

VERSES FROM SCRIPTURE  
**Perspective of Self**

| Reference             | Text  |
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| 2 Corinthians 10:5    | We use our powerful God-tools for smashing warped philosophies, tearing down barriers erected against the truth of God, fitting every loose thought and emotion and impulse into the structure of life shaped by Christ. (MSG)  |
| 2 Corinthians 12:7-10 | Because of the extravagance of those revelations, and so I wouldn't get a big head, I was given the gift of a handicap to keep me in constant touch with my limitations. Satan's angel did his best to get me down; what he in fact did was push me to my knees. No danger then of walking around high and mighty! At first I didn't think of it as a gift, and begged God to remove it. Three times I did that, and then he told me, My grace is enough; it's all you need. My strength comes into its own in your weakness. Once I heard that, I was glad to let it happen. I quit focusing on the handicap and began appreciating the gift. It was a case of Christ's strength moving in on my weakness. Now I take limitations in stride, and with good cheer, these limitations that cut me down to size--abuse, accidents, opposition, bad breaks. I just let Christ take over! And so the weaker I get, the stronger I become. (MSG) |
| Matthew 6:6           | Don't shuffle along, eyes to the ground, absorbed with the things right in front of you. Look up, and be alert to what is going on around Christ--that's where the action is. See things from his perspective. Your old life is dead. Your new life, which is your real life--even though invisible to spectators--is with Christ in God. He is your life. (MSG)  |
| Colossians 3:2-3      | God deals out joy in the present, the now. It's useless to brood over how long we might live. (MSG)   |

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| Hebrews 12:1-3 | <p>Do you see what this means--all these pioneers who blazed the way, all these veterans cheering us on? It means we'd better get on with it. Strip down, start running--and never quit! No extra spiritual fat, no parasitic sins. Keep your eyes on Jesus, who both began and finished this race we're in. Study how he did it. Because he never lost sight of where he was headed--that exhilarating finish in and with God--he could put up with anything along the way: cross, shame, whatever. And now he's there, in the place of honour, right alongside God. When you find yourselves flagging in your faith, go over that story again, item by item, that long litany of hostility he ploughed through. That will shoot adrenaline into your souls! (MSG)</p>   |
| Hebrews 12:7   | <p>God is educating you; that's why you must never drop out. He's treating you as dear children. This trouble you're in isn't punishment; it's training. (MSG)</p>  |
| James 1:2-4    | <p>My brothers and sisters, you will face all kinds of trouble. When you do, think of it as pure joy. Your faith will be put to the test. You know that when that happens it will produce in you the strength to continue. The strength to keep going must be allowed to finish its work. Then you will be all you should be. You will have everything you need. (NIRV)</p>   |
| James 3:13-18  | <p>Do you want to be counted wise, to build a reputation for wisdom? Here's what you do: Live well, live wisely, live humbly. It's the way you live, not the way you talk, that counts. Mean-spirited ambition isn't wisdom. Boasting that you are wise isn't wisdom. Twisting the truth to make yourselves sound wise isn't wisdom. It's the furthest thing from wisdom--it's animal cunning, devilish conniving. Whenever you're trying to look better than others or get the better of others, things fall apart and everyone ends up at the others' throats. Real wisdom, God's wisdom, begins with a holy life and is characterized by getting along with others. It is gentle and reasonable, overflowing with mercy and blessings, not hot one day and cold the next, not two-faced. You can develop a healthy, robust community that lives right with God and enjoy its results only if you do the hard work of getting along with each other, treating each other with dignity and honour. (MSG)</p> |

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| James 4: 13-15   | And now I have a word for you who brashly announce, “ <i>Today--at the latest, tomorrow--we're off to such and such a city for the year. We're going to start a business and make a lot of money.</i> ” You don't know the first thing about tomorrow. You're nothing but a wisp of fog, catching a brief bit of sun before disappearing. Instead, make it a habit to say, “ <i>If the Master wills it and we're still alive, we'll do this or that.</i> ” (MSG) |
| John 15:5        | I am the Vine, you are the branches. When you're joined with me and I with you, the relation intimate and organic, the harvest is sure to be abundant. Separated, you can't produce a thing. (MSG)   |
| John 16:33       | I've told you all this so that trusting me, you will be unshakable and assured, deeply at peace. In this godless world you will continue to experience difficulties. But take heart! I've conquered the world. (MSG)   |
| Matthew 6:34     | Give your entire attention to what God is doing right now, and don't get worked up about what may or may not happen tomorrow. God will help you deal with whatever hard things come up when the time comes. (MSG)  |
| Matthew 12:7     | If you had any idea what this Scripture meant-- 'I prefer a flexible heart to an inflexible ritual'--you wouldn't be nit-picking like this.' (MSG)   |
| Matthew 20:26-28 | It's not going to be that way with you. Whoever wants to be great must become a servant. Whoever wants to be first among you must be your slave. That is what the Son of Man has done: He came to serve, not be served--and then to give away his life in exchange for the many who are held hostage. (MSG)  |
| Philippians 4:6  | Don't fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God's wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down. It's wonderful what happens when Christ displaces worry at the centre of your life. (MSG)   |

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| Psalms 46:10   | He says, <i>"Be still, and know that I am God..."</i> (NIRV)   |
| Psalms 23:1    | The Lord is my Shepherd I lack nothing. (NIV)  |
| Psalms 42:11   | Why are you down in the dumps, dear soul? Why are you crying the blues? Fix my eyes on God-- soon I'll be praising again. He puts a smile on my face. He's my God. (MSG) |
| Psalm 103:12   | As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us. (MKJV)  |
| Psalms 119:11  | I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you. (NIV)<br>I've banked your promises in the vault of my heart so I won't sin myself bankrupt. (MSG)  |
| Psalms 119:95  | The wicked lie in ambush to destroy me, but I am only concerned with your plans for me. (MSG)  |
| Psalms 119:114 | You're my place of quiet retreat; I wait for your Word to renew me (MSG) - having hope in God helps us to have a different relationship with our thoughts.               |
| Psalm 143:5    | I remembered the old days, went over all you've done, pondered the ways you've worked. (MSG)   |

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| Romans 5:3-4    | There's more to come: We continue to shout our praise even when we're hemmed in with troubles, because we know how troubles can develop passionate patience in us, and how that patience in turn forges the tempered steel of virtue, keeping us alert for whatever God will do next. (MSG)   |
| Romans 6:16     | What then? Shall we sin because we are not under the law but under grace? By no means! Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one you obey--whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness? (MSG)   |
| Romans 7:6      | But now that we're no longer shackled to that domineering mate of sin, and out from under all those oppressive regulations and fine print, we're free to live a new life in the freedom of God. (MSG)   |
| Romans 8:28     | That's why we can be so sure that every detail in our lives of love for God is worked into something good. (MSG)  |
| Romans 12:1 - 2 | So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life--your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life--and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God; You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you. (MSG) |