



Pastor James D. & Lady Sarah Corbett

While we celebrate freedom, we must also remember the high cost of freedom. Many people paid with their lives so we could live in a free country. A high price was paid so that all people in a free country could be free. May God continuously bless America and keep us free.

Jesus paid for our freedom with His blood; His life. Jesus came to save us from sin by giving His life on the cross. He took our sin and gave us His righteousness. He became sin for us so we could be made right. Jesus came to set us, the captives, free. Walk in the freedom that Jesus paid for with His own blood.

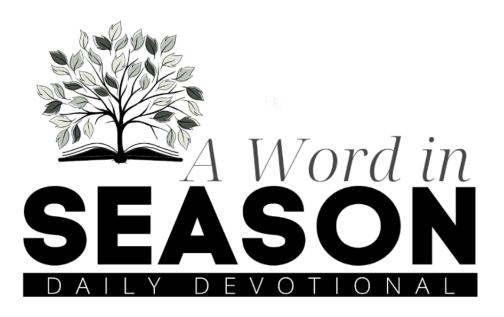
God has greatly blessed us in the first half of this year. I expect to see even greater blessings in the second half. Expect a great outpouring of God's Spirit. Believe with me for a great harvest of souls.

Remember, Greenville Community Christian Church will celebrate our 40th anniversary on September 4th. Join us for a powerful worship service and help GCCC celebrate and honor what the Lord has done over the years. Lady Sarah and I love and appreciate you. You are constantly in our prayers.

Love and Blessings,

Pastor lames D. Corbett

James D Corbett



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Take Up Your Cross and Follow God

Luke 9:23-24 And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it.

Taking up your cross requires a commitment to live God's way, to do God's work, and to love God's way even when it is a sacrifice. We cease from our own way to live God's way when we take up the cross. Taking up the cross says, "not mine own will, but thy will be done.

Let's take up our cross and follow the Lord. Sometimes this task seems impossible. Even when our spirit is willing, our flesh is sometimes weak. God knows our heart and the Holy Spirit examines our motives. As we walk with the Lord, every day our faith gets stronger and stronger. We can make up our mind that our flesh will not rule us. We should do everything we do as unto the Lord. Col 3:23-24 And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.

Take a step of faith every day. It may look overwhelming, but take it one step at a time. Ask God for help in this journey. Some days we may not feel like forgiving or turning the other cheek, but when we put God first, we strive to do His will and that allows us to live by His standards.

Prayer Focus: Father, I need Your help every day to walk by faith. Give me strength and peace to take up my cross and follow You.

Verse of the Day: Matt 6:33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Living the Word Today: When we really give our lives to Christ and say, "Not my will but thine be done," we find out that there is a whole lot more meaning in life. Put God first and it will bring you to a position wherein you put others first.

Pursue Peace

Psa 133:1-3 Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments; As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life for evermore.

God desires that we be peacemakers. His Word says in **Matt 5:9**, "Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God." We are the ones who should follow after peace and do things that leads to peace as much as we can. We have to purposely promote peace. **Psa 34:14** says, "Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it."

The fleshly nature of mankind is rebellious because of man's fall in the garden. This rebellion causes conflict and disturbs the peace. Jesus, the Prince of Peace, said in **John 14:27** "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you..." We have to purposely seek peace. **1 Pet 3:11** says, "Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it."

When we are at peace within, it is much easier to be at peace with each other. I encourage you to walk in peace and live peacefully.

Prayer Focus: Father, help me to have peace within so that I can be at peace with those around me and have peace with You.

Verse of the Day: Rom 14:19 Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another.

Living the Word Today: Pursue peace with everyone and walk in the blessings and favor of God.

Stay Planted and Flourish

Psa 92:12-15 The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon. Those that be planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God. They shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be fat and flourishing; To shew that the Lord is upright: he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.

