

Answer Key

The following answers provide responses to numerous questions in this study. However, it should be noted that this answer key is not exhaustive, as several questions require self-reflection and personal interpretation.

CHAPTER 1

In 2 Peter 1:5-8, Peter lists several virtues we should add to our faith. Which ones does he list? Write them here:

- Goodness
- Knowledge
- Self-control
- Perseverance
- Godliness
- Mutual affection
- Love

Likewise, Paul shares a similar list in Romans 12:9-21. Which ones does he list there?

- Sincerity
- Purity (hatred of evil)

- Goodness
- Devotion
- Honor
- Zeal
- Service
- Joy
- Patience
- Faith
- Generosity
- Hospitality
- Blessing
- Rejoicing
- Mourning
- Harmony
- Humility
- Righteousness
- Peace
- Goodness
- Compassion

Did you find any parallels between the beautification process and the Christian life? If you need help, maybe you can look up these verses:

2 Corinthians 7:1 & 1 John 3:3 - Esther went through a purification process before she met the king. As believers, we are purified from sin by living a life of obedience and following the example of Jesus.

2 Corinthians 2:15 - The perfume used to treat Esther is also known as "sweet odors." The Bible likens faithful believers to "a pleasing aroma to God."

John 14:26 - When Esther was taken to the palace, she was under the care of Hegai, who advised her on what she needed. As believers, we are under the care of the Holy Spirit who teaches and leads us.

CHAPTER 2

Throughout scripture, we see Jesus selflessly serving the needs of others. Write down how He served under each one of these verses.

John 13:1-17 - Jesus washed His disciples' feet.

Matthew 14:15-21 - Jesus fed the 5,000.

Luke 23:34 - Jesus forgave those who crucified Him.

John 15:13 - Jesus died for mankind.

Philippians 2:6-7 - Jesus lowered Himself as a servant of man.

Can you find two verses in the Bible that teach us to be selfless?
Write them below:

"Each of us should please our neighbors for their good, to build them up. For even Christ did not please himself but, as it is written: 'The insults of those who insult you have fallen on me.'" (Romans 15:2-3)

"Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends." (John 15:13)

What are some of the challenges that Sarah faced as a result of her selflessness?

She faced the challenge of jealousy and conflict with Hagar, her servant, whom she had given to Abraham to bear children for him.

When Abraham asked Sarah to pretend to be his sister, she subjected herself to the advances of other men in a foreign land.

She left behind the comfort and familiarity of home to travel with Abraham. This was a significant sacrifice and a challenging experience, as they faced difficulties and uncertainties in their journey.

CHAPTER 3

Under each verse, identify which part of the parable from Luke 10:25-37 represents the character and kindness of Christ:

- **The Samaritan came to where the man was.**

Luke 19:10, "For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

- **He was a Samaritan (despised by the Jews)**

Isaiah 53:3, "He was despised and rejected by mankind."

- **He bandaged his wounds**

Psalm 147:3, "He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds."

- **He poured oil on him**

Psalm 23:5, "You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows." (To set apart as consecrate and holy)

- **He poured wine on him**

Ephesians 5:18, "Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit." (To fill with the Spirit)

- **He paid the man's debt**

1 Corinthians 6:20, "You were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies."

- **He said he would return, and when he did, he would repay them yet again.**

Revelation 22:12, "Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done."

What does 1 Peter 4:10 say? Write the verse here:

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."

CHAPTER 4

What does Ephesians 3:20 tell us about the power of God? Write it in your own words:

That God is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us.

What are some of the potential struggles Mary could have faced as an unwed mother? See John 8:3-5 & Matthew 1:18-19

She could have been put to death if the community deemed her as an adulteress.

She risked the chance of losing Joseph, the man she was espoused to.

Read that passage from Luke 1:46-55 again, writing down some things that Mary knew about God that may have influenced her perspective on the situation.

- God is her Savior, and she rejoices in Him.
- God is mindful of the humble state of His servants.

- God has done great things for her, and all generations will call her blessed.
- God's name is holy.
- God's mercy extends to those who fear Him, from generation to generation.
- God has performed mighty deeds with His arm.
- God has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.
- God has brought down rulers from their thrones and lifted up the humble.
- God has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty.
- God has helped His servant Israel, remembering to be merciful to Abraham and his descendants forever, just as He promised their ancestors.

