

# The Vision for *The Word of God Series*

On July 30, 2013, when I was working at a church, I was alone in the church library at lunchtime. I spent a few minutes in prayer and asked God to show me the next steps for *The Word of God Series*.

When I looked up, here is the verse that I saw stenciled on the wall:

*And the LORD answered me:*

*“Write the vision;  
make it plain on tablets,  
so he may run who reads it.”*

*~ Habakkuk 2:2 (ESV)*

It was a shockingly clear answer to prayer—emblazoned on the wall!

I took it to mean that I should write my vision down, so that someday another person (or people) can pick up this idea and “run” with it.

In an effort to make this vision “plain on tablets” I have made it available on my website, so people can literally read it on their tablets!

So, with a divine mandate such as that, here is my vision for *The Word of God Series*.

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## **Overview of *The Word of God Series***

*The Word of God Series* is a collection of 20 booklets that present:

- ***Scripture verses by topic***
- in an ***easy-to-read*** format
- with beautiful ***nature photography*** displayed on each page
- and a presentation of ***the Gospel*** and a section of ***Praise and Thanksgiving Scriptures*** in every booklet

The intent is to offer people Bible verses by topic, so they can focus on verses that are relevant to them at different stages and circumstances throughout their lives.

Titles include:

### **The Life and Ministry of Christ Series**

Jesus: His Birth

Jesus: His Life Events

Jesus: His Teachings

Jesus: His Death, Resurrection and Return

### **Relational and Emotional Health Topics**

A Joy-Filled Life

Healthy Relationships

Healthy Thoughts

Freedom from Addictions

Freedom from Depression and Comfort in Grief

Freedom from Fear

### **Everyday Life Topics**

God is Your Refuge

God's Healing Power

God's Guidance for Your Life

God's Word to the Nations

Praise God at Thanksgiving

### **Spiritual Growth Topics**

God's Power and Presence

God's Gift of Eternal Life

Sharing the Good News

Defeating the Enemy

Standing Strong in Times of Persecution

## Purpose

The ultimate purpose of the series is to advance God's Kingdom.

My personal desire is for every person alive today (and every person who will come after us) to:

- know the abundant and unfailing love of God
- hear the Good News of a glorious inheritance available to them through the sacrifice of Christ
- choose to turn from their sin and accept this gift of salvation and eternal life
- demonstrate their gratitude to God by living in a way that pleases Him
- live each day with the hope of this magnificent future...and share it with others
- experience the realization of that hope someday when God calls them home and welcomes them into His everlasting Kingdom

These booklets are one means of achieving this purpose, by empowering people with God's Word:

- First, for people with minimal (or no) knowledge of Scripture:
  - Offer God's Word in an easy-to-read format, with a topical presentation of verses
  - Present the Gospel message (using just Scripture) in each booklet
- Second, for people who have given their lives to Christ and understand the value of God's Word:
  - Strengthen these believers in their faith
  - Encourage them to share the love of Christ and the hope of the Gospel with others

These booklets can be used for:

- Scripture Memorization | Daily Devotionals | Spiritual Empowerment
- Gifts (Mother's Day and Father's Day, Christmas, Graduations, Birthdays, Gifts of Encouragement)

## Target Audience

- The primary target audience is those who have a minimal knowledge of the Bible, but are interested in reading a booklet on a topic that is of particular interest to them (such as *Healthy Relationships*.)
- Because the target audience is primarily people who may not know Christ, or understand His plan of salvation, the Gospel message (using only Scripture) is presented in each booklet.
- The secondary target audience is believers who want to know what God's Word teaches on various topics so they can apply it to the different circumstances and stages throughout their lives.

## My Prayer

- I pray that millions of these booklets (or some version of them) will be distributed in print and digital formats, in many different languages, all across the globe. See the [God's Word to Me: Complete the Ministry God Has Given You](#) section below for ideas on how to accomplish this.
- I also pray that every person who reads any of these booklets will be eternally impacted:
  - That those who don't know Christ, will come to faith in Him
  - That those who do know Christ will be encouraged in their faith and share their hope with others

## History of the Series

These books began as (what I hope will someday be considered) a mustard seed. See [Mark 4:30-32](#) for an explanation of the mustard seed illustration.

In April, 2006, my dad was diagnosed with cancer, so in order to encourage him, I developed a listing of a few verses on God's healing power. My brother added a few verses, formatted them into a booklet, and added nature imagery as a watermark on each page. So, the idea of a booklet with nature imagery was born.

At about the same time, our mom was retiring, and we decided to develop a similar booklet about God's guidance as a retirement gift for her. So, the idea of a topical presentation of Scripture was born.

The idea grew from there, and as of 2024, 20 booklets (in both print and digital formats) have been developed and published.

## The Sense of Urgency

Initially I saw these booklets as a life-long project that I would work on as time allowed, and bring to fruition "someday when I retire."

However, in recent years I have felt a real urgency to expedite this project.

We have all watched in horror as Satan spans the globe with much destructive power—power that is staggering: depression and suicide, human trafficking, drug addictions, poverty, wars, terrorism, school massacres, horrifying levels of Christian persecution all across the globe, a disturbing increase in demonic occult influences in America, etc.

We need something very powerful (and supernatural) to stop this nightmare from further metastasizing. Neither politics, psychology, education, wealth, government programs, advances in medicine and science, nor any other factor of society has been able to stop it.

I have concluded that the two most powerful, viable, and easy-to-implement solutions are to:

- 1) pray to the LORD God Almighty
- 2) use the weapon of God's Word

The words "**it is written**" gave Jesus the victory over Satan in the desert (see [Matthew 4:2-11](#)) and I believe God's written Word will give us, in this generation, the victory as well.