Thank God that we are in the house of the Lord. If we stay planted there, we will flourish and grow in grace. I once bought a beautiful tomato plant to set out in my garden. It was green and healthy, and I expected to have some tomatoes in a few days. I got it home and watered it, but I noticed the leaves were drying up. I watered it more and set it outside to get some sun. I discovered my plant had been dropped and was broken right above the soil. Therefore, all the watering I did was doing no good. The connection of the branches to the roots was broken. Let's make sure our relationship with God isn't broken.

In the same way, we can get good teaching and do good things, but if we are not planted in the house of the Lord, we will not grow spiritually as we should. We have to be connected to the source of growth, and God is that for us spiritually. Church is a place where we can connect with God and with fellow believers.

Prayer Focus: Father, thank You for helping Your people to get along with one another and for blessing our efforts when we do.

Verse of the Day: John 15:5 I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

Living the Word Today: Col 2:6-7 As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.

A Good Name

Prov 22:1-6 A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favour rather than silver and gold. The rich and poor meet together: the Lord is the maker of them all. A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished. By humility and the fear of the Lord are riches, and honour, and life. Thorns and snares are in the way of the froward: he that doth keep his soul shall be far from them. Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

Notice the first verse in that passage says "rather," not instead of. In other words, if you have to have a choice, but thank God, we don't have to choose between a good name and riches. We must continually strive for a good name.

Our name is good when we have a good reputation, and we do things that are pleasing in God's sight. We should be sure that we are making our appointments on time, paying bills on time, and that we are keeping our word. This is especially true when it comes to children. When we tell a child that we might do something, they hear "I will." They learn from us, so we should set a good example by doing what we say we will do. In this way, we impact another generation for the good.

Prayer Focus: Father, thank You for giving me a good name. Help me to honor You with my choices and to keep my word to You and others.

Verse of the Day: Ecc 7:1 A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one's birth.

Living the Word Today: Purpose to live in a way that pleases God by honoring your word to Him and others.

Remember How God Handled Your Pharaohs

Deut 7:18-19 Thou shalt not be afraid of them: but shalt well remember what the Lord thy God did unto Pharaoh, and unto all Egypt; The great temptations which thine eyes saw, and the signs, and the wonders, and the mighty hand, and the stretched out arm, whereby the Lord thy God brought thee out: so shall the Lord thy God do unto all the people of whom thou art afraid.

When you think about the story of the children of Israel, they were in bondage to the Egyptians for so many years. Pharoah oppressed them to the point that they did not remember the goodness that Joseph had brought to the land of Egypt. God brought 10 plagues upon the Egyptians and with a strong hand, He led the Israelites out of bondage.

We need to remember what God has done to the Pharaohs in our lives. When it looks like all of a sudden, negative things start coming toward you, remember how God delivered you from oppression and delivered you before. Remember how, when people opposed you and tried to oppress you, God turned the situation around for the good. Remember your victories in Christ and be encouraged! Rejoice in what God has already done.

Prayer Focus: Father, thank You for being faithful to deliver me time after time. You are my strength – my fortress – my hero.

Verse of the Day: Isa 46:9 Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me.

Living the Word Today: Remember what God has done in your life. If He delivered you once, He will do it again. He is faithful and we have the victory in Christ.

God Is Our Source

2 Cor 9:8-10 And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work: (As it is written, He hath dispersed abroad; he hath given to the poor: his righteousness remaineth for ever. Now he that ministereth seed to the sower both minister bread for your food, and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness;)

God is the one who causes all good things to flow toward us. When we get God's plan for our lives, we get His blessing upon our lives. We need to have the attitude that we to want to serve and honor God with our lifestyles. When we give of ourselves to God, He makes all grace and favor come toward us.

Our jobs are not our source. Someone giving things to us is not our source. The government is not our source. These things may be channels that God uses to distribute our supply, but God is the source of all we need. "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:19)

Deuteronomy 8:18 But thou shalt remember the Lord thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day.

