



A Word in
SEASON
DAILY DEVOTIONAL

OCTOBER 2021

Pastor James D. Corbett



Greetings in the wonderful name of Jesus!



Happy Clergy Appreciation month to all my fellow ministers! Pastor or Clergy appreciation month is "...a special time that congregations set aside each year to honor their pastors and pastoral families for the hard work, sacrificial dedication, and multiple blessings provided by these special people ..." (Focus on the Family).

We all should thank God for pastors and leaders who answered and stayed faithful to the call of ministry. Thank you, ministers, for continuing to lead, care for, and feed God's sheep. Thanks also to those who show appreciation for God's shepherds. Your words and acts of love encourage and strengthen our hearts.

The Word of God says in Matthew 6:33, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." As we make the Kingdom of God our main pursuit, God's Word promises overtaking blessings. Keep God first. He will take care of you. Continue in your faithful service unto the Lord. The faithful shall abound with blessings.

I look forward to celebrating another chapter of life on October 29th. God has blessed and kept me and I am grateful. Lady Sarah and I love and appreciate you. We trust that A Word in Season is a blessing to you. Make it a part of your daily devotion. Your prayers and offerings of support help this ministry to strive. Thank you.

Yours in Christ,

James D. Corbett



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The logo features a stylized tree with many leaves growing out of an open book. The text "A Word in" is in a cursive font, "SEASON" is in a large, bold, sans-serif font, "DAILY DEVOTIONAL" is in a smaller, all-caps, sans-serif font within a black bar, and "October 2021" is in a simple sans-serif font below the bar.

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October 1

In Everything, Give God Thanks

Psalm 107:21 Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!

You don't have to wait to see major manifestations in your life before giving God praise. Don't wait for the house on the lake before you start praising God. Praise Him for everything and in everything give thanks!

Thank God when you go to the grocery store to pick up your favorite box of cereal, but when you look on the shelf you don't see it at first, then you look way in the back of the shelf, and there is one box left. That is your box! Halleluiah! Praise God!

Thank God for a close parking space on a rainy day. Imagine driving around the parking lot in a hurry, rain is pouring, every parking space is taken, and somebody pulls out of a parking space ahead on the same lane. That is a blessing. That parking space is for you! Give God, thanks, glory and the praise!

All of us would like to have a big mega raise, but if this does not happen, don't forget to give God praise when the taxes go down, or when you receive a small cost of living raise. Be thankful over the small blessings because there are more blessings coming. When you learn to give God praise for everything, you will tap into His blessings.

Prayer Focus: Father, I thank you for all that you do and all that you plan to do in my life. I give you praise and glory for all the blessings you give me.

Verse of the Day: Psalm 33:1 Rejoice in the LORD, O ye righteous: for praise is comely for the upright.

Living the Word Today: Notice the small blessings and favor you receive. Thank God for it.



October 2

Confess and Believe God's Word

Mark 11:23 For verily I say unto you, that whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

As a believer, your confession should always be that God is good and that God loves you. These are not clichés or religious sayings. They are the truth of God's Word. They are the truth concerning you. What are you saying about yourself? I heard somebody once say, "I expect to see the goodness of the Lord! Say, "I expect God's favor in my life!" Expect to see the goodness of the Lord!

Believe in the Word of God. Walk in the truth of God's Word. The Bible says you are the head and not the tail. The Bible says you will lend and not borrow. Believe that God is causing blessings to overtake you. Believe that God will keep your joy full and give you peace like a river. Believe that the Lord will increase you more and more and that He will cause you to have all-sufficiency. Believe that God will give you seed to sow and multiply your seed sown.

Prayer Focus: Thank you Lord for being on my side. I believe your Word, confess your goodness and expect good things to happen to me.

Verse of the Day: 1John 5:14, And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask anything according to his will, he heareth us.

Living the Word Today: Watch what you say. Speak what you want to be manifested.



October 3

Praying for Increase in Your City

Deut 28:12 The LORD shall open unto thee his good treasure, the heaven to give the rain unto thy land in his season, and to bless all the work of thine hand: and thou shalt lend unto many nations, and thou shalt not borrow.

Believe that the blessings of the Lord are on your city. Pray for blessings upon your city. Ask God for increase in the city you reside in. Ask Him to cause new companies to relocate to your city. Ask Him to cause existing companies to expand and grow. Speak positive confessions about your city and call for increase. Remember, a rising tide lifts all the ships!

Quit saying, "Jobs do not pay much around *here*." If you keep making negative confessions, employers can't pay you more because that is your confession! Stop sinking your employer's ship! Stop sinking your business' ship! Start declaring positive confessions. More money *has to* come in order to pay you!