## Uniqueness of the Series

There are many excellent Christian books and devotionals on the market, and I have benefited greatly from several of them. So why another product?

The following features differentiate this series from the other devotionals and Scripture-focused books:

### Pure Scripture Power

- Intentionally designed to be **only Scripture**—just the powerful, undiluted Word of God, without any human commentary

### Topical Presentation of Scripture

- While many Scripture-focused booklets have a **demographic focus** (i.e. God's Word for mothers, fathers, women, men, teens, etc.) the booklets in this series each have a different **topical focus** (i.e. *Healthy Relationships*, *God's Healing Power*, *Freedom from Fear*, etc.)
- The booklets are designed to be an introduction to God's Word. Again, the primary target audience is people with a minimal knowledge about the Bible, but would like to read verses on a topic that is of importance to them.
- Time spent paging through the Bible in search of verses related to any specific topic is minimized. **Readers can spend less time searching for those verses and more time reading them.**

## Easy-to-Read Design

- The booklets are designed to be an easy and enjoyable way to read God's Word.
- The font is dark, slightly larger than standard, and is printed on bright white paper.
- The paper (Cougar® paper) has smooth finish.

## The Good News, or the Gospel, is Presented in Every Booklet

- All of the booklets in the series (except the one on persecution) include an entire section that presents the Gospel message. This section is referred to as *God's Gift of Eternal Life*.
- Every person who buys or receives any of these booklets will have the information they need to understand the Good News and find salvation and eternal life in Christ.
- The **section headings** in the Gospel section are **the same** from booklet-to-booklet (i.e. God Loves You, But Your Sin Separates You from God, Jesus Died to Save You, etc.)
- However, the **verses** under each section heading **vary** from booklet-to-booklet. That way, if someone has multiple booklets, they would read a different assortment of verses in this section.
- The booklet entitled ***God's Gift of Eternal Life*** is devoted exclusively to the Gospel message.
- A document entitled ***God's Gift of Eternal Life*** offers an extensive listing of verses on the Gospel message that can be used for quick reference (available at [www.TheWordOfGodSeries.com](http://www.TheWordOfGodSeries.com)).

## Praise Scriptures are Presented in Every Booklet

- Praise and thanksgiving are vital to living a rich, full and abundant life in Christ.
- So, every booklet features a section with verses of praise, adoration and thanksgiving.
- Expressions of gratitude can combat depression and emptiness, and fill us with hope and joy.
- Even more, thanksgiving and praise gets us into **the gates** and **the courts** of the King of kings.

*Enter his gates with thanksgiving,  
and his courts with praise...*

~ Psalm 100:4a (NIV) – emphasis added

- Through **thanksgiving** (thanking God for what He has done for us) we come closer to Him—we enter through the gates.
- Through **praise** (adoring God for who He is) we come into His courts—the courts of the eternal King!
- A document entitled ***Praise and Thanksgiving Scriptures*** offers an extensive listing of verses on praise that can be used for quick reference (available at [www.TheWordOfGodSeries.com](http://www.TheWordOfGodSeries.com)).

## Nature Photography

- Every booklet includes beautiful imagery of mountains, forests, deserts, waterfalls, tropical beaches, and wildlife from around the world.
- Nature photos are included to remind people that God is the Creator, and to use the beauty of nature to point people to Him.

*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...*

~ Romans 1:20a (NIV)

- Every booklet also includes a cross that is uniquely and prominently displayed in a nature setting, as well as a picturesque church from somewhere in the world.

## Translations Used

Five of the best known translations are used in this series: NIV, NLT, ESV, KJV, NKJV.

I have selected the most suitable translation for each verse based on my primary target audience (people with a minimal knowledge of Scripture.)

My rationale for selecting each of these is as follows:

- NIV: (New International Version) One of the most widely-recognized translations. I consider it to be a good compromise between a word-for-word translation (such as the ESV) and more of a thought-for-thought translation (such as the NLT).
- NLT: (New Living Translation) An easy-to-read translation in conversational English. I believe it is a good translation for people new to the Bible, and it also provides more clarity to some of the harder-to-follow passages. \*
- KJV: (King James Version) As language changes and the KJV becomes increasingly difficult to read, only a few KJV verses are in each booklet. While the average person can no longer read this translation with ease, I want this generation (and future generations) to have at least some familiarity with it, primarily because of its historical significance.
- The King James Bible played a significant role in shaping Western civilization and it has endured for over 400 years.
- Also, the LORD's Prayer is presented in the KJV, since that is the translation that many English-speaking churches still pray on Sunday mornings.
- NKJV: (New King James Version) Used because it is one of the few translations that capitalizes the divine pronoun (the words "He" "His" and "Him") when referring to God. This is helpful when a verse is removed from its context, so that the reader will know that the "He" in the passage refers to God.
- The NKJV is also used for familiar passages that are generally known in that translation (i.e. Psalm 23 and John 3:16.)
- ESV: (English Standard Version) The ESV is closer to a word-for-word translation, and is popular with many churches, so I have included it to help people become more familiar with it.

\* In 2014 I did a major re-write of the booklets, and one of the changes was to scale back on the number of translations used (originally there were 9 translations.)

I debated whether or not to keep the NLT translation, as it is less of a literal translation than the other ones. However, given my target audience, I believe that it is a very readable translation. Also, God has spoken to me several times *through that particular translation*.

So I prayed for wisdom, and God answered my prayer in a very interesting way...

