. How can I apply this passage to be more generous today?

# His Indignation



1. Matthew 4:8-10
2. Mark 3:3-5
3. Matthew 7:3-5
4. John 2:14-15
5. John 2:16-17
6. Psalm 119:104
7. Mark 12:38-40
8. Matthew 12:31-32
9. Isaiah 59:1-2
10. Mark 8:31-33
11. Luke 17:1-2
12. Luke 20:45-46
13. Matthew 23:23-24
14. Matthew 23:25-26
15. Matthew 23:27-28
16. Psalm 97:10
17. Romans 12:9
18. Psalm 101:3-4
19. Matthew 25:34-36
20. Matthew 25:37-40
21. Matthew 25:41-43
22. Matthew 25:44-46
23. Ezekiel 22:29-30
24. John 8:3-5
25. John 8:6,7
26. John 8:8,9
27. John 8:10,11
28. Psalm 45:6-7
29. Revelation 21:24-27
30. Luke 12:45-46
31. 2 Corinthians 10:18

*How often is anger due to personal resentment? This can make us feel that anger is something to be ashamed of. There are, however, good reasons to be angry. Jesus was indignant at the evils ruining men: vices, dishonesty, hyposcrisy, pride... Without the abhorrence of evil, kindness becomes purposeless and diminished. Yet, condemnation alone accomplishes nothing. Jesus looked for and appreciated the beginnings of goodness in people as well; he could see the potential of what might be. He was never indignant of private wrongs, only of public evils. Hate evil because of the love you have for people.*

1. Pray. *Open my eyes that I may behold wonderful things out of thy law.*
2. Read.
3. Write out by hand.
4. Highlight what the passage is saying about indignation or what is causing the indignation.
5. What should I be indignant about and how can I use my indignation at things that are wrong in a positive way?

# *His* *Loyalty* to his cause



1. Luke 2:48-49
2. Luke 4:17-19
3. Luke 4:42-43
4. Psalm 40:7-8
5. Psalm 40:9-10
6. John 8:31-32
7. Matthew 12:47-50
8. John 9:4-5
9. Psalm 37:23-24
10. John 4:31-34
11. John 7:16-17
12. Psalm 119:100-101
13. Psalm 119:102-103
14. Luke 12:35-36
15. Matthew 5:13-14
16. Matthew 5:15-16
17. Jeremiah 15:16
18. Matthew 6:24
19. Matthew 6:33
20. Job 23:10-12
21. Matthew 7:24-25
22. Matthew 7:26-27
23. Psalm 25:8-10
24. Matthew 12:30
25. Titus 2:11-13
26. Matthew 26:37-39
27. Psalm 34:12-14
28. Psalm 34:15-16
29. Jeremiah 7:22-24
30. Micah 6:8

*Jesus was dedicated to his Father's work. He lived, prayed, suffered, and died for it. Following Jesus requires the same kind of devotion. He said that only those who do God's will are his family. We can ask what*

*God would have us do, we can test our choices based on His principles, and we can sharpen our conscience by attention to the Scriptures. However, the thing about loyalty is that sacrifices must be made. We can either stand for God or the opposite, but we cannot stand for both.*

*1. Pray. Make me to understand thy precepts so that I can talk of thy wondrous works.*

*2. Read.*

*3. Write out by hand.*

*4. Highlight what the passage is saying about loyalty.*

*5. How should loyalty to the Kingdom of God influence what I do today?*

# His Endurance

MAY

1. John 12:23-25
2. John 12:26-27
3. Luke 6:12
4. John 7:12-13
5. Mark 3:20-21
6. John 15:13-14
7. 1 Peter 2:21-24
8. Matthew 27:28-31
9. Matthew 26:37-38
10. Hebrews 10:35-36
11. John 15:4-5
12. John 15:18-19
13. Mark 1:22-33
14. Mark 1:34-35
15. 2 Corinthians 4:7-10
16. 2 Corinthians 4:16-18
17. Matthew 10:17-18
18. Matthew 10:21-22
19. Mark 13:8-9
20. Luke 6:22-23
21. John 16:1-3
22. Romans 5:3-5
23. Mark 10:29-30
24. Acts 5:40-41
25. James 1:12
26. Philippians 3:8
27. Romans 8:18-21
28. Isaiah 40:30-31
29. 2 Timothy 2:11-13
30. Hebrews 12:3-4
31. Galatians 6:9-10