Prayer Focus: Father, thank You for making me self-sufficient, where my sufficiency comes from You. You are my source.

Verse of the Day: Psa 34:10 The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger: but they that seek the Lord shall not want any good thing.

Living the Word Today: Boldly confess: Lord, I thank You that You are able to make all grace, all favor and all earthly blessings come to me in abundance.

Go Directly and Boldly to God's Throne

Heb 10:19-20 Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh.

Jesus Christ, through His death, burial, and resurrection, made a way for us to go into the Holy of Holies. God has granted access to the throne through Jesus Christ. What a joy and a privilege it is that we can go to the very throne of God and make our requests known unto Him.

We don't have to communicate with God through a priest as the Old Testament saints did. Jesus Christ is our High Priest. He intercedes on our behalf, and when He rose again, the veil that separates us from God was torn, giving us direct access to God through Christ.

1 John 5:14-15 And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask anything according to his will, he heareth us: And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.

Prayer Focus: Father, thank You for taking away the middleman and the sin that would come between You and me.

Verse of the Day: Heb 4:16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Living the Word Today: Take all of your praise, burdens, sorrows – everything directly to God in prayer. Because of Jesus' sacrifice, we can go straight to God about everything. Take advantage of that privilege today.

We Are Clothed in His Righteousness

Rom 3:21-23 But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.

The righteousness that we have in God comes by faith in Jesus Christ. We all come short of deserving God's mercy, but we receive grace through faith in Jesus.

Rom 4:3-5 For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness. Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt. But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.

We can have victory over the things that come up to undermine us and challenge our faith. We have victory over fear, depression, and poverty. Not because we are so great, but because we serve a great God. Jesus served our sentence for sin and got up from the grave so that you and I can live in victory.

2 Cor 5:21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

Prayer Focus: Father, thank You for exchanging my sins for righteousness. Let my life be pleasing in Your sight.

Verse of the Day: Rom 6:18 Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.

Living the Word Today: Jesus Christ came to make us righteous. Be established in this revelation. Because He took away our sins and unrighteousness, we can stand before God without shame and guilt.

God Is Greater

Job 5:15 But he saveth the poor from the sword, from their mouth, and from the hand of the mighty.

The Bible calls our God the Almighty God. Job had lost everything he had. Maybe you have felt this way – as if you have lost everything. Because Job served God, God delivered Him.

Luke 4:18-19 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

Part of our anointing is to preach the gospel to the poor and break shackles. God is all-sufficient and more than enough. No matter what we face, God is more than enough to handle it. He is greater than our challenges, our fears, our greatest need, and everything we can imagine.

The children of Israel were concerned about the giants in Canaan land, but God showed Himself greater than those giants. God is more powerful than any giant you could ever face. He makes us champions in Him. Walk in the authority and victory that Christ has won for you.

Prayer Focus: Father, thank You for Your greatness and power. Thank you for always causing me to triumph.

Verse of the Day: Rom 8:37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

Living the Word Today: No matter what you face, remember that God is more than enough to handle every situation. He is all-powerful, all-knowing, and all-sufficient.

God Will Sustain You

Psa 55:22 Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved.

The Lord is the one who sustains us. He works in us and through us, and He is our strength and source. When we cast our cares on Him and release the care of that situation to Him, He comes to our rescue. It doesn't always mean that a situation goes away, but we don't have to carry the burden of it anymore. We give it to God and He handles the heavy work of bearing the burden.

1 Pet 5:7 Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

When we give God our cares, we don't have to be stressed about them. We are triumphant in God – He is our strength. Put your confidence in Him and He will sustain you.

Luke 12:25-26 And which of you with taking thought can add to his stature one cubit? If ye then be not able to do that thing which is least, why take ye thought for the rest?

Prayer Focus: Father, thank You for keeping me in every way, and thank You for bearing my burdens.