In the middle of the re-write, I set the whole project aside during Holy Week. I wanted to devote that week to begin a booklet focused on the events of Holy Week (which eventually became the *Jesus: His Death, Resurrection and Return* booklet.)

As part of this booklet, many prophecies from the Old Testament, which were fulfilled in Christ's life and death, are presented. What I discovered was that, more often than not, *when the New Testament author referred back to the Old Testament, they didn't generally quote the Old Testament passage word-for-word*. The essence of the verse was the same, but it wasn't verbatim.

I realized that God was probably answering my prayer (through His Word!) by showing me that, even from Old to New Testament, there isn't an exact word-for-word rendering.

So, believing that God had answered my prayer on this issue, I decided to continue using NLT translation.

## **Booklets Completed and Available**

The following is a brief overview of each of the booklets currently available.

### **The Life and Ministry of Christ Series**

***Jesus: His Birth***

***Jesus: His Life Events***

***Jesus: His Teachings***

***Jesus: His Death, Resurrection and Return***

This series presents the whole story of Jesus: from His birth, His life events (miracles, healings, interactions with others, etc.) what He taught, His death and resurrection, and it concludes with hopeful verses anticipating His return.

Verses were sourced primarily from the Gospel accounts of Christ's life in the New Testament books of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

Prophecies from the Old Testament, which were fulfilled in Christ, are included to give people confidence that Jesus is the Messiah that the Jewish prophets wrote about hundreds of years before.

If an event or teaching is recorded in multiple gospel accounts, then the *most informative* one was selected. If another account provides *additional* information, then just that part of the passage is presented.

This series has evolved a bit over time. Initially I had planned to create a *Christmas-themed* booklet featuring the Nativity story (with winter imagery) and an *Easter-themed* booklet highlighting the death and resurrection of Christ (with spring imagery.)

However, the seasonal imagery just didn't fit with the passages.

So...I scrapped the holiday/seasonal idea and decided to develop ***an entire series just about Jesus.*** In keeping with the theme of these booklets, most of the imagery in *The Life and Ministry of Christ* series is from Israel.

## **Relational and Emotional Health**

This series applies the power of God's Word to difficult situations people face (depression, relational challenges, fear, addictions, etc.) and points them to verses that will help them find healing and deliverance.

The booklets ***Freedom From Depression and Comfort in Grief***, ***Freedom From Fear*** and ***Freedom From Addictions*** are:

- therapeutic in nature
- designed to help people work through, and experience freedom from, issues that they struggle with
- ideally used for a temporary period of time until God brings deliverance
- My prayer is that God will bring healing so that the readers can then set these booklets aside and *focus on other reading that will help to deepen their faith.*

The booklets ***A Joy-Filled Life***, ***Healthy Relationships*** and ***Healthy Thoughts*** are:

- designed to help people build and live healthy lives
- suitable for anyone, at any stage in life

Below are overviews of each booklet in the *Relational and Emotional Health* series:

### ***A Joy-Filled Life***

A universal booklet that is suitable for anyone at any time, regardless of their current life circumstances. It is an "everyday booklet for everyone" filled with verses about hope and joy.

### ***Healthy Relationships***

For those who want to strengthen and enhance their relationships, as well as for those who are experiencing relational difficulties.

### ***Healthy Thoughts***

Encouragement for people to focus their thoughts on God and to counteract the negative thought patterns that adversely affect so many areas of life.

### ***Freedom From Depression and Comfort in Grief***

A therapeutic booklet focused on healing. It also includes a section for those experiencing grief.

This booklet also has an extensive section of verses on praise and thanksgiving. The reason for the emphasis on praise in this booklet is a personal one.

I have found that, when I begin to experience depression, if I immerse myself in praise Scriptures, read, meditate on, and ***pray them back to God***, the depression will lift and be replaced with joy.

Shifting the focus *from ourselves to our God* is very therapeutic. God doesn't need our praise, but ***we need to praise Him***.

### ***Freedom From Fear***

A therapeutic booklet focused on healing and deliverance. For those who occasionally experience fear in everyday life situations and for those who suffer from anxiety or panic disorder.

### ***Freedom From Addictions***

A therapeutic booklet focused on finding freedom in Christ and staying on the path of recovery.



## **Everyday Life Topics**

### ***God is Your Refuge***

Offers the comfort of Scripture for those who are experiencing difficulties.

Highlights verses that show you that God is your refuge, deliverer, strength, power, light, joy and peace.

### ***God's Healing Power***

Presents verses that offer hope and comfort in times of suffering, as well as verses about God's healing power and the miraculous healing power of Christ.

### ***God's Guidance for Your Life***

Includes verses about God's promises to guide and direct us and about fulfilling His purpose for our lives.

### ***God's Word to the Nations***

Offers verses about God's sovereignty over the nations, how a nation can receive God's blessings, warnings to nations that abandon Him, inspiring the next generation, etc.

### ***Praise God at Thanksgiving***

A great Thanksgiving-season devotional, filled with verses of praise, thanksgiving and adoration, with beautiful autumn imagery.

## **Spiritual Growth Topics**

### ***God's Gift of Eternal Life***

Presents the Gospel message, using only Scripture. Due to the importance of this subject, an abridged version of this booklet is presented in every booklet.

### ***God's Power and Presence***

Presents verses about some of the most important aspects of the Christian life and the keys to spiritual revival:

- The Power of Prayer
- The Primacy of God's Word
- The Presence of the Holy Spirit
- The Proclamation of the Gospel
- The Practice of Praise

### ***Sharing the Good News***

A great resource for people engaged in local and global outreach and evangelism.

### ***Defeating the Enemy***

A booklet about spiritual warfare, including verses about the weapons God gives us for victory.