What does Romans 10:17 say? Write the verse out here:

"Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ."

CHAPTER 5

What specific qualities of the Proverbs 31 woman's character and behavior demonstrate her wisdom and devotion to God?

- Her fear of the Lord and her commitment to following His ways (Proverbs 31:30)

- Her diligent work ethic and ability to manage her household and finances (Proverbs 31:13-27)
- Her compassion and generosity towards the poor and needy (Proverbs 31:20)
- Her wisdom in speaking and teaching, and her ability to counsel others (Proverbs 31:26)
- Her faithfulness and trustworthiness, both to her husband and to God (Proverbs 31:11-12, 23)

What is the definition of wisdom according to Meriam-Webster's Dictionary?

The ability to discern inner qualities and relationships.

Read 1 Samuel 25. What are some actions that Abigail took that demonstrate wisdom?

- She recognized the danger that Nabal's foolish behavior had brought upon himself and his household, and she took action to intervene and prevent harm.
- She acted quickly and decisively, gathering food and supplies for David and his men without hesitation, and riding out to meet them herself to seek their forgiveness.
- She spoke tactfully and respectfully to David, acknowledging his rightful anger but also urging him to consider the bigger picture and the potential consequences of his actions.
- She appealed to David's sense of justice and fairness, pointing out that avenging Nabal's insults would not be worth the cost in bloodshed and conflict.

- She demonstrated her humility and willingness to take responsibility for her husband's actions, even though she herself had no part in them.

James 1:5 tells us what to do if we are lacking in wisdom. What is it?

We should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to us.

1 Peter 2:23 tells us that Jesus didn't retaliate when He was insulted. What did He do instead?

He entrusted Himself to Him who judges justly.

CHAPTER 6

How did Job demonstrate his diligence in managing his household?

- He regularly offered sacrifices for his children, in case they had sinned or cursed God in their hearts (Job 1:5).
- He was a wealthy man with many possessions, but he did not let his wealth and status make him complacent. He was diligent in managing his household, and he took care to ensure that his servants and livestock were well cared for (Job 1:3, 31:13-23).
- He was careful to protect the sanctity of his marriage, and avoid any wrongdoing by making a covenant with his eyes not to look lustfully at a young woman (Job 31:1).

- He was a just and fair employer, and he treated his servants with respect and kindness (Job 31:13-15).
- He was a generous and hospitable host, and he regularly opened his home to strangers and travelers (Job 31:31-32).

In Job Chapter 1, we read how he lost his animals, his servants, and his children all in one night. What did Job do after hearing the news?

He got up, tore his robe, shaved his head, and then he fell to the ground in worship. He did not blame the Lord for any wrongdoing.

We learn a lot about Job's character in Chapter 31. Make a list of the qualities or traits you find in that chapter.

- Diligence in managing his household and possessions (Job 31:13-14)
- Commitment to sexual purity and self-control (Job 31:1)
- Willingness to care for the poor and needy (Job 31:16-23)
- Honesty and transparency in his relationship with God (Job 31:33-34)
- Refusal to put his trust in material possessions (Job 31:24-25)
- Compassion towards his servants and employees (Job 31:13-15)
- Justice and fairness in his dealings with others (Job 31:29-30)
- Respect for the dignity and worth of all people, regardless of their status or background (Job 31:13-15, 31-32)

- Fear of God and reverence for His authority (Job 31:23, 28, 34)
- Persistence in maintaining his integrity and righteousness, even in the face of adversity and opposition (Job 31:1-40)

CHAPTER 7

In what ways did David's fear of the Lord influence his relationship with God and his approach to repentance? (See Psalm 51)

1. He humbly acknowledged his sin. (Psalm 51:1-4)
2. He recognized God's mercy and love. (Psalm 51:1-2)
3. He desired inner transformation knowing that true repentance involves a change of heart and mind. (Psalm 51:10)
4. He understood the importance of genuine repentance. (Psalm 51:16-17)
5. He committed to teaching and sharing God's ways. (Psalm 51:13)
6. His fear of the Lord led him to offer praise and thanksgiving. (Psalm 51:14-15, 19)

In the Parable of the Wise and Foolish Builders in Matthew 7:24-28, who does Jesus compare the wise builder to?

Jesus compares the wise builder to those who hear His words and put them into practice. The wise builder is the one who builds their house on a solid foundation (the rock), which represents following Jesus' teachings and applying them to one's life.