Verse of the Day: Phil 4:6-7 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Living the Word Today: Quit carrying the heavy weight of life's burdens by yourself. God allows us to transfer the weight of those things onto His shoulders. He is strong and powerful, and He will lighten our load and give us victory.

Be Single-Minded

James 1:5-8 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.

We don't want to be double-minded. We want to have singleness of mind and purpose – not tossed to and from with various doctrines. How can we do that?

- 1. Give God's Word first place in our lives. Be doers of it and not hearers only. James 1:22-24: But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.
- 2. **Draw close to God. James 4:8** Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you...
- 3. **Keep a pure heart. James 4:8 "...**Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded."
- 4. Focus on and Trust in God. Isa 26:3 Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

Prayer Focus: Father, thank You for giving me a sound mind and the strength to walk genuinely in Your ways.

Verse of the Day: Rom 7:25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.

Living the Word Today: Things will try to distract you from God but keep your mind on Him and you will not become double-minded and unstable.

Holy Ghost Boldness

Acts 4:31-33 And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness. And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common. And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.

The apostles asked God for boldness so they could speak the Word of God and that God would confirm the Word with signs following. That's the power of prayer – because they asked, God granted them boldness. As a result, a revival broke out and a mighty outpouring of God's spirit brought healing and deliverance. People lined up in the street believing that if even a shadow passed by them, they would be healed.

The same God that showed up then is the same God that we serve now. When we pray and ask God for His power to manifest in our lives, and believe that He will, God will show up in our lives.

Prayer Focus: Lord, grant me boldness to speak Your Word and confirm it with miracles, signs and wonders. Father, show Yourself strong in my home, my church, my community, and the world.

Verse of the Day: Isa 44:3 For I will pour water upon him that is thirsty, and floods upon the dry ground: I will pour my spirit upon thy seed, and my blessing upon thine offspring.

Living the Word Today: Ask God for Holy Ghost boldness and declare His Word wherever you go.

Stones of Remembrance

Josh 4:7 Then ye shall answer them, That the waters of Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the Lord; when it passed over Jordan, the waters of Jordan were cut off: and these stones shall be for a memorial unto the children of Israel for ever.

When the children of Israel were crossing over Jordan into the promised land, they were told to take the stones and build a memorial. They took 12 stones to build a memorial to commemorate God taking them over the river into the promised land. These were stones of remembrance.

A diamond is a precious stone. They are often given to mark a special occasion like engagement rings for marriage. This is a stone of remembrance. More importantly, what do we use to remember the things that God has done in our lives? It doesn't have to be a physical stone, but we should use something to remember how God has spoken to us and how He has done significant things in our lives. Remembering God's goodness towards us keeps us grateful and hopeful.

Prayer Focus: Father, thank You for bringing me through time and time again. Help me to remember all of Your goodness to me so that I may draw strength in troubled times and be quick to glorify Your name.

Verse of the Day: Deut 8:2 And thou shalt remember all the way which the Lord thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no.

Living the Word Today: Take time to consider what God has already brought you through. Write it down or find a song to commemorate the goodness of God in Your life. Don't forget the marvelous works of God in your life.

Continue on in Christ

Col 2:6 As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him.

Continuing to walk in Christ is vital to our Christian life. Don't allow distractions that come to get your focus off Jesus throw you off course and get your attention; it is crucial to continue walking with Christ. Make up your mind that you will not compromise and that you will stay with God. Even when you can't see a way, God is always the way. Trust in Him. You will make it.

When things don't go the way we want, we should still continue on in our walk with Christ. Because of what Christ has done, we can make it.

Phil 1:6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.

1 Cor 16:13 Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong.

Acts 17:28 For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring.

Prayer Focus: Father, help me to trust You and continue in Your will

Verse of the Day: 1 Cor 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

Living the Word Today: Do not draw back when times get tough. Abide in the Lord and allow His word to abide in You.

The Table of Communion

1 Cor 11:28-29 But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup. For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.