Stop saying nobody is hiring. Remember, it is the Lord that gives you increase. Promotion comes from the Lord. Pray for great jobs for your city. Thank God for the increase.

Prayer Focus: Lord, I change my confessions about my city and my finances. I confess increase in my city and my life.

Verse of the Day: Malachi 3:11-12 And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the Lord of hosts. And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith the Lord of hosts.

Living the Word Today: Pray for your city. Expect it to go to another level now. Call your city "blessed".



October 4

Love Yourself

James 2:8 If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well. The Message Bible says, *You do well when you complete the Royal Rule of the Scriptures: "Love others as you love yourself."* Most of us are good at loving others, but sometimes forget that this scripture also says we should love ourselves.

Sometimes we have suffered needlessly because we made ourselves the sacrificial lamb. Jesus *is the sacrificial Lamb!* For you to go to the cross will not deliver anybody! Jesus has already gone to the cross.

Don't drag anything into your future that is destroying you today. Don't let things that are seeking to destroy you continue to hitch a free ride in your life. Now is the time to let the negatives of the pass go. Take heed to yourself and love yourself.

Instead of being willing to die for a person, be willing to live for them. We sometimes try to carry people where they do not want to go. Instead of lifting them up, they are dragging you down. Make up your mind to love them, but don't drown with them! The currents are too strong for you to jump in, so throw a lifeline. Be willing to help those who want to be helped. You can't help others unless you first take care of yourself.

Take care of your health, your well-being, and your finances. If you are stressed out, you will not be able to help anyone. Take care of yourself, so you can be a blessing to others.

Prayer Focus: Lord, help me to know when it's time to let go. Show me how to have the quality of life you want me to have.

Verse of the Day: Mark 12:31 And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.

Living the Word Today: Take on the challenge of living. Be concerned about your spiritual walk and your natural life. Love yourself so you can be a blessing to others.



October 5

Confident Expectancy in God

Psalm 39:7 And now, Lord, what wait I for? my hope is in thee.

Hope is a confident expectancy of a desired outcome. In the Bible, the word hope stands for both the act of hoping and the thing you are hoping for. Hope does not arise just from your individual desires or wishes; it rises from God who is Himself the believer's hope.

We know that faith is the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things not seen. Genuine hope is not wishful thinking but a firm assurance about the things that are unseen and still in the future. Sometimes people have the wrong notions concerning hope. They say we should have faith and not hope. Well, I have some news for you; you cannot have faith without hope! Faith is the substance of things hoped for.

When you lose hope, you lose your desire to keep going on. You lose the very will to live. One of the things you find out in sports is, if you can break a person's will and get them to a place where they feel hopeless, they will give up. They quit fighting and trying. Part of a coach's job is to keep your hope alive until the very end. As a believer, it is vitally important that you have hope.

Prayer Focus: Father, my hope is in you. I will not back down. I will not break down. I will not quit. I shall not be moved.

Verse of the Day: Psalms 38:15 For in thee, O Lord, do I hope: thou wilt hear, O Lord, my God.

Living the Word Today: The Word of God says to be of good courage, and he will strengthen your heart. This promise is to all that hope in the Lord. Expect your hope to be fulfilled.



October 6

Be of Good Cheer

Acts 27:25 Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me.

In Acts 27 Paul was on a ship and sailing became dangerous. God had warned Paul of the impending danger. Paul told the captain of the ship but the captain refused to listen and set sail anyway. In verse 22 Paul said, *“And now I exhort you to be of good cheer: for there shall be no loss of any man’s life among you, but of the ship.”* Hope had been taken away. Paul re-established them in hope by telling them to “be of good cheer.” In other words, you are going to make it. Yes, they were going to lose the ship but they were going to be okay.

You do not have to go down today. Paul said I believe God as it has been told me. I believe the report of the Lord. Sure enough, the ship was wrecked and all of them cast into the sea. All those who were able to swim swam to the shore. The rest held on to boards and pieces of the ship but made it safely to land. They all made it. Not one of them drowned in the sea because God had given Paul a Word and he hung hope on that Word. Faith came as a result and they all made it.

You can have hope in the midst of the storm. In spite of hopeless situations, keep the faith. Just like God saved Paul from a shipwreck, He will do the same for you. Hang your hopes on the Word of God. Allow faith to come and get you out of the shipwreck alive! Be of good cheer. You shall overcome!

Prayer Focus: Father, I place my trust in you and your Word. I will keep my hope in you and remain of good cheer.