*How often do we spend our time wishing that things were different, had better results, or suited us better? If anyone had to endure adverse circumstances, it was Jesus. He was misunderstood, thought crazy, plotted against, maligned... He knew what crucifixion was and that it awaited him. However, Jesus was never shaken because he had absolute trust in the good purpose of God. Trouble either embitters or ennobles a person. One becomes either resentful, discouraged and cynical or humbler, kinder and more spiritual. Trouble is a test of character.*

1. Pray. *Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity and quicken thou me in thy way.*
2. Read.
3. Write out by hand.
4. Highlight what the passage is saying about endurance.
5. How can you develop within yourself his trust in God and uncomplaining fortitude?

# His Sincerity



1. Matthew 5:23-24
2. Matthew 5:27-28
3. Matthew 6:1-2
4. Matthew 6:5-6
5. Ezekiel 13:22
6. 2 Peter 2:1-2
7. Matthew 7:15-17
8. Luke 11:39-40
9. Luke 11:42
10. Luke 11:46
11. Matthew 23:2-4
12. Matthew 23:5-7
13. Matthew 15:7-9
14. Isaiah 29:15
15. John 18:37
16. Matthew 12:33-34
17. Psalm 10:11-13
18. Psalm 64:5-6
19. Jeremiah 23:23-24
20. Proverbs 15:3
21. 1 John 4:1
22. Ezekiel 33:31
23. James 1:22-24
24. Psalm 78:36-37
25. John 5:44-47
26. John 12:42-43
27. 2 Corinthians 10:18
28. Romans 2:29
29. 1 Corinthians 13:3
30. Luke 16:15

*A lie is the foundational sin. Jesus was without guile and what he found the most fault with was hypocrisy. Hypocrisy cares little for real goodness, desiring only to appear well without having to pay the price that truth costs. It can also be found in being willing to appear worse than one really is by not confessing Christ or standing up for truth when the opportunity arises. Jesus would not lie to save himself from the cross. It was far more important to be right in the sight of God than to have the approval of his fellowmen. He showed that the real evil is in one's secret thoughts rather than a faulty keeping of the law. Those who are truly sincere are also those who can respect themselves.*

1. Pray. *Put false ways far from me and graciously teach me your law.*
2. Read.
3. Write out by hand.
4. Highlight what the passage is saying about sincerity.
5. How does this passage show me how to be sincere?

# His Discipline



1. Luke 2:52
2. Hebrews 2:14-15
3. Hebrews 2:16-18
4. Hebrews 4:14-15
5. Hebrews 5:1-2
6. Hebrews 5:7-8
7. Philippians 2:6-8
8. Luke 4:3-4
9. Luke 4:5-8
10. Luke 4:9-12
11. James 1:2-4
12. Luke 11:21-22
13. Luke 11:24-26
14. Mark 7:20-23
15. 2 Corinthians 3:17-18
16. Isaiah 50:5-7
17. Proverbs 3:3-4
18. Proverbs 16:6
19. Proverbs 8:13
20. Mark 8:34-35
21. Luke 22:40-42
22. Luke 22:43-46
23. Proverbs 16:18
24. Proverbs 25:28
25. Proverbs 16:32
26. Romans 12:16-18
27. Romans 12:20-21
28. 1 Corinthians 9:25
29. Romans 2:7
30. Romans 6:6-7
31. Romans 15:1-3

*Character is formed as the result of moral struggle, therefore temptation is an essential part of the battle for uprightness. It is only because of the possibility of deceit that honesty becomes a virtue. Temptation must be conquered in the mind. Character can be transformed for good or bad by the company you keep. Jesus developed his character through the temptations he conquered in submission to his Father's will, not by an inability to sin.*

*Power is always accompanied by the temptation to misuse it, and the more power, the more temptation. He was tempted to use his power for selfish purposes, to protect himself from suffering, and to fulfill the expectations of the people and set up the kingdom then and there. His self-restraint kept him obedient to his heavenly Father.*

1. Pray. *I have chosen the way of faithfulness, help me to cling to your testimonies.*
2. Read.
3. Write out by hand.
4. Highlight what the passage is saying about discipline.
5. What area of my life could this passage help me to have self-restraint?

