

KeyVerses10 Growing Spiritually

Love follows knowledge. A new Believer needs to be fed, fed, fed until they can feed themselves. Here's the 10th of 11 KeyVerse series, each of them with 35 verses (7 weeks worth) to show care and content to a young Christian. This series features verses about growing spiritually.

Examples:

Week 2 Day 6: a KeyVerse about growing spiritually to encourage you:

[Jesus] You didn't choose me. I chose you. I appointed you to go and produce lasting fruit, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask for, using my name. (John 15.16)

Jesus decided to choose us so we could become a Christian. We'd have been lost and adrift, (name), if he didn't pick us out. But he did, and he wants us to grow, to be productive. Think about how fruit trees make fruit; what can that mean for your life spiritually? Can you dream ahead, what Jesus plans to produce in you and through you? That's a good prayer today, that the Father would help you be fruitful for him.

Week 3 Day 14: a KeyVerse about growing spiritually to encourage you:

For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago. (Ephesians 2.10)

I love this concept! Each of us is like a masterpiece to God. Can you picture a tapestry rug being made? It's a tangle of threads, all different colors, looks like a mess. But it's not, (name)! The artist knows exactly what he's designing. Same with you! You're God's masterpiece - God's weaving all your events, your experiences, your relationships into a beautiful work of art! Something to ponder. And to ask, what good things have you planned for me today?

Verses to use Choose any verses you feel give insights about the Spirit. Here's a sample list for your consideration (there are many more):

Week 1: Gen 6.7-8; 1 Cor 15.10; Eph. 2.8-9; 2 Cor. 8.9; Eph. 2.4-5

Week 2: John 15.16; Gen 12.1; Gal. 1.15-16; Jer. 1.5; Is. 6.8

Week 3: Jn 15.10; Rom. 6.17; Matt 28.20; Eph 2.10; Jn 14.23

Week 4: Heb. 11.3; 2 Pet. 1.4; Rom. 4.16; 2 Cor. 1.20; 2 Cor. 6.18-7.1;

Week 5: Heb 11.7; Gen. 15.5-6; Jn 14.12; Acts 20.21; Acts 14.21-22;

Week 6: Gen. 22.1-2; Matt. 4.1-2; John 6.5-6; Heb.4.14-15; 1 Peter 1.7

Week 7: Matt 5.11-12; Heb. 11.24-25; Heb 11.26; Luke 6.35; Rev 22.12

To do: Copy the verse from a website like biblegateway.com, add a comment, and email it to a new Believer, Monday – Friday. If you can, pick the same time each day – make it something they anticipate.

Or if you wish, use/modify the 35 KeyVerses below.

Small things done in great love will change the world, one person at a time...

* this is the 10th series of KeyVerses; see also 1st series: *Believer – 35 Basic KeyVerses*; 2nd series: *Believer – 35 God KeyVerses*; 3rd series: *35 Jesus KeyVerses*; 4th series: *35 Spirit KeyVerses*; 5th series: *35 Good News KeyVerses*; 6th series: *35 God's Word KeyVerses*; 7th Series: *35 Jesus KeyVerses*; 8th series: *35 Prayer KeyVerses*; 9th series: *35 Doing-life-together KeyVerses*

#10 Series: KeyVerses for Growing Spiritually – English

Names of those getting the series (move name down one day at a time)

1. John Doe, started Jan 1/13

2.

3.

Week 1 The grace/favor of God

Day 1: Gen. 6.7-8

A KeyVerse to help you grow spiritually today:

And the LORD said, “I will wipe this human race I have created from the face of the earth. Yes, and I will destroy every living thing—all the people, the large animals, the small animals that scurry along the ground, and even the birds of the sky. I am sorry I ever made them.”⁸ But Noah found favor with the LORD. (Genesis 6.7-8)

We start growing spiritually by God's kindness to us., not by our own efforts. In the famous story of Noah early in the Bible, the culture was totally wicked and full of evil, so God decided to destroy them all. All except Noah... God showed favor to him. Same with you, (name). Thank God, in the middle of your culture, he picked you out, so you could come to Jesus and belong to him.