Verse of the Day: Acts 27:36 Then were they all of good cheer, and they also took some meat.

Living the Word Today: Be of good cheer for God is on your side.



October 7

A Right Confession

Gen 17:5-6 Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham; for a father of many nations have I made thee. And I will make thee exceeding fruitful, and I will make nations of thee, and kings shall come out of thee.

Change what you are saying to change what you have. Can you imagine the story of Abraham when his name was Abram? He asked God, “what will you give me?” I have no heir to give all you have given me. God promised him a son. Abraham had been married a long time and it was past the child bearing season. His wife, Sarah, laughed at the notion of having a child. God changed his name to Abraham, which means the father of a multitude, because He had to get his confession right. What have you been calling yourself?

There are times when God has to deal with what we say. If we do not get our confessions right, we will eat the fruit of our lips. Would you really like to have all the stuff you talked up this week? What we have today is the result of the words we have spoken in the past, or the words that have been spoken to us. Change what you are saying to change what you have in your life. Shout, ‘I’m blessed!’

Prayer Focus: Father, help me to say about me what you say about me.

Verse of the Day: Mark 11:23 For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

Living the Word Today: Say that you are blessed, believe it and act like it.



October 8

Call Things That Be Not as Though They Were

Romans 4:17 (As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were.

Calling those things that be not as though they “were” was not the faith preacher’s idea. This was God’s example of faith confession to us too. We are not speaking foolishness when we confess our faith which is based on the Word of God. We are following God’s example.

God called Abraham a father of many nations before he had any children. Even before his wife ever conceived, he was the father of a multitude. When God called you saved according to His Word, you had no fruit to prove it. You left an altar or some other place saying you were saved, but your fruit had to come later.

Can you imagine Abraham at 99 years old talking about having a baby? God promised. God cannot lie. Call those things that be not as though they were because you see it through the eyes of faith. Against hope Abraham believed in hope. He considered not the deadness of Sarah’s womb. Don’t consider your circumstances. Consider what God says. Stagger not at the promises of God through unbelief. Believe the report of the Lord. Be fully persuaded that what God promises He is able to perform. Hope for that which you cannot see.

Prayer Focus: Father I thank you for hope for that I cannot see.

Verse of the Day: Mark 11:24 Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

Living the Word Today: Call those things that be not as though they were and watch them come to pass.



October 9

Seek the Lord

Jer 29:13-14 And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart. And I will be found of you, saith the LORD: and I will turn away your captivity, and I will gather you from all the nations, and from all the places whither I have driven you, saith the LORD; and I will bring you again into the place whence I caused you to be carried away captive.

The Lord wants us to seek after Him. When we search for Him with our whole heart and look to Him as our source, the Lord has said then shall He be found of us. What do we really want Him to do? Are we willing to seek Him?

As Believers, we do not seek to know God as our Savior per se because we are already Born Again. But what about those areas of life that you need God to show Himself strong on your behalf? What about in the area of our health? When we seek Him, He shall be found! What about in the area of peace of mind? When we seek Him, He shall be found! What about in our home and marriage?

Seek Him, He shall be found! We need to have the heart attitude of, "God, I need you". I need you to show up in my life. Show yourself strong; show yourself big in my life. And when we search for Him with our whole heart, then shall he be found of us.

Prayer Focus: Father, I desire to seek you with my whole heart. Lord, I want to know you as Lord, as Savior, my healer, my deliverer, my strength, my sanctifier, the one that sets me free!

Verse of the Day: Ps 63:1 O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is.

Living the Word Today: Seek the Lord with your whole heart in every area of life!



October 10

Honor God With Your Lifestyle

James 1:26-27 If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain. Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

Our faith should be a practical faith. As Christians, we should love the Lord and should fervently worship Him. Our faith should transcend into a changed lifestyle. We should constantly strive to be a people of character that live the Christian life.

As believers, we should live an exemplary life, be there for the hurting, and let the gospel transcend into the service that you offer for others. We are instructed to "*work out*" our salvation through the works we do, the lifestyle we live, and the obstacles that we overcome. Commit to honoring God with your lifestyle! And as you do, you will find that doors will open, opportunities will avail, and the power of God will operate through you!

Therefore, let us be there for others and keep ourselves unspotted from the world, and watch how God will use us as instruments for His Will!

Prayer Focus: Lord, I thank you that the power of God has taken a life such as mine, turned it around, and made me whole. I know that it is you that keeps me from falling.

Verse of the Day: Phil 12:12 Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

Living the Word Today: Present yourself as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God.