### ***Standing Strong in Times of Persecution***

Filled with encouragement from Scripture, this booklet will help you endure whatever persecution you may face and stand strong for the sake of Christ and the advancement of His kingdom.

## **Booklets Still to be Completed**

I hope to complete all of the following booklets in the next few years. But I also want to be faithful to God's mandate to "write the vision." Since future booklets are part of the vision that God has given me, I am presenting all of those ideas. So if someone is able to bring these ideas to fruition sooner than I can, this will provide them with a starting point.

Note: the cover images for these booklets would need to be purchased on [www.bigstockphoto.com](http://www.bigstockphoto.com) for "extended license use" since the imagery would be a prominent part of the cover.

## **God's Word for Kids Series**

This will be a set of booklets for kids in four different age brackets, with different verses, font sizes, and image themes for each age bracket. Series title could be: NextGen4God, Kids4Christ, God's Word2Me

### Include some (or all) of the following elements:

- 5-10 topically-related verses on each page
- A prayer based on the verses
- An animal image on each page
  - For kids ages 5-6: Baby animals with their mothers
  - For kids ages 7-8: Cute, cuddly animals
  - For kids ages 9-10: Exotic creatures (exotic fish, birds, amphibians)
  - For kids ages 11-12: Wild animals (bears, African savanna animals, lions, jaguars)

Each set would include 4-6 separate booklets (enclosed in a folder like a Bible cover, with left and right pockets to slip the booklets into sideways/horizontally) with each focusing on a different topic. Possible titles could include:

*God Loves You and Jesus Died for You*

*God Wants You to Love Others (care about them, refuse to gossip about them, forgive them, help them, pray for them, etc.)*

*How You Can Please God (trust God, praise Him, always do the right thing, be a peacemaker, etc.)*

Or, each age category would have a different theme:

Ages 5-6: Who God is

Our Heavenly Father | The Good Shepherd | The King of Kings  
The Light of the World | The Prince of Peace

Ages 7-8: Heroes of the Bible

Ages 9-10: God's Gift of Eternal Life

Ages 11-12 Live a Life that Pleases God:

Live a Life of Love  
Live a Life of Righteousness and Generosity  
Live a Life of Obedience and Humility  
Live a Faith-Filled and Praise-Filled Life

Printing Suggestion: Ideally a max of 20 pages per booklet, printed on high-gloss, heavy weight paper and staple-bound so that they open flat.

## **Dig Deep Series**

This will be a set of shorter booklets, marketed as one unit, enclosed in a folder (like a Bible cover, with left and right pockets to slip the booklets into sideways/horizontally).

Each booklet will focus on a significant passage in the Bible.

The **phrases** from the passages become the **section headings**:

### ***The LORD's Prayer***

Base the entire booklet on the LORD's Prayer, and group verses under the following section headings:

- Our Father (verses which demonstrate that God is our Father)
- Who Art in Heaven (verses about God's holiness, sovereignty and majesty)
- Hallowed be Thy Name (verses about the importance of God's name), etc.

### ***Love Is...*** (based on [1 Corinthians 13:4-7](#))

- Love is Patient
- Love is Kind
- Love Does Not Envy, etc.

### ***The Fruits of the Spirit*** (based on [Galatians 5:22-23](#))

- Love
- Joy
- Peace, etc.

### ***Names of God***

- Heavenly Father | Good Shepherd | Prince of Peace | Lamb of God | Lion of Judah
- King of kings and LORD of lords | El Shaddai (God Almighty)
- Jehovah Jireh (The LORD Who Provides) | Jehovah Rapha (The LORD Who Heals), etc.

### ***The Beatitudes***

- Blessed are the poor in spirit...
- Blessed are those who mourn...
- Blessed are the meek...

### ***ACTS Prayer Model***

Develop a booklet to help people **incorporate Scripture into their prayers**.

In the ACTS Prayer Model, prayers begin with Adoration (adoring God for who He is), then move into Confession, Thanksgiving, and lastly, Supplication (presenting requests to God.)

- Adoration
- Confession
- Thanksgiving
- Supplication

## **God's Word for Every Season**

A set of four booklets, one for each season, marketed as one unit, enclosed in a folder (like a Bible cover, with left and right pockets to slip the booklets into sideways/horizontally).

This set of booklets will be a bit of a departure from the rest of the series, which focuses on a *topical* presentation of verses. The theme of each booklet in this mini-series will be on *seasonal imagery*.

Task: choose 1,000 of the most powerful verses/passages from the Bible, break them down into four booklets of 250 verses/passages each, and incorporate seasonal images into the booklet.

There could still be a topical presentation of verses within each booklet, with verses grouped into different categories such as:

- Prayer
- Wisdom
- Relationships (with God and others)
- Praise
- Strength for the journey, etc.

## **A Life that Pleases God**

This will be a set of shorter booklets, marketed as one unit, enclosed in a folder (like a Bible cover, with left and right pockets to slip the booklets into sideways/horizontally).

### **Booklet 1: *Live a Life of Love***

- Love God
- Love Others
- Forgive Easily
- Guard Your Tongue
- Pursue Peace, etc.

### **Booklet 2: *Live a Life of Righteousness and Generosity***

### **Booklet 3: *Live a Life of Obedience and Humility***

### **Booklet 4: *Live a Faith-Filled Life and Praise-Filled Life***

## **God's Word for Meditation**

Present Scriptures that are easy to memorize and meditate on throughout the day. List both the:

- 1) short, meditational phrase that can easily be remembered
- 2) entire verse or passage so the reader can see the phrase in context

### **Section 1: "Be" verses**

#### **Be kind and compassionate...**

Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other,  
just as in Christ God forgave you.