Day 2: 1 Cor. 15.10

A KeyVerse to help you grow spiritually today:

But whatever I am now, it's all because God poured out his special favor on me—and not without results. For I've worked harder than any of the other apostles; yet it wasn't I but God who was working through me by his grace. (1 Cor. 15.10)

The famous missionary Paul knew he'd never grow as a Christian, and never work hard for Jesus, if God didn't help him. We're the same - we grow stronger only because God is good to us. Take time to thank God for his grace - his powerful kindness - and ask him to give you more, (name). You and he will partner together to bring many back to him. Tell him you want to work hard in this task.

Day 3: Eph 2.8-9

A KeyVerse to help you grow spiritually today:

God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it's a gift from God. Salvation isn't a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. (Ephesians 2.8-9)

If you grow spiritually, it's because you realize how much God did for us. We did nothing, he did everything. That's true for us to get salvation from sin and death - we can't boast about our own efforts. Same with growing stronger. He must help us, be kind to us. The truth is, he will, (name)! You can ask him today for more grace, more power, more truth, more passion. He'll give it to you.

Day 4: 2 Cor. 8.9

A KeyVerse to help you grow spiritually today:

You know the generous grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty he could make you rich. (2 Corinthians 8.9)

Just like a plant grows by being in the sun, we grow by our exposure to Jesus, (name). How do we become more generous to others? Not by someone ordering us to give, give, give. No, we're touched with how generous Jesus was to us - he gave us everything to give us eternal life! That affects us so deeply, now we want to be like this to others. The secret to growing spiritually? Hang around Jesus.

Day 5: Eph. 2.4-5

A KeyVerse to help you grow spiritually today:

But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much, that even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God's grace that you have been saved!) (Ephesians 2.4-5)

Now you can grow spiritually because you have a new life, (name). That's what life does, grows. Before you were a Christian, you couldn't grow because you were dead. Now you can! That means you can become as much like Jesus as you want. It's God's gift to you. Say thanks to him today, and tell God, I want to grow!

Week 2 The call of God

Day 6: Jn 15.16

A KeyVerse to help you grow spiritually today:

[Jesus] You didn't choose me. I chose you. I appointed you to go and produce lasting fruit, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask for, using my name. (John 15.16)

Jesus decided to choose us so we could become a Christian. We'd have been lost and adrift, (name), if he didn't pick us out. But he did, and he wants us to grow, to be productive. Think about how fruit trees make fruit; what can that mean for your life spiritually? Can you dream ahead, what Jesus plans to produce in you and through you? That's a good prayer today, that the Father would help you be fruitful for him.

Day 7: Gen. 12.1

A KeyVerse to help you grow spiritually today:

The LORD had said to Abram, "Leave your native country, your relatives, and your father's family, and go to the land that I will show you. (Genesis 12.1)

Growing is like a journey - it has a starting point. Just like God called Abram to step out in faith, he does the same with you, (name). You'll learn to depend on him day by day, like Abram did. You'll invite him into your activities and relationships. He'll become your most intimate friend. And you'll discover why God put you on this earth. Take the next step of the faith-journey today, k.

Day 8: Gal. 1.15-16

A KeyVerse to help you grow spiritually today:

[Paul] But even before I was born, God chose me and called me by his marvelous grace. Then it pleased him to reveal his Son to me so that I would proclaim the Good News about Jesus to the Gentiles. (Galatians 1.15-16)

Fascinating, the missionary Paul realized God called him before he was born! You too, (name)! Imagine, God's been thinking about you and planning so long ago. He's giving you experiences to equip you to tell others the Good News. Tell him you want to know more and more about Jesus, so you can help others know too.

Day 9: Jer. 1.5

A KeyVerse to help you grow spiritually today:

[God to Jeremiah] I knew you before I formed you in your mother's womb. Before you were born I set you apart and appointed you as my prophet to the nations. (Jeremiah 1.5)

So encouraging to us, (name), what God said to Jeremiah, a prophet in the Old Testament. God had a Dream for him before he was born! Same with you, same with me. That's why we must grow spiritually, because there's an adventure ahead, a challenge from God for us. Today as you study the Bible and pray, as you practice listening to God and obeying, think about this: I'm getting into shape for God's Dream. That's a great motivation to grow!