When we go to the table of communion, we may think that partaking unworthily means we shouldn't go in with unrepented sin. That is true, but also, when we don't have an appreciation of what the blood of Jesus did for us, we are eating and drinking unworthily.

We can take authority over the forces of death through communion. We have a right and obligation to take authority over any evil power through the communion table. Therefore, we should partake with an understanding that we are worthy because of the grace and mercy of God, through the blood of Jesus. Otherwise, we would just be sinners standing before God. We must appreciate the finished work of Christ to partake of communion worthily.

Prayer Focus: Father, thank You for the finished work of Christ that made me worthy to partake in communion.

Verse of the Day: 1 Cor 11:26 For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.

Living the Word Today: The sacrament of communion memorializes the new testament in the blood of Jesus. We are to remember Him and honor the sacrifice made on our behalf as we share in the brokenness of His body and His blood.

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Guard Against Bitterness

Heb 12:15 Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled.

Bitterness is like the spiritual equivalent of catching the flu. If you catch the flu, you don't want to be around people because you feel terrible, and others can get defiled and catch it from you. When you have bitterness in your heart, it eats away at you and others can catch the bitterness from you.

Prov 22:24-25 Make no friendship with an angry man; and with a furious man thou shalt not go: Lest thou learn his ways, and get a snare to thy soul.

We must guard against bitterness because, not only does it derail our lives, but it also messes others up. We tear down relationships due to bitterness. We don't reach out to people as we should, and it causes adverse effects in our bodies. Our blood pressure and immune system can go haywire due to bitterness. We need to guard against that so we can have the peace of God.

Rom 12:18 If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.

Prayer Focus: Father, thank You for forgiving me. Help me to forgive myself and others so that bitterness can not take root in my heart.

Verse of the Day: Eph 4:26 Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath.

Living the Word Today: Forgive quickly and guard against bitterness. Walk in love and in the Spirit of God so that you do not fulfill the lusts of the flesh.

Set Your Love on God

Psa 91:14-16 Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name. He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him. With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation.

Thank God that He loves us. Because we set our love on Him, He will deliver us and set us above anything the world throws at us. He is with us in the midst of everything that we go through. He is the Greater One who lives inside of us. He is our deliverer, and He will honor us.

Psa 23:5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Let's give God glory and praise for His goodness. Love the Lord more than anything and anyone. Let Him be the first in Your life and He will satisfy you with long life and salvation.

Matt 22:37 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.

Prayer Focus: Father, thank You for loving me. Help me to set my love upon You. I put You first in my life.

Verse of the Day: Col 3:2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

Living the Word Today: Fall in love with Jesus. He loves You and desires your affection.

God Forgives Us

Micah 7:18-19 Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? he retaineth not his anger for ever, because he delighteth in mercy. He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.

God is the one who forgives us, cleanses us, and casts our sins as far as the east is from the west. He pardons our iniquities and looks beyond our transgressions. He is not angry at us. He is on our side and He delights in having mercy. Because of His great compassion and love for us we have life, health, and strength.

Sometimes we may feel unworthy of the goodness of God, but the blood of Jesus has made us worthy and whole, and we can go to God with sonship status. We are joint heirs in Christ, and that's a reason to be excited.

Col 1:13-14 Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins

Eph 1:7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace.

Prayer Focus: Father, thank You for Your goodness and mercy. Thank You for putting me in right standing with You.

Verse of the Day: Isa 1:18 Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

Living the Word Today: We have a reason to give God thanks and praise. Know that He is on our side and He will never leave nor forsake us.

Minister to God

Acts 13:1-2 Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.

The key point in this passage is that they ministered to the Lord. So often, we want the Lord to minister to us. Part of our time in worship should be spent just being before Him, serving Him through praise and worship. Doing so positions us to hear from God. We also see this in **Acts 2:1-2**: And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

Getting in the presence of God gives us peace, revelation, and direction. What we do spiritually makes deposits in our lives spiritually. It will cause us to rise above adverse situations.