October 11

The Lord is Good

Jer 31:14 And I will satiate the soul of the priests with fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my goodness, saith the LORD.

We should thank God for His goodness towards us. God is a merciful and good God. The goodness of the Lord leads us to repentance. The Lord said, according to His mercies, we should remember Him for His goodness. We should believe to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. *“Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men! (Ps 107:8)”* We need to remember that God is the one that satisfies our mouth with good things. He is the one that is doing good things towards us and causing us to walk in His goodness. We need to rejoice and praise God everyday for His goodness towards us. God did not have to do the things that He has done in our lives! But thank God that He did!

We did not deserve the love that God has given us, but He gave it to us freely anyway! We are here today because of His goodness and His work in our lives. That ought to keep us walking upright before God. We can do good because of the goodness of the Lord, not because we have been good, but the Good one lives on the inside of us! We have every reason to give God thanks and praise.

Even when things are going wrong, we need to think of the goodness of the Lord. If it was not for the Lord on our side, where would we be? We are here today because of the goodness of the Lord!

Prayer Focus: Lord, thank you for your goodness and mercy.

Verse of the Day: Ps 34:8 O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.

Living the Word Today: Make this your confession today: the Lord is good! He is good to me!



October 12

The Fullness of Life

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.

The Lord Jesus came that we might have full blessings in our lives. He came that our lives may be full of the power and the blessings of Almighty God. One version of the Bible says, "...*have life in the fullest measure*".

Thank God we can have life in the fullest measure through Christ Jesus! We need to realize and be cognizant of the fact that God wants us blessed. Jesus came to earth so we could go to heaven. He came that we might receive eternal life. He gave that we might receive. He took our sickness and disease that we might be healed. He died that we might live. He became flesh that we could become spiritual. He became poor so that we could become rich.

Jesus Christ took our place in death so that we could take His place in living. We need to realize that the Lord loves us. "*He that spared not his own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?*" (Rom 8:32) We can lay claim on eternal life and we can give thanks and praise for it. Even when you don't see it, you can say, it's mine!

Prayer Focus: Father, I thank you for the fullness of life abundantly. Thank you for living big within me and keeping me in all my ways.

Verse of the Day: 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.

Living the Word Today: He came that we might have life; the life from above, Zoe, the God-type life!



October 13

Hope in the Lord

Ps 42:1-5 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 holy day. Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted in me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance.

Thank God we can continue to give Him praise and glory when it looks like things are not working. In the midst of your storms keep on praising God. Someone might be mocking and questioning your God but keep on praising Him! When people ask, “where is your God?” keep on praising Him. Keep on praising and you will see the hand of God move on your behalf.

When you fall into divers temptations, count it all joy. Cheer up! God has not forgotten you! Don’t let disappointment get you down. Don’t think the delay is denial. Rejoice in the Lord of your Salvation! Victory is already yours! Put that smile back on your face and get that fight back in you! Say, Lord, I can do this, in Jesus’ Name!

Sometimes you have to go on ahead and shout to God when you don’t even know what you are shouting about! Thank you, Lord!

Prayer Focus: Lord, I thank you for the Spirit of cheerfulness and strong countenance. I will put a smile on my face knowing that victory is already mine. I win, in Jesus’ Name!

Verse of the Day: 2Cor 2:14 Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of his knowledge by us in every place.

Living the Word Today: Respond to the pressures of life with praise and thanksgiving, for God always causes you to triumph!



October 14

In the Morning Will, I Direct My Prayer Unto Thee

Ps 5:1-3 Give ear to my words, O LORD, consider my meditation. Hearken unto the voice of my cry, my King, and my God: for unto thee will I pray. My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O LORD; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up.

We have the joy and a privilege to rend our hearts to the Lord in prayer early in the morning. Of course, we can pray anytime, but praying in the morning starts the day right. We have the confidence of knowing that God hears and answers prayer. Our God turns again the captivity of Zion and caused things to work out together for our good. Praise God! We can start our day talking to the Lord. Keep looking up. Keep believing and know that your prayers are before the throne of Almighty God.

Revelations 5:8 says that those prayers are before God in vials or bowls. Those prayers are like a sweet-smelling savor to the nostrils of God because His people dare to pray. When we pray, we acknowledge God's sovereignty, His ability, and His omnipotence. We know that the petitions that we desire of Him are granted unto us. So, thank God for the opportunity to start your day with Morning Prayer.

Prayer Focus: Father, I thank you that I can come before you in prayer knowing that you hear and answer my prayers.

