

*Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created.*

*James 1:17-18 (NIV)*

## **Good Gifts**

You are a giver of good gifts. **How so?** You know exactly what I want and need. I can't tell you how many times I have thought I wanted and needed something that would not have been good or helpful or valuable to me. I have asked for what I really didn't need or certainly shouldn't have wanted. I am thankful that you have not heard and answered every one of my prayers. I am also very thankful that you have given me good and perfect gifts when I didn't even know of my true wants or needs. **Like what?** No gift of yours has been better than the completely new life I now have in your Son, Jesus Christ. You sent your Son into the world to save my soul. You gave your Son as payment of my sins. Your Son made it possible for me to be adopted in your family. Your Son broke down the wall that separated me from you. You Son secured our relationship with each other. You are my Heavenly Father. I am now your child. You rescued me from a life without you. You pulled me off of the path that led away from you. You lifted me up out the muck and mire that was my life. You forgave my sin. You cleansed my unrighteousness. You filled me with your Holy Spirit. You healed my bruised and battered and broken life. You restored my soul. You have given me gifts and talents and abilities with which I can serve you. You have made it so I can bear fruit for your kingdom and bring glory to your name. You are now helping me to know and love and follow and serve you with all my heart and mind and soul and strength. I am now living and walking in an intimate relationship with you. One day I will come to live forever in Heaven with you. These are all good and perfect gifts that come from you. **Yes, they are.** Did I know I needed them? Did I know that I wanted them? No, I did not. You know me. You love me. **Yes, I do.** You are certainly a giver of good gifts. **Yes, I am.**

I have but one gift to give you. **What's that?** I give myself to you. I give you everything I have been. I give you everything I am. I give you everything I hope to be. I am all yours. I am at your service. I am at your disposal. Make use of my life. **That is a very good gift.**

*Heavenly Father, you have showered me with so many good and perfect gifts. Foremost of all, you have given to me a completely new life in Christ both now and forever. I am so thankful I am your child. Help me to live an abundantly fruitful life with and for you. Amen*

### **God The Father** *Every Good And Perfect Gift*

Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created.

NIV James 1:17-18

### **God The Father** *Whatever Is Good And Perfect*

Whatever is good and perfect comes down to us from God our Father, who created all the lights in the heavens. He never changes or casts a shifting shadow. He chose to give birth to us by giving us his true word. And we, out of all creation, became his prized possession.

NLT James 1:17-18

### **God The Father** *Every Generous Act Of Giving, With Every Perfect Gift*

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

NRSV James 1:17-18

### **God The Father** *Every Good Gift And Perfect Gift*

Every good gift and every perfect (free, large, full) gift is from above; it comes down from the Father of all [that gives] light, in [the shining of] Whom there can be no variation [rising or setting] or shadow cast by His turning [as in an eclipse]. And it was of His own [free] will that He gave us birth [as sons] by [His] Word of Truth, so that we should be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures [a sample of what He created to be consecrated to Himself].

AMP James 1:17-18

### **God The Father** *Every Good Thing Given And Every Perfect Gift*

Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow. In the exercise of His will He brought us forth by the word of truth, so that we would be a kind of first fruits among His creatures.

NASB James 1:17-18

### **God The Father** *Every Good Gift And Every Perfect Gift*

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

ESV James 1:17-18

### **God The Father** *Every Good Gift And Every Perfect Gift*

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning. Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.

NKJV James 1:17-18

### **God The Father** *Every Desirable And Beneficial Gift*

Every desirable and beneficial gift comes out of heaven. The gifts are rivers of light cascading down from the Father of Light. There is nothing deceitful in God, nothing two-faced, nothing fickle. He brought us to life using the true Word, showing us off as the crown of all his creatures.

MSG James 1:17-18

### **God The Father** *Whatever Is Good And Perfect*

But whatever is good and perfect comes to us from God, the Creator of all light, and he shines forever without change or shadow. And it was a happy day for him when he gave us our new lives through the truth of his Word, and we became, as it were, the first children in his new family.

TLB James 1:17-18

### **God The Father** *Every Good Action And Every Perfect Gift*

Every good action and every perfect gift is from God. These good gifts come down from the Creator of the sun, moon, and stars, who does not change like their shifting shadows. God decided to give us life through the word of truth so we might be the most important of all the things he made.

NCV James 1:17-18

# Every Good And Perfect Gift

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Week \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**God The Father** – James 1:17-18

**In Context:** *Read James 1*

**Begin With Prayer:**

***Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.***

**Meditating On God's Word:** ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created.

James 1:17-18 (NIV)

**Considering The Words:** ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

Every good | and | perfect gift | is from above, | coming down | from | the Father | of the | heavenly lights, | who does not | change like | shifting shadows. | He chose | to give us birth | through the | word of truth, | that | we might be | a kind of | firstfruits | of all | he created. James 1:17-18 (NIV)

**Praying The Scripture:**

***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Heavenly Father, you have showered me with so many good and perfect gifts. Foremost of all, you have given to me a completely new life in Christ both now and forever. I am so thankful I am your child. Help me to live an abundantly fruitful life with and for you. Amen

**What It Means:**

***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

**What are some of the best gifts that your Heavenly Father has given to you?**

When do you give thanks to your Heavenly Father for the good gifts, He has given to you?

**How is your completely new life in Christ a gift that keeps on giving now and forever?**

How are you allowing your Heavenly Father to grow and develop some of the gifts He has given to you?

**How has your Heavenly Father been using the gift of His word to do His work in you?**

Why would it be a tragic mistake to not make use of the good gifts your Heavenly Father has given to you?

How have you been able to fruitfully use gifts your Heavenly Father has given to you?

**Living It Out:**

***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Give thanks to your Heavenly Father for all the good gifts He has given to you.

**Seeing It Happen:**

***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that your Heavenly Father has given an abundance of good gifts to you.

**Get Ready To Share:**

***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group what are some of the best gifts your Heavenly Father has given to you.

**Close With Prayer:**

***Quiet Yourself Before The Lord***

*Pause And Offer Prayers Of...*

*With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You*

Adoration... \_\_\_\_\_

Thanksgiving... \_\_\_\_\_

Confession... \_\_\_\_\_

Intercession... \_\_\_\_\_

Petition... \_\_\_\_\_

**Journal**

*As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord*

**What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?**

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**What Prayers Are You Praying Today?**

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**Prayer Of Blessing**

*(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)*

*May you give thanks to God for every good and perfect gift that comes from Him.*

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**Prayer To Carry**

*(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)*

*Heavenly Father, I will give thanks to you for every good and perfect gift that comes from you.*

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**What Do You Want To Remember About Today?**

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**A Question To Ask God**

*(What Would You Like To Ask God?)*

*Heavenly Father, how do you want to use the good and perfect gifts you have given to me today?*

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