# His Fearlessness

1. Matthew 10:34-35
2. Matthew 8:26-27
3. Matthew 15:12-14
4. Mark 3:6-8
5. Matthew 20:18-19
6. Luke 5:28-30
7. Mark 7:5-7
8. Mark 7:8-9
9. Matthew 21:12-13
10. Luke 12:4-5
11. Luke 5:37-39
12. Matthew 11:20-21
13. Matthew 10:27-28
14. Matthew 10:32-34
15. Matthew 8:11-12
16. Matthew 23:27-28
17. Luke 12:22-24
18. Luke 12:32-34
19. Isaiah 8:12-13
20. Psalm 27:1-3
21. Deuteronomy 31:6
22. Isaiah 35:3-4
23. Psalm 31:24
24. Psalm 118:6
25. John 14:27
26. Isaiah 51:7-8
27. Isaiah 51:12-13
28. Jeremiah 1:17
29. Ezekiel 2:6
30. 2 Timothy 1:7-8
31. Romans 8:14-15



*Jesus was not afraid to speak out against the oppression, hypocrisy, corruption, and injustice he saw around him. Sometimes it can be hard to see if we have become used to it and that is just the way it has always been. And it can be hard to speak against it when it means clashing with culture. Jesus was a disturbing personality to the religious leaders of the time. He sought to introduce a better type of spiritual life, and nobler religious thought when they were happy with what they had. He put himself absolutely in the hand of God and had unyielding faith that evil would not win. He was fearless, and we can be too.*

1. Pray. *Teach me good judgment and knowledge, for I believe in your commandments.*
2. Read.
3. Write out by hand.
4. Highlight what the passage is saying about fearlessness.
5. What fears do I have? How can I apply this passage to my fears?



# His Love

SEPTEMBER



1. Matthew 23:37
2. Matthew 18:12-14
3. John 15:9-12
4. John 15:13-15
5. John 13:1
6. John 13:12-15
7. 1 Corinthians 13:1-2
8. 1 Corinthians 13:3-4
9. 1 Corinthians 13:5-7
10. 1 Corinthians 13:8-10
11. John 11:3-5
12. Matthew 26:48-50
13. 1 Thessalonians 3:12-13
14. Leviticus 19:17-18
15. Galatians 3:20
16. John 3:16-17
17. Romans 5:6-8
18. Ephesians 5:1-2
19. John 13:34-35
20. 1 Peter 3:8-9
21. Ephesians 3:16-18
22. Zephaniah 3:16-17
23. Romans 8:35-37
24. Romans 8:38-39
25. Luke 6:35-36
26. Revelation 1:5-6
27. 1 John 4:7-8
28. 1 John 4:9-11
29. 1 John 4:18-19
30. 1 John 4:20-21

*Jesus saw humanity as a family with one Father, all men as brothers, and each individual of boundless value. The ideal for humanity being one family with God as the Father. He put the idea of self-sacrifice in its most difficult form: that even the most beautiful relationship (one's own family) cannot stand between a man and loyalty to the family of God. Although he was friendly towards all, he had a special friendship with his disciples nurtured by common faith, hope and devotion to the same cause. The ideal love in 1 Corinthians 13 was his.*

1. Pray. *Help me to be a companion of all who fear you, and of those who keep your precepts.*
2. Read.
3. Write out by hand.
4. Highlight what the passage is saying about love.
5. In what way can this passage change the way I love?

# His Priorities

1. Matthew 6:19-21
2. Matthew 6:22-23
3. Matthew 6:33-34
4. Matthew 6:31-32
5. Luke 14:16-18
6. Luke 14:19-20
7. Luke 14:21-22
8. Luke 14:23-24
9. Matthew 13:19
10. Matthew 13:20-21
11. Matthew 13:22-23
12. Luke 12:15
13. Luke 12:16-18
14. Luke 12:19-21
15. Isaiah 58:6-7
16. Isaiah 58:13-14
17. Luke 18:22-23
18. Luke 18:24-25
19. Luke 10:30-32
20. Luke 10:33-34
21. Luke 10:35-37
22. Matthew 12:10-12
23. Habakkuk 3:17-18
24. Psalm 90:10-12
25. 2 Corinthians 6:4-5
26. 2 Corinthians 6:6-8
27. 2 Corinthians 6:9-10
28. 1 Timothy 6:9-10
29. 1 Timothy 6:17-19
30. 1 John 5:11-12
31. Galatians 6:8-9