1 Chron 16:29 Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come before him: worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

Prayer Focus: Father, help me to have a heart of servitude toward You. Thank you for ministering to us. Show me how to minister to You.

Verse of the Day: Heb 13:15 By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.

Living the Word Today: Take time to get in the presence of God and worship Him.

Don't Stagger at the Promises of God

Rom 4:19-22 And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah's womb: He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; and being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform. And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness.

Abraham had to hope against hope that he would become the father of many nations as was spoken to Him by the messenger of God. He got beyond his circumstances and the reality of his age and Sarah's infertile womb and believed God to fulfill His promise.

We must follow in Abraham's footsteps. When it looks like God's promises are impossible in our lives, let's stand in faith and be fully persuaded that what God has promised, He is willing and able to perform.

James 1:6 But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.

Prayer Focus: Father, I believe Your Word over my life. Thank You for completing the good work that You have begun in me.

Verse of the Day: Prov 3:5 Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

Living the Word Today: When doubt creeps in, confess with your mouth, "Be it unto me according to Your Word, Lord." Believe to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

Chart a New Course

2 Sam 12:15-22 And Nathan departed unto his house. And the Lord struck the child that Uriah's wife bare unto David, and it was very sick. David therefore besought God for the child; and David fasted, and went in, and lay all night upon the earth. And the elders of his house arose, and went to him, to raise him up from the earth: but he would not, neither did he eat bread with them. And it came to pass on the seventh day, that the child died. And the servants of David feared to tell him that the child was dead: for they said, Behold, while the child was yet alive, we spake unto him, and he would not hearken unto our voice: how will he then vex himself, if we tell him that the child is dead? But when David saw that his servants whispered, David perceived that the child was dead: therefore David said unto his servants, Is the child dead? And they said, He is dead. Then David arose from the earth, and washed, and anointed himself, and changed his apparel, and came into the house of the Lord, and worshipped: then he came to his own house; and when he required, they set bread before him, and he did eat. Then said his servants unto him, what thing is this that thou hast done? thou didst fast and weep for the child, while it was alive; but when the child was dead, thou didst rise and eat bread. And he said, While the child was yet alive, I fasted and wept: for I said, Who can tell whether God will be gracious to me, that the child may live?

We have situations that happen where we've done all we know to do. Sometimes we get disappointed in life, but it is time to rise up. Get out of the sack cloths and ashes and chart a new course.

Prayer Focus: Father, help me to chart a new course and accept things that I cannot change and things that are outside of Your will.

Verse of the Day: Ecc 3:1 To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven.

Living the Word Today: When life changes beyond our capacity to go back and fix, we have to accept the changes that God has set before us and chart a new course.

Perfect Peace

Isa 26:3 Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

The Lord causes us to have perfect peace – peace in our hearts, minds, peace around us...if we keep our mind focused on Him. Our peace can act as a barometer in our lives. When our peace is lost, it's an indication that we have lost our focus on God. We are thinking on the wrong things and that causes the peace to leave. If we turn our minds back to God, what He has brought us through, what He has already done in our lives, our peace can be restored.

Phil 4:6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

John 14:27 Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

Prayer Focus: Lord, thank You for perfect peace. Help me to keep my mind on You.

Verse of the Day: Phil 4:8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

Living the Word Today: Think on the goodness of the Lord and all that He has done for you. His plans for you are perfect and they bring about peace.

God Heals the Broken Hearted

Psa 147:3 He healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds.

When we are in a place of brokenness, God is our Healer. Time does not heal all wounds. The Lord is the one who heals the broken hearted. Sometimes a broken heart can come from a relationship, but it could also come from other things like the loss of a job, feeling sorry for yourself, grieving over wrong decisions...either way, healing needs to happen in your life.

Luke 4:18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised.

The Lord causes us to overcome grief and pain. Put your trust and confidence in Him and He will cause you to rise above the ashes.