~ Ephesians 4:32 (NIV)

#### **Be merciful...**

Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

~ Luke 6:36 (NIV)

#### **Be humble and gentle...**

Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other,  
making allowance for each other's faults because of your love.

~ Ephesians 4:2 (NLT)

#### **Be patient with each other...**

Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other,  
making allowance for each other's faults because of your love.

~ Ephesians 4:2 (NLT)

#### **Be strong and courageous.**

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous.  
Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged,  
for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."

~ Joshua 1:9 (NIV)

### **Section 2: "Do" verses**

#### **...love each other deeply...**

Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.

~ 1 Peter 4:8 (NIV)

#### **...encourage one another...**

Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

~ 1 Thessalonians 5:11 (ESV)

## **Trust in the LORD with all your heart...**

Trust in the LORD with all your heart,  
And lean not on your own understanding;  
In all your ways acknowledge Him,  
And He shall direct your paths.

~ Proverbs 3:5-6 (NKJV)

## **Love the LORD your God**

**with all your heart and  
with all your soul and  
with all your mind and  
with all your strength.**

One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, "Of all the commandments, which is the most important?"

"The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this:

‘Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.

‘Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’

"The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’

"There is no commandment greater than these."

~ Mark 12:30 (NIV)

## **Verse-by-Date Daily Devotional**

This will be a 365 day devotional, with each daily entry featuring verses in which the chapter and verse number corresponds to that month and day of the year (same premise as the Birth Verse project noted below in the [Additional Product Ideas](#) section.)

For example, on January 1, the devotional will feature verses that are in chapter 1, verse 1 of the various books of the Bible such as:

[Genesis 1:1](#), [John 1:1](#), etc.

On January 2, the entries might be:

[Proverbs 1:2](#), [Romans 1:2](#), etc.

Developing this booklet would be a great year-long daily dive into the Scriptures, beginning on January 1.

The greatest challenge will be to come up with a more catchy-sounding title!!

## **Ideas for Future Publications**

### **Highlight a key Scripture at beginning of each section**

- Highlight a verse at the beginning of each section that encapsulates the verses in that section.

### **Add a “Personal Reflections” section**

- Leave space after each verse or section for the reader to add their own thoughts or prayers.
- This would make the booklets more interactive and more of a study devotional. Print booklets with a staple binding to make them easier to open flat and write in.

### **Break the booklets down into smaller booklets**

- Each booklet would be more focused. For example break down the *God’s Power and Presence* into five separate booklets and group them together:
  - *The Power of Prayer*
  - *The Primacy of God’s Word*
  - *The Presence of the Holy Spirit*
  - *The Proclamation of the Gospel*
  - *The Practice of Praise*
- As another example, the *God is Your Refuge* booklet could be broken down into four separate booklets and grouped together:
  - *God is Your Refuge and Deliverer*
  - *God is Your Strength and Power*
  - *God is Your Light, Hope and Joy*
  - *God is Your Trust, Salvation and Peace*
- Identify the booklets as belonging to a group by using a similar front cover image, for example:
  - All of the *God’s Power and Presence* booklets could have *mountain images*.
  - All of the *God is Your Refuge* booklets could have *forest images*.

### **The upside to breaking booklets into shorter booklets:**

- Fewer pages and cheaper to print. Lower cost would make them more of an impulse buy (cheaper to buy a 16-page *The Power of Prayer* booklet than a 62 page *God’s Power and Presence* booklet.)
- More effective marketing by sending a prospective customer an entire booklet as a sample so they can experience the actual product.

### **The downside:**

- Loss of an opportunity to include even an abridged version of the Gospel in each booklet. This is a *major draw-back*, as the whole purpose of these booklets is to present the plan of salvation in every booklet so people will come to a saving knowledge of Christ.
- The *God’s Gift of Eternal Life* booklet can’t be broken down, as all of the sections in that booklet are needed to fully understand God’s plan of salvation.

### **Potential work-around:**

Group shorter books into sets of 4, with one booklet that includes the Gospel message, and market them *as a unit* enclosed in a folder (like a Bible cover, with left and right pockets to slip the booklets into sideways/horizontally).

## Additional Product Ideas

### Greeting Cards

8-page, stable-bound abridged version of various booklets

- Get Well cards (excerpts from ***God's Healing Power***)
- Graduation cards (excerpts from ***God's Guidance for Your Life***)
- Wedding cards (excerpts about marital relationships from ***Healthy Relationships***)
- Encouragement cards (excerpts from ***God is Your Refuge***)
- Condolence cards (the *God's Comfort in Times of Grief* section from ***Freedom from Depression and Comfort in Grief***)

Note: the cover image would need to be purchased on [www.bigstockphoto.com](http://www.bigstockphoto.com) for “extended license use” since the imagery would be a prominent part of the cover.

### Holders for multiple booklets

- Treasure chests
- Bible boxes
- Display stands (such as plate holders available at Hobby Lobby)
- Bible-style covers (with left and right pockets to slip the booklets into sideways/horizontally and a zipper to enclose the contents)

### Wall Décor or Refrigerator Magnets

- 8'x10" frame or acrylic holder with magnet
- A set of 12 or 52 pages (possibly stored within the frame?) Each with a verse and seasonal image that can be changed weekly or monthly.
- Note: the images would need to be purchased on [www.bigstockphoto.com](http://www.bigstockphoto.com) for “extended license use” since the imagery would be a prominent part of the product.