Day 10: Is. 6.8

[God to Isaiah] Then I heard the Lord asking, "Whom should I send as a messenger to this people? Who will go for us?" I said, "Here I am. Send me." (Isaiah 6.8)

Wouldn't it be fascinating to meet this man! When he realized God was looking for someone, he was the first to volunteer. If God wanted to send someone as his messenger, Isaiah immediately replied, I'm the one! Such a good attitude to God, he had. Same with you, (name), it's great to have this attitude. When you realize God wants you to grow spiritually, wants you to partner with him, he awaits your response. Today say again, Here I am, God! Yes!

Week 3: Obedience

Day 11: Jn .15.10

A KeyVerse to help you grow spiritually today:

[Jesus] When you obey my commandments, you remain in my love, just as I obey my Father's commandments and remain in his love. (John 15.10)

The best piano-teachers can also play the piano skillfully. The best coaches are player-coaches. Same with Jesus, (name). When he challenges you to obey his instructions, he's already shown the way. He obeyed his Father. When we obey, we get stretched spiritually. We become more like him. Today determine to obey Jesus promptly, whenever you sense he's challenging you to do something.

Day 12: Rom. 6.17

A KeyVerse to help you grow spiritually today:

Thank God! Once you were slaves of sin, but now you wholeheartedly obey this teaching we have given you. (Romans 6.17)

I really like this truth, that now, deep within, you want to obey God. No more rebellion and fight against God at the core of your being, no. The real you, the new Diyi, have the heart to follow Jesus now. That should really encourage you, (name), and motivate you, because this new passion within that God gave you. There's still lots of opposition within us, the old attitudes and actions from our former life. But now it's different. You have a new heart. So great!

Day 13: Matt. 28.20

A KeyVerse to help you grow spiritually today:

[Jesus] Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age. (Matthew 28.20)

Our church should be more a training school, not so much a university. We must train people to obey Jesus, not just know more about the Bible. What good would it be to study about prayer, but not pray? Or learn about God's joy for us, but not have his joy in us? Or that God is a Father, but we never relate to him as children? Ask Jesus to make you teachable, (name), so you obey God as you learn. Even ask him to let you be a teacher, so you can train others to grow spiritually. That's a great prayer!

Day 14: Eph. 2.10

A KeyVerse to help you grow spiritually today:

For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago. (Ephesians 2.10)

I love this concept! Each of us is like a masterpiece to God. Can you picture a tapestry rug being made? It's a tangle of threads, all different colors, looks like a mess. But it's not, (name)! The artist knows exactly what he's designing. Same with you! You're God's masterpiece - God's weaving all your events, your experiences, your relationships into a beautiful work of art! Something to ponder. And to ask, what good things have you planned for me today?

Day 15: Jn. 14.23

A KeyVerse to help you grow spiritually today:

Jesus replied, "All who love me will do what I say. My Father will love them, and we will come and make our home with each of them. (John 14.23)

Part of growing spiritually is a deeper intimacy with God, with Jesus. Imagine someone moving into your home. For the first little while they'd be like a guest, (name). But at some point they'd become family, become your brother, your sister. Someone to celebrate with, cry with, process your life with. This is God's desire for you, a deep intimate relationship. Tell him, Yes, this is my desire too!

Week 4 Claiming the promises

Day 16: Heb. 11.3

A KeyVerse to help you grow spiritually today:

By faith we understand that the entire universe was formed at God's command, that what we now see did not come from anything that can be seen. (Hebrews 11.3)

We grow physically without really doing anything, (name). Eat, exercise, sleep, and somehow we stretch up. Spiritually, we grow by faith - we start consciously depending on God, centering our life in him. We realize he's the Source and Start of everything in the universe. Faith means we ask him to be this in our life - to make a new Creation in us, so we resemble Jesus, not ourselves. Ask God for more faith, and more understanding, so you have this new Creation happening in you.