Prayer Focus: Lord, I take authority over any grief that has tried to set in my life. Thank You for a fresh move of God.

Verse of the Day: 1 John 3:20 For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things.

Living the Word Today: Give your sorrows and grief to God. He is the lifter of our heads.

Take Your Cares to God

Psa 55:22 Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved.

We have to take the cares of this life and cast them to the Lord. We have to tell these things to get out of our lives and release the care of it to Him. Sometimes you may feel like you're the only one going through a situation, but God will see you through. Hold your head up and make up your mind that victory is already yours. You can speak to mountains and see them move. Don't allow the enemy to burden you. Trust in the true and living God.

The enemy will use guilt and shame to put pressure on you. Obey God and get out of oppression. We are free in Christ and we can live carefree by giving our concerns to God.

Psa 50:15 And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me.

1 John 5:14-15 And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: and if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.

Prayer Focus: Father, teach me how to trust You with the things that concern me. Forgive me for carrying burdens on my own.

Verse of the Day: Matt 11:29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

Living the Word Today: Choose to trust God with your heart's concerns. He cares for you and He will never forsake you.

Thirst for God

Psa 42:1-4 As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God. My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God: when shall I come and appear before God? My tears have been my meat day and night, while they continually say unto me, Where is thy God? When I remember these things, I pour out my soul in me: for I had gone with the multitude, I went with them to the house of God, with the voice of joy and praise, with a multitude that kept holyday.

Our heart attitude towards God should be as the deer panteth for water. We need God as much as we need a drink of cold water on a hot summer day. We go through all kinds of things just to get that drink of water. We should want to be in God's presence and we should set our affection on Him. Spend time with God in prayer and worship. Give Him glory. Let the Word saturate your being. We should also be in fellowship with our church family. The awesome thing about thirsting for God is that He satisfies our thirst.

John 4:13-14 Jesus answered and said unto her, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: but whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.

Prayer Focus: Father, fill my heart with Your love and my mouth with Your words.

Verse of the Day: Matt 5:6 Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

Living the Word Today: Develop a hunger and thirst for the things of God. He will quench your thirst.

God Protects Us from the Enemy

2 Tim 4:18 And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto his heavenly kingdom: to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

No matter what the attack plan is from the enemy, God is our deliverer. No matter what was meant for your harm, God will turn it around and make it work in your favor. We need to expect God's deliverance.

Pray and ask God what you need to know about the enemy's plans of attack against you. God delivers us from the dangers we see and those we do not see. We must learn to hear the voice of God and follow His leadership.

Psa 91:9-11 Because thou hast made the LORD, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation; there shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling. For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.

2 Thess 3:1-2 Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified, even as it is with you: And that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men: for all men have not faith.

Prayer Focus: Father, thank You for being my deliverer and protector.

Verse of the Day: Psa 34:19 Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all.

Living the Word Today: Dwell in the secret place of the Most High. He will deliver and protect us from evil.

Let Kindness Prevail

Eph 4:32 And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

Rom 12:10-13 Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another; not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer; distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality.

Kindness is a godly virtue that we should endeavor to have. We are to be kind to one another, having a favorable disposition to each other. As God's people, we should know how to be friendly and show kindness.

We should not be quick to be harsh or dogmatic towards others. Seek to find the good in people and avoid negativity. We are to walk in forgiveness as God has forgiven us. To be in a position to receive forgiveness, we have to practice forgiveness.

Even when others are not kind to us, we have a responsibility to still be nice to them. Kindness can change the atmosphere around us.

Col 3:13 Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.

Prayer Focus: Father, help me to be kind and tenderhearted towards others. Let kindness prevail in my life.

Verse of the Day: Psa 34:19 Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all.

Living the Word Today: Change the world around you by showing kindness to others. Your kindness can open doors for you that money can not.

God's Positioning System

Prov 16:9 A man's heart deviseth his way: but the Lord directeth his steps.