### Birth Verse Framed Décor

- Your birth verse is one in which the chapter and verse corresponds to the month and day you were born. For example, if you were born on March 14 (3:14) your birth verse could be:

*I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.*

~ *Philippians 3:14*

*We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love each other.*

~ *1 John 3:14*

- Create a framed art piece, giving the customer the ability to choose each of the elements below:
  - Choose their favorite **verse** (provide 3-5 pre-selected verses for them to choose from)
  - Choose their favorite **photo** (provide 5-10 nature or animal images to choose from)
  - Choose their desired **font**
  - Choose their **frame size and type** (black, brushed gold, wood, etc.)
- Note: the images would need to be purchased on [www.bigstockphoto.com](http://www.bigstockphoto.com) for “extended license use” since the imagery would be a prominent part of the product.



## **Bible Studies or Small Groups Guides**

- Develop booklets on topics with a wide appeal, along with a curriculum or study guide:
  - Living a Life of Love
  - The Power of Prayer
  - The Presence of the Holy Spirit
  - Effective Evangelism
  - A Powerful Church / Spiritual Revival
  - Christ's Return / The End of the Age
  - Giving to and Receiving from God
  - Living in Righteousness
  - Growing in Wisdom
  - A Praise-Filled Life
  - A Faith-Filled Life
  - God's Greatness (His power, sovereignty, majesty, etc.)
  - God's Goodness (His love, mercy, grace, etc.)

## **Calendar**

- With a 2-month display featuring a panoramic image and longer Bible passage (or possibly a short chapter such as [Psalm 100](#)).
- Note: the images would need to be purchased on [www.bigstockphoto.com](http://www.bigstockphoto.com) for “extended license use” since the imagery would be a prominent part of the product.

## **Scripture verse memory cards or bookmarks**

- Include a relevant nature scene or animal photo on each card.
- Note: images would need to be purchased for “extended license use” since the imagery would be a prominent part of the product.

## Ideas for Churches

### Booklets the church can give as gifts:

- Gifts for Newcomers *A Joy-Filled Life*
  - Gifts for Graduates *God's Gift of Eternal Life*
  - Gifts for Hospital and Visitation *God's Guidance for Your Life*
  - Gifts of Encouragement *God's Healing Power in Your Life*
  - Thank-You Gifts for Volunteers *God is Your Refuge*
  - Thanksgiving Season Family Gift *God's Power and Presence*
- An abridged version of the booklet *Praise God at Thanksgiving* could be given as a gift to each family in the congregation in early November so they can read it throughout the Thanksgiving season.

### Booklets the church can use as resources:

- For Counseling (or for lay-people involved in care ministries) *Freedom from Depression and Comfort in Grief*  
*Freedom from Fear*  
*Freedom from Addictions*  
*Healthy Thoughts*  
*Healthy Relationships*  
*A Joy-Filled Life*
- For Outreach *God's Gift of Eternal Life*
- For Missions (short and long term) *Sharing the Good News*

### Fundraising suggestions:

- Sell booklets (and/or other products noted above) as fundraisers for Short Term Missions teams.
- Sell items at special events (picnics, concerts, 5k runs, etc.)
- Display the booklets in a tabletop or floor display in the commons or coffee area of the church:
  - Accept donations to at least cover the cost of printing.
  - With any proceeds, fund a different church ministry or community outreach organization each month.
  - Develop a few booklets that, instead of nature imagery, feature photos of the people in the church. Different booklets could highlight different ministries.
  - For example, the ***God's Guidance for Your Life*** booklet could feature photos from youth group gatherings and given to high school students as a graduation gift.
  - Vary the booklet offerings each month, and include a seasonal booklet with seasonal images that could be changed quarterly.

## **Ideas for Christian Ministries**

### **Christian organizations in general**

- |  |                                   |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| ▪ Outreach gifts for those they minister to      | <i>God's Gift of Eternal Life</i> |
| ▪ Premium gifts to prayer and financial partners | <i>A Joy-Filled Life</i>          |
| ▪ Christmas gifts for employees and volunteers   | <i>God's Power and Presence</i>   |

### **Missions organizations**

- |                                  |                              |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| ▪ Christmas gift to missionaries | <i>Sharing the Good News</i> |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|

### **Christian Counselors**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| ▪ Resources for people (and family members) that they counsel | <i>Freedom from Depression and Comfort in Grief</i> |
|   | <i>Freedom from Fear</i>                            |
|   | <i>Freedom from Addictions</i>                      |
|   | <i>Healthy Thoughts</i>                             |
|   | <i>Healthy Relationships</i>                        |
|   | <i>A Joy-Filled Life</i>                            |

### **Christian organizations in the political/cultural spheres**

- |  |                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|
| ▪ Premium gifts to prayer and financial partners | <i>God's Word to the Nations</i> |
|--|----------------------------------|

### **Hospice Organizations**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| ▪ A gift of encouragement for people in hospice | <i>God's Gift of Eternal Life</i>                   |
| ▪ A gift of comfort for their families          | <i>God is Your Refuge</i>                           |
|   | or  |
|   | <i>Freedom from Depression and Comfort in Grief</i> |

### **Messianic Jewish organizations**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| ▪ Outreach gifts to those they minister to | <i>The Life and Ministry of Christ series</i> |
|--|---|

### **Organizations providing tours to the Holy Land**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| ▪ Gift for the travelers prior to the trip | <i>The Life and Ministry of Christ series</i> |
|--|---|

