

We know words are powerful. They give life and death. Particularly the words we use when communicating to others. But let's take this week by hearing God's words for US. Each day we will read (and hopefully try to memorize) selected verses that remind us of who we are in God's eyes. Let these words bring LIFE to you this week.

Monday, April 9 – “Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God’s people, and also members of his household. *Ephesians 2:19*. “Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.” *John 1:12*. “We know that anyone born of God does not continue to sin; the One who was born of God keeps them safe, and the evil one cannot touch me.” *1 John 5:18*. Read these two or three times and then remember this: I live as a child of God today and the evil one cannot touch me.

Tuesday, April 10 – “Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death.” *Romans 8:1-2*. I am not condemned by my sin today, but have been set free by God's grace. What would these words mean to you if you were on death row? The fact is the whole human race IS on death row, justly condemned for repeatedly breaking God's holy law. Without Jesus we would have no hope at all. But thank God! He has declared us not guilty and has offered us freedom from sin and power to do his will.

Wednesday, April 11 - “But anyone who hates a brother or sister is in the darkness and walks around in the darkness. They do not know where they are going, because the darkness has blinded them.” *1 John 2:11*. “Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.” *Ephesians 4:32*. I have plenty of grace to give people today because of the grace God has given me. I will remember the prayer Jesus taught us (*Matthew 6:12*) and forgive and give grace to others today because the more I understand God's mercy, I want to be like him.

Thursday, April 12 - “For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” *Ephesians 2:10*. I'm going to make a difference today because God prepared in advance the work he has for me. If God considers us his handiwork (“masterpieces” in the NLT) we dare not treat ourselves or others with disrespect or as inferior work. **Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. *1 Peter 5:7*. Today, I am not anxious, worried, or weighed down. I have cast my burdens on the Lord and he cares for me. Carrying worries, stress and daily struggles by myself shows I have not trusted God fully with my life.**

Friday, April 13 - For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline. *2 Timothy 1:7*. Today, I am not afraid, or weak. I do not have a spirit of fear; but of power, love, and of self-discipline. **Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus. *1 Thessalonians 5:16-18*. Today I am not discouraged or defeated. The joy of the Lord is my strength and I will give thanks IN all circumstances.**