*Life brings us many different interests, but only one can be first. It is impossible to desire two mutually exclusive things: we must choose. Making the Kingdom of God your first priority does not exclude everything else, instead it glorifies all. Jesus saw the chief enemy to character as riches. Covetousness was ruining the spirit of the Kingdom. What is involved is putting the Kingdom of God first in all of daily life.*

1. Pray. *Incline my heart to thy testimonies and not to covetousness.*
2. Read.
3. Write out by hand.
4. Highlight what the passage is saying about priorities.
5. How can I align my own priorities with what this passage is telling me?

# His Spirit

1. Isaiah 42:1-2
2. Isaiah 42:3-4
3. Isaiah 11:2-3
4. Isaiah 11:4-5
5. Matthew 11:28-30
6. 1 Corinthians 12:12-14
7. Luke 14:7-9
8. Luke 14:10-11
9. Mark 1:32-35
10. Matthew 18:3-5
11. John 8:28-29
12. Luke 9:54-56
13. 2 Corinthians 10:1-2
14. Ephesians 4:11-12
15. Ephesians 4:13-14
16. Ephesians 4:15-16
17. Galatians 5:19-21
18. Galatians 5:22-24
19. Zechariah 9:9
20. Hebrews 13:17
21. Isaiah 53:7
22. Matthew 11:4-5
23. Jeremiah 23:5-6
24. Matthew 6:9-13
25. Matthew 26:41-42
26. Proverbs 22:4
27. 1 Peter 5:5
28. Proverbs 29:23
29. 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12
30. Hebrews 12:1-3



*The spiritual quality of a man comes from the reasons why he is good. Jesus was not good because he thought he was a good person, he was not good so that he would be admired, he was good because he was doing his Father's will and his Father was good. He recognized that God is the source of all that is worthy in us and so there is no room for pride in ourselves. He made regular use of prayer not to get God to change His plans, but to enter into spiritual fellowship with God's purpose. Humility and dependence on God is the only way for God to work through us. Pray without ceasing.*

1. Pray. *Give me understanding that I may keep your law and observe it with my whole heart.*
2. Read.
3. Write out by hand.
4. Highlight what the passage is saying about the spirit of Christ?
5. What do I need to change to have this same spirit?

# His Purpose

1. Genesis 3:15
2. Genesis 12:2-3
3. Genesis 26:3-4
4. Deuteronomy 18:18-19
5. 2 Samuel 7:12-13
6. Micah 5:2
7. Psalm 89:26-28
8. Psalm 2:7-9
9. Galatians 4:4-7
10. Isaiah 9:6
11. Isaiah 11:10
12. Isaiah 53:2-3
13. Isaiah 53:4-6
14. Isaiah 53:10-11
15. Psalm 69:20-21
16. Psalm 18:17-19
17. Psalm 18:20-22
18. Psalm 22:16-18
19. Psalm 16:10-11
20. Jeremiah 31:33-34
21. Daniel 7:13-14
22. Luke 2:4-6
23. Luke 2:7-9
24. Luke 2:10-12
25. Luke 2:13-14
26. Romans 5:18-19
27. Galatians 3:26-29
28. 1 Corinthians 15:20-23
29. 1 Corinthians 15:24-26
30. Ephesians 1:3-6
31. Revelation 22:1-4



*We have looked at the character of Jesus Christ - his joy, generosity, indignation, loyalty, endurance, sincerity, discipline, fearlessness, love, priorities, and the spirit that pervaded all his actions. In Jesus we see all that God intended when He created the first man and woman. Jesus said in John 17:19 "And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth" - he lived his life at its best for others. Why did Jesus die? His death showed us the desperate sinfulness of sin in the actions taken against him, and that we need to choose sides. At the same time, it was a witness of the love he and his Father have for us. His died as a final act of giving up the flesh, and choosing the spirit. And God raised him to be our Saviour.*

1. Pray. *Your hands have made and fashioned me; give me understanding that I may learn your commandments.*
2. Read.
3. Write out by hand.
4. Highlight what the passage is saying about Jesus' purpose.
5. How should this change me?