Day 17: 2 Pet. 1.4

A KeyVerse to help you grow spiritually today:

And because of his glory and excellence, God has given us great and precious promises. These are the promises that enable you to share his divine nature and escape the world's corruption caused by human desires. (2 Peter 1.4)

Think of God's promises like the rungs of a ladder. When you want to get higher – get spiritually stronger – you do so by grasping hold of a promise of God. That stretches your faith, because you must expect God to keep his promises. There are

many promises in the Bible - start hunting for them! Each one belongs to you, (name), if you want it!

Day 18: Rom. 4.16

A KeyVerse to help you grow spiritually today:

So the promise is received by faith. It's given as a free gift. And we're all certain to receive it, whether or not we live according to the law of Moses, if we have faith like Abraham's. For Abraham is the father of all who believe. (Romans 4.16)

God gave a promise to Abraham, that he'd have children and they'd spread all over the world. Trouble was, Abraham was really old and his wife Sarah couldn't have babies. Still, Abraham believed God, and it happened! This is how a promise works, (name). God can do anything he wants, with no restrictions. When we believe his promises, we get to experience God doing amazing things for us, like Abraham did. Miracle things! A good reminder, ask God to keep his promises to you, and believe it will happen. That's how to grow spiritually.

Day 19: 2 Cor. 1.20

A KeyVerse to help you grow spiritually today:

For all of God's promises have been fulfilled in Christ with a resounding "Yes!" And through Christ, our "Amen" (which means "Yes") ascends to God for his glory. (2 Corinthians 1.20)

God's promises all center around Jesus. We're confident God will listen to us, because he listened to Jesus. And we know God will answer our prayers, because he answered Jesus' prayer, including bringing him alive from the dead. The best gift God could give you is himself, and he did. That's Jesus. Have lots of confidence God will help you, (name) - he helped Jesus, for sure he'll help you.

Day 20: 2 Cor. 6.18-7.1

A KeyVerse to help you grow spiritually today:

"And I'll be your Father, and you'll be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty." Because we have these promises, dear friends, let's cleanse ourselves from everything that can defile our body or spirit. And let's work toward complete holiness because we fear God. (2 Corinthians 6.18 – 7.1)

Here's one way to grow spiritually: celebrate your adoption into God's family, and his sheer love for you. When you're accepted and treated like family, it affects you deeply. Sins you used to have, dark things you did or thought, you don't want to do any more. Now you're captivated by his love, and in awe of him - that's what "fear God" means. You want to be like your older Brother, Jesus. Take time to ponder what "cleanse ourselves" would mean in your life. Ask God's help to be different, be the best child he has. That's what I want for you, (name). For me too.

Week 5 Faith

Day 21: Heb. 11.7

A KeyVerse to help you grow spiritually today:

It was by faith that Noah built a large boat to save his family from the flood. He obeyed God, who warned him about things that had never happened before. By his faith Noah condemned the rest of the world, and he received the righteousness that comes by faith. (Hebrews 11.7)

I admire this man, because he took God so seriously. No one else in his culture paid any attention to God, no. But Noah did. He was obedient to what he heard from God - that's a principle of growing. What God has shown you, start obeying now, (name), no matter what the culture around you thinks. He'll give you enough power to do his will, and you'll stretch taller spiritually. The key? Respond to the light you know, and God will give you more light.

Day 22: Gen. 15.5-6

A KeyVerse to help you grow spiritually today:

Then the Lord took Abram outside and said to him, "Look up into the sky and count the stars if you can. That's how many descendants you'll have!" And Abram believed the Lord, and the Lord counted him as righteous because of his faith. (Genesis 15.5-6)

The way to grow in a religion is to try harder, work more, resolve to live better. It's like climbing a mountain with a heavy backpack, hoping to get close to God. It gets steeper and steeper, until it's impossible. The way to grow with God is the opposite, (name). God gives you the gift of becoming right with him, like he did

with Abram. No trying, no working, no resolutions. It's all Jesus' work - you believe and accept this gift. Proud people miss it. Needy people take it. Yes, humbling and exhilarating.