## **Marketing Ideas**

### **Internet Marketing**

- Social media marketing
- Pay-per-click advertising

### **Direct-Mail Marketing**

- Create a postcard
  - Side 1: The “art” side: display an inspiring Scripture verse (such as [Romans 15:13](#)) with a beautiful nature scene.
  - Side 2: The “information” side: booklet titles, pricing, contact info, etc.
- Even if the recipients never place an order, this could still be a great outreach tool by providing people with a message of hope from God’s Word. If the “art” side of the postcard is visually appealing enough, perhaps the recipient will keep it.
- Send the postcard to entire neighborhoods using the Post Office’s EDDM (Every Door Direct Mail) service.
- Or, [employ at-risk individuals](#) (see below for more information) and pay them to go door-to-door and hand-deliver the postcards. (Note: the cards could not be put in mailboxes, but possibly could be hung on doorknobs. Check with the Post Office for hand-delivery stipulations.)
- Mail in October, November and early December in time for Christmas
- Mail during non-election months and years so the postcards don’t get buried with political mail
- Note: images would need to be purchased for “extended license use” since the imagery would be a prominent part of the product.

### **Global Marketing**

- [Distribute to English-speaking countries](#)  
European countries, Singapore, the Philippines, Australia, New Zealand, etc.
- [Translate booklets into Spanish](#) and market to the Spanish-speaking populace in the U.S. and Spanish-speaking countries around the world.
- [Translate booklets into other languages](#) using BibleGateway.com. You can use this site to translate verses into over 70 different languages.

### **Other Retail Outlets**

- Christian camps and retreat centers
- Locally-owned bookstores (provide a countertop display so the booklets can be displayed *face out* with the covers visible)
- Hospital gift stores
- Hospice organizations
- Craft fairs and community events

### **Donate Booklets**

- Military personnel
- Women's shelters and safe houses for women rescued from sex-trafficking
- Homeless shelters
- Prison ministries
- Ministries in English-speaking countries overseas
- Refugees and immigrants who are learning English (develop a few booklets comprised of short, easy passages in a basic English translation such as the CEV. Consider presenting in a "parallel" format, with the verse presented in their *native language*, and also in *English*.)

## God's Word to Me: "Complete the Ministry God Has Given You"

Initially, my vision for this series was to market the booklets as a for-profit business. However, in early 2015 God pointed me in a different direction and led me to see this as more of a **ministry**...

I had been very discouraged one day and was ready to abandon the whole project. So I prayed and asked God what I should do. His answer came only minutes later, when I picked up my Bible and randomly decided to read through the book of 2 Timothy.

His Word to me was this:

*But you should keep a clear mind in every situation.*

*Don't be afraid of suffering for the LORD.*

*Work at bringing others to Christ.*

**Complete the ministry** God has given you.

*~ 2 Timothy 4:5 (NLT, 1996 version) – emphasis added*

It was another one of those surprisingly direct answers to prayer. So I knew that I should continue, but that also I should change directions, and shift my perspective from that of a **business** to a **ministry**.

I decided that the best way to make this into a ministry is to make **templates** of the booklets and covers freely available to anyone who would like to develop and distribute these booklets on their own (whether they are a church, Christian ministry, or even other individuals).

This way, they can set up an account on Bigstock/Shutterstock in their own ministry's name, purchase the rights to use the photos (the templates feature the *preview images*, with the Photo ID#s of the photos), download and paste the photos into the templates, request permissions to use (and in some cases pay for) the various Bible translations, personalize the forward page and cover, add their logo, and then print and distribute copies to the people they minister to.

## Templates of the Booklets and Covers

The templates of all 20 booklets and covers are available at [www.TheWordOfGodSeries.com](http://www.TheWordOfGodSeries.com).

I hope that, by having these templates as a starting point, others will be able to save time and money, whether they replicate and reproduce the booklets as-is, or build on them, or even take this idea in a different direction.

Starting with the templates (instead of a blank page) will enable them to benefit from the thousands of hours that have already gone into the development efforts.

My prayer is that, by inviting the involvement of others:

- The booklets will become more widely available. I often pray that millions of these will go out, in different languages, all around the world. By partnering with other people and ministries, and equipping them with the tools to produce the booklets on their own, I hope to fast-track the global distribution of these booklets.
- Production costs are minimized. By enabling others to produce and print the booklets on their own, many costs will be reduced or eliminated (such as layers of profit margin for myself, distributors and retail outlets, as well as printing and shipping costs.)
- Replication is facilitated. Some might want to simply reproduce the booklets as-is.
- Customization is facilitated. Others might want to customize these booklets for those they minister to.
- Translation into different languages is facilitated. If someone wants to produce these booklets in another language, they can copy the verses from about 70 different languages on BibleGateway.com (see the [Translation Into Other Languages](#) section below).

- Every booklet template has a section that includes:
  - Formatting tips. If any changes are made that changes the number of lines on a page, reformatting will be necessary. Formatting tips include suggestions on text wrapping, changing spacing between characters and between lines, adding page numbers to the PDF, etc.
  - Photo editing suggestions. Many of the photos on Bigstock/Shutterstock need to be edited. Suggestions on how I edited these photos are included.

Whatever people decide to do, by beginning with these templates, and purchasing the rights to use the various Bible translations and Bigstock/Shutterstock photos in their own organization's name, they will have more flexibility to print these booklets on their own and pursue whatever else God leads them to do.

## Service to Set Up Booklets for Your Church or Ministry

If you want to set up these booklets in your own ministry's name, but don't have the resources to finalize the templates into print-ready booklets, I may be able to manage that process for you for a one-time project fee.