The Lord is the one who leads and guides us. When we walk with Him, He directs our steps. We have to walk purposefully and stay in tune with God every day. Listen to Him and follow His lead. We may not always understand His ways, but we trust that He will take us on the right path.

Sometimes our GPS systems can take us on unfamiliar paths that may not seem accurate, but when we are lost, our best bet is to listen to the guidance from the GPS and we will end up safely at our destination. The same goes for God. When we follow His lead, we arrive safely at our desired location.

Isa 58:11 And the Lord shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not.

Psa 32:8 I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye.

Prayer Focus: Father, thank You for leading me down the paths of righteousness. Help me to trust Your guidance.

Verse of the Day: Rom 8:14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

Living the Word Today: Fully rely on God to lead you in the paths of life.

Set Your Mind on Things Above

Col 3:1-4 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

It is very important that we set our affections and our hearts and minds on things above. Be heavenly-minded. Let's put our focus on the Kingdom of God – the higher things - instead of the things on this earth. We are walking in glory.

Rom 12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Our way of thinking must change to reflect the mind and heart of God. We must be sure that we are not walking in step with the world. The world has a way of trying to maneuver situations to fit its agenda. We follow the Spirit of God. We live by His grace and we have favor on our lives. We need a relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

Prayer Focus: Father, I intentionally set my mind to focus on Your will and Your ways.

Verse of the Day: Matt 24:35 Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

Living the Word Today: Everything on this earth will pass away, but the things of God will stand. Trust in the everlasting, unchanging Word of God.

The Life of Christ in Us

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

God loves us so much that He gave His Son, Jesus, so that we can have the God-type of life. The life we have in Christ is life from above. That's why Jesus told Nicodemus that he must be born again. God has put His very life in us, and He wants to do that in every person. We have to share the good news of Jesus Christ so that others can have the God-type life. That life is enough to put us over every situation and it causes us to rise above all circumstances.

The same life that raised Jesus from the dead is the same that is in us today. All the issues that we deal with should be handled in the realm of the spirit. For instance, if we are dealing with a financial issue, we need the life of God operating in that issue. Health, finances, and all other negative issues are representative of the law of sin and death at work. More money may help, but the life of God causes finances to flow. When we allow the life of God to flow in, it drives out the law of sin and death.

Rom 8:11 But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

Prayer Focus: Father, thank You for the life that is within us – the life of Christ.

Verse of the Day: John 10:10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly..

Living the Word Today: Get so full of Jesus and the life of God that the law of sin and death has no place in you. The life of God is enough to raise us above every situation we face.

God Hears Our Cry

Psa 34:17-19 The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles. The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit. Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all.

As we walk in connection with the Lord, He hears our hearts' cries. He not only hears but He delivers us from all of our troubles. He is the Greater One who lives on the inside of us, and He is a very present help in the time of trouble. So we are never alone because God is always with us. We can commune with God and talk with Him

James 1:2-4 My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

Psa 18:6 In my distress I called upon the Lord, and cried unto my God: he heard my voice out of his temple, and my cry came before him, even into his ears.

Prayer Focus: Father, thank You for hearing my heart's cry. You are my strong deliverer and I appreciate You!

Verse of the Day: 1 Pet 3:12 For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil.

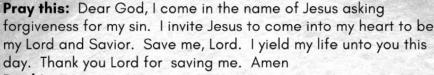
Living the Word Today: No matter what your affliction is, count it all joy because we have a deliverer. Our afflictions present another opportunity to give God praise and glory, and to witness His goodness in the land of the living.



ROMANS ROAD

Plan of Salvation

John 3:16
Romans 10:13
Romans 5:8
Romans 3:23
Ephesians 2:8
Romans 10:9
Romans 6:23



Do this now:

- 1. Tell someone else about your new faith in Christ
- 2. Spend time with God each day in prayer and Bible reading
- 3. Seek fellowship with other Christians
- 4. Faithfully attend church





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