Day 23: Jn 14.12

A KeyVerse to help you grow spiritually today:

[Jesus] I tell you the truth, anyone who believes in me will do the same works I've done, and even greater works, because I'm going to be with the Father. (John 14.12)

This promise is almost too amazing to believe. Imagine doing greater works than even Jesus did! But he promised it, (name), and he's serious. You and Jesus are going to change your world. Really change your world!!! One person at a time, one after another. Tell him, *help me believe this promise, Jesus, and get it active in my life!*

Day 24: Acts 20.21

A KeyVerse to help you grow spiritually today:

I have had one message for Jews and Greeks alike—the necessity of repenting from sin and turning to God, and of having faith in our Lord Jesus. (Acts 20.21)

This is how we start to grow spiritually. Before becoming Christians, we were dominated by the ideas of our culture. What success was. What it meant to be free. What was right and wrong. What we found pleasure doing. When we heard the Good News, we turned from these, reorienting our life around Jesus, (name). Now this is our daily pattern of life: turning from sin in us and around us, and depending more on Jesus. You can expect God's Spirit to lead you today, to repent and have more faith in Jesus. Yes!

Day 25: Acts 14.21-22

A KeyVerse to help you grow spiritually today:

After preaching the Good News in Derbe and making many disciples, Paul and Barnabas returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch of Pisidia, where they strengthened the believers. They encouraged them to continue in the faith,

reminding them that we must suffer many hardships to enter the Kingdom of God.
Acts 14.21-22

The journey you're on as a follower of Jesus isn't easy. You'll face many challenges, many hardships. You'll be tempted to give up and go back into the culture, like your friends who don't belong to God. You'll get harassed by people who like you're stupid to follow him. God will test you with difficulties, to toughen you up spiritually. Don't give up, (name)! Ask God for more faith. Depend on God more today. Push ahead, climb up higher. That's how you grow.

Week 6 Testing

Day 26: Gen 22.1-2

A KeyVerse to help you grow spiritually today:

Some time later, God tested Abraham's faith. "Abraham!" God called.

"Yes," he replied. "Here I am."

"Take your son, your only son—yes, Isaac, whom you love so much—and go to the land of Moriah. Go and sacrifice him as a burnt offering on one of the mountains, which I will show you." (Genesis 22.1-2)

It's hard even to read this conversation of God with Abraham. Imagine experiencing it firsthand!!! God had given him a son after many years of waiting, but now asks Abraham to give the son back. It is the hardest test this dad could go through. It's a reminder for you, (name), that if you want to grow spiritually, God will test you. He wants to make sure you are trusting in him, not in yourself, not in anyone else. These are hard tests, but he'll help you ace them.

Day 27: Matt. 4.1-2

A KeyVerse to help you grow spiritually today:

Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted there by the devil. For forty days and forty nights he fasted and became very hungry. (Matthew 4.1-2)

It's encouraging to us that Jesus faced the same challenges we do. He is God, and became human like you and me. And like us, he got tempted, serious temptations. Tempted to turn away from his Father and depend on himself. Tempted with

fame and glory. Even tempted join the devil in his work! God lets the devil tempt you as you grow spiritually, (name). Expect it, prepare for it, and face it head on with God's Spirit strengthening you.

Day 28: John 6.5-6

A KeyVerse to help you grow spiritually today:

Jesus soon saw a huge crowd of people coming to look for him. Turning to Philip, he asked, "Where can we buy bread to feed all these people?" He was testing Philip, for he already knew what he was going to do. (John 6.5-6)

Can you guess what answer Jesus wants, (name)? Here's that word *testing* again, this time Jesus testing one of his followers. A crowd of hungry people, what to do? I'm thinking Jesus wants Philip to turn the question around. *Jesus, what do you want to do? I'll do anything to help you, if you'll show me.* Instead, Philip panicked, like we often do. What can you learn? Jesus will test you too, to stretch you in faith, not have you shrink in fear.