This would include the following services:

- Set up an account with Bigstock and Shutterstock in your ministry's name and purchase the rights for you to use each of the photos
- Download and assign a file name to the photos and edit, if necessary
- Create a cover with your church or ministry logo
- Request the rights to use the various Bible translations from each of the publishers (if applicable)
- Provide you with a document that includes information about each of the images used in the booklets (including a thumbnail view of each image, the stock number and the photographer's notes)

Feel free to contact me at [Susan@TheWordOfGodSeries.com](mailto:Susan@TheWordOfGodSeries.com) to discuss pricing options.

## Translation into Other Languages

There are over 70 different languages represented on BibleGateway, including:

- |             |                       |
|-------------|-----------------------|
| ▪ Chinese   | ▪ Hindi               |
| ▪ Russian   | ▪ Portuguese          |
| ▪ Bulgarian | ▪ Somali              |
| ▪ Thai      | ▪ Vietnamese          |
| ▪ Italian   | ▪ and even Icelandic! |

The bulk of the translation-related work would be to simply copy the verse reference into BibleGateway, select the appropriate language, and then copy and paste the verse into the booklet template.

This would be a great opportunity to [employ at-risk individuals](#) (see section below).

There would be some pre-work involved, such as first determining *which translation* to use (if multiple translations in a certain language are offered).

And the work would need to be completed by people fluent in the different languages.

In many cases, the verses in the booklets are truncated, either due to space constraints, or because only a portion of a certain verse or passage is applicable. Only someone fluent in the language would know how to best edit a passage in a way that makes it readable.

## **Involve and Employ At-Risk Individuals**

Involve at-risk people in the mission and employ them to work in different capacities on various projects.

At-risk individuals could be:

- individuals with disabilities
- those who have recently been released from prison
- those in safe houses (battered women, those rescued from sex trafficking)
- refugees and immigrants (for some projects), etc.

Employing them to assist with project work will help them to:

- Earn money
- Develop basic computer and time management skills
- Secure a good reference (hopefully!) when they seek full-time employment
- Learn the Bible while they are working!

## **Employment projects may include:**

### **Develop booklets for people learning English**

Develop booklets of short, easy passages in a basic English translation such as CEV (Contemporary English Version.)

Consider developing “parallel” booklets, with the verses first in their ***native language***, followed by the same verse in ***English***.

### **Begin the work of translation**

While the work of translation would need to be finalized by someone fluent in the language, the bulk of the translation-related work would be to simply copy each verse from BibleGateway, and paste it into the template.

Doing this prep work would expedite the work for the translators. They could then easily read through each verse and edit as necessary (for example, determine whether the *entire verse* should be included, or if only a part of the verse would be applicable.)

### **Compile a Verse-by-Date listing for every day of the year**

This would be an extensive project that would prepare the way to:

- Develop a 365 daily devotional (see the [Booklets Still to be Completed](#) section above)
- Begin a new product line for ***Birth Verse framed décor*** (see the [Additional Product Ideas](#) section above).

The task would involve searching for the ***chapter and verse***, in every book of the Bible, that corresponds to the ***month and day*** of the year.

For example, Day 1 would involve compiling a list of verses for January 1 (chapter 1, verse 1):

Genesis 1:1, Exodus 1:1, etc.

Then, on Day 2, compile verses for January 2 (chapter 1, verse 2):

Genesis 1:2, Exodus 1:2, etc.

***Note: this would be a great year-long daily project to actually start on January 1!***



## **Proofread the booklets and eBooks**

- While these booklets have all been proofed at least twice, there are still occasional adjustments that need to be made.
- Sometimes, an entire passage was initially put into the booklet, but at one point, portions of a verse or passage at the beginning or end were dropped for spacing reasons. The proofreader would make sure that the verse reference is reflective of the passage.
- Also, the NIV and NLT translations were revised during the time that I worked on these booklets, and it would be helpful for someone to ensure that all those verses are in the most recent version.
- The proofreading would involve cross-checking every verse against BibleGateway.com to ensure that:
  - the passages in the NIV and NLT translations are in the most current version
  - the *verse numbers* in the reference are correct
  - the correct *translation* is referenced (NIV, NLT, ESV, etc.)
- This project would be a great opportunity to actually ***pay someone to read the Bible!*** The proofreader would need to read the passage twice: first, in the booklet, then again on BibleGateway.com to ensure accuracy.
- It would be ***even better to employ two people to work together***: one to read the passage out loud from the booklet, while the other person confirms that it is consistent with the text in BibleGateway.

## **Hand-deliver postcards to homes**

Employ people to go door-to-door and hand-deliver marketing postcards (see the [Direct Mail Marketing](#) section above).

## In Summary

The work ahead seems monumental, but I trust God to provide the wisdom, the direction and the ability to accomplish the task (whether He brings these ideas to fruition through me or—most likely—many others.)

I close this vision statement with a few verses that God gave me early on in this process.

These verses served as an encouragement to me, and I hope they will be the same encouragement to you as you read and meditate on God's Word, and as you seek to fulfill His purpose for your life:

*“As the rain and the snow  
come down from heaven,  
and do not return to it  
without watering the earth  
and making it bud and flourish,  
so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater,  
so is my word that goes out from my mouth:  
It will not return to me empty,  
but will accomplish what I desire  
and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.”  
~ Isaiah 55:10-11 (NIV)*

*For the word of God is living and powerful...  
~ Hebrews 4:12 (NKJV)*

*Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm.  
Let nothing move you.*

*Always give yourselves fully to the work of the LORD,  
because you know that your labor in the LORD is not in vain.  
~ 1 Corinthians 15:58 (NIV)*

*...being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you  
will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.  
~ Philippians 1:6 (NIV)*

May God bless you richly as you read and live out His Word!

Susan  
12/12/24

*Soli Deo gloria*