Day 29: Heb. 4.14-15

So then, since we have a great High Priest who has entered heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let's hold firmly to what we believe. This High Priest of ours understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same testings we do, yet he did not sin. (Hebrews 4.14-15)

It's easy to feel all alone as a Christian, feel no one can understand the struggles you're going through. One person can: Jesus. While he was on earth, he was tested like you are, like I am. But he never failed, never became independent from the Father. Now he'll help you, give you this strength to resist, to get stronger. That's how much he cares for you, (name), loves you. He really does! Take time today to tell him your struggles, and ask his help. And thank him.

Day 30: 1 Peter 1.7

A KeyVerse to help you grow spiritually today:

So be truly glad. There's wonderful joy ahead, even though you have to endure many trials for a little while. These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It's being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious

than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world. (1 Peter 1.7)

Some people become followers of Jesus hoping their life will become trouble-free. That's not good thinking, (name). God doesn't protect us from troubles - trials, this verse says. Instead, he gives you the power to go through them, and strengthen your character. The life of Jesus, deep within, will emerge more and more. As you ask God to help you grow spiritually, expect troubles. And expect God's strong power as you depend on Jesus.

Week 7 The reward

Day 31: Matt. 5.11-12

[Jesus] God blesses you when people mock you and persecute you and lie about you and say all sorts of evil things against you because you're my followers. Be happy about it! Be very glad! For a great reward awaits you in heaven. And remember, the ancient prophets were persecuted in the same way. (Matt 5.11-12) Christians get mocked and persecuted, (name). Jesus warns us, but encourages us too. If we stand up for Jesus, and keep following him, God promises a reward. That's a great incentive to say, *Jesus, help me look ahead for the prize, and not look at the persecution around me.*

Day 32: Heb. 11.24-25

A KeyVerse to help you grow spiritually today:

It was by faith that Moses, when he grew up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter. He chose to share the oppression of God's people instead of enjoying the fleeting pleasures of sin.. (Hebrews 11.24-25)

When Moses got adopted into the Egyptian royal family, what an amazing privilege he had. But he walked away from its luxury and pleasure. A tough choice, to identify with God's family. Same with you, (name). To grow spiritually you'll have to make hard decisions. You'll choose to follow Jesus belong to his family, the other Christians around you. Learn to be proud of them, not ashamed, because God loves them - they're his family!

Day 33: Heb.11.26

A KeyVerse to help you grow spiritually today:

He thought it was better to suffer for the sake of Christ than to own the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking ahead to his great reward. (Hebrews 11.26)

Moses is a great example of someone who made wise decisions, and grew spiritually. Although he was a prince in Egypt, he wasn't impressed. He wanted God's treasures instead, the chance to know God and work with him to change the world. Dream big dreams, (name), like Moses did! Be glad to suffer, if it means finding God's Dream and living it out. That's really rewarding!

Day 34: Luke 6.35

A KeyVerse to help you grow spiritually today:

[Jesus] Love your enemies! Do good to them. Lend to them without expecting to be repaid. Then your reward from heaven will be very great, and you will truly be acting as children of the Most High, for he is kind to those who are unthankful and wicked. (Luke 6.35)

Only with the life of Jesus in you can you do this, (name), love your enemies. But you can, because he did! He even prayed they'd be forgiven while he was on the cross. Imagine the spiritual strength you'd have, to respond to hatred and evil this way! No wonder your reward will be great in heaven. You'll be so full of Jesus! Tell him this is what you want to become, full of his love, no matter what others are like.

Day 35: Rev 22.12

A KeyVerse to help you grow spiritually today:

[Jesus] Look, I am coming soon, bringing my reward with me to repay all people according to their deeds. (Rev. 22.12)

It's worth thinking about the reward you're gathering up in heaven, (name). God wants you to. Jesus promises he'll reward anyone who faithfully follows him, partners with him. Ask God for the faith to do great, great things for him. Tell him you dare to dream big, giving your life away like Jesus did. For a great reward!