Verse of the Day: Col 4:2 Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving.

Living the Word Today: Commit to continuing in daily prayer.



October 15

A Passion for God

Deut 6:5-7 And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

One of the things that we must have as believers is a passion for God. The Bible says we need to love God with our whole being! When we have that kind of love for God, it becomes contagious, especially in our household. We want to not only instill principles and the Word of God in our children, but we also need to cause our children and our grandchildren to have that passion for God!

Some of the saints of old did not have the knowledge that we have today. They did not have the opportunities of learning. They did not have the Biblical knowledge that we have today. However, they had something that is often missing today. They had a burning desire and passion for God. They loved God passionately, and because of that love they would continually seek after God, they were busy with the things of God. They were blessed because they had a love for God!

We need to be passionate about the things of God. We should walk in consideration of the things of God. Stir that passionate love for God up with the words of your mouth. When you say things like, I love you God and when you worship God, it causes that passion to burn within. When you commit to serving God, it causes that passion to stir up. When you get into the Word of God, it adds fuel to the fire to the passion for God in your life.

Prayer Focus: Father, I thank you for your love and compassion towards me. I love you, Lord!

Verse of the Day: **1Cor 8:3** But if any man loves God, the same is known of him.

Living the Word Today: Love the Lord God with all your heart, all your soul and all of your might. With your whole being, love God!



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October 16

Why Tithe? – Part 1

Malachi 3:10 Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

God is saying bring all your tithes into the storehouse. The storehouse is like a depository. A depository is a place where something is deposited or stored for safekeeping. God is the safe keeper, and your church home is your storehouse. Tithing is bringing 10% of your increase into the house of God.

Believers learn to live from 90% of their increase because the 90% has the blessings of God on it. 90% with God's protection is better than 100% without His blessings.

Believers should tithe. Tithing is evidence of your faith, and it helps you to grow in the Lord. Tithing lets the world know how much you really trust God. It also reminds you that everything you have belongs to Him.

Show your trust in the Lord by tithing. God's protection and blessings will be on your life. It also proves that God can trust you.

Prayer Focus: Lord thank you for your hedge of protection and thank you for helping me to understand the benefits of tithing.

Verse of the Day: Malachi 3:11 And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts.

Living the Word Today: Tell another tither, thanks for being a tither. I appreciate you.



October 17

Why Tithe – Part 2

Luke 12:34 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Martin Luther said Christians must be converted three times. The first conversion is with the mind. The second conversion is with the heart; allowing God to come into your life and be your Lord as well as your Savior. The third conversion is the most difficult one: Christians must have a conversion concerning money.

Is tithing required in the New Testament? Tithing is mentioned only three or four times in the New Testament. Jesus acknowledged that the Pharisees were very careful about tithing (Luke 18:12), and he said that they should not leave it undone (Matthew 23:23; Luke 11:42). The only other New Testament mention of tithing is in Hebrews. The fact that Abraham was blessed by and gave tithes to Melchizedek before the law illustrates the superiority of Melchizedek and Jesus Christ over the Levitical priesthood (Hebrews 7:1-10). The passage then goes on to note that “when the priesthood is changed, the law must be changed also” (verse 12). We are the seed of Abraham.

Bottom line, do you really trust God enough to give Him tithes? Tithing is not a test to see how much money the church can raise but really a test of how much we trust God. It helps you to grow in the Lord. The Bible says in Matthew and Luke “...*where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*” God is interested in your heart. Tithing represents your heart.

Prayer Focus: Thank you, Lord, for entrusting me to be faithful to bring your money unto you Lord. I bring tithes and offerings to express my love for you.

Verse of the Day: Matthew 6:21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Living the Word Today: Tithe faithfully. Expect God's blessings.



October 18

Why Tithe – Part 3

Malachi 3:12 And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith the LORD of hosts.

We want everybody to be blessed. We should thank God for His blessings. Tithing causes you to be blessed. When you tithe you will be able to do more for your family because you will be over on the blessing side of giving and receiving.

I took one of my children with me somewhere, and he asked me for something while we were there, so I bought it for him. When we got home, one of my other children said, "Daddy, you didn't bring me anything." Then they asked why? I said "because he was with me, and he asked. You were not with me and you didn't ask. If you had been with me, and if you would have asked, you could have gotten the same thing."

Sometimes we rob ourselves because we are not with God. Tithing indicates that we are with Him. When you are with God, it's easy to ask for what you want because you are with Him. So don't conveniently forget to give God your tithes and offerings. God trusts you to bring your tithes. Not many people trust you with their money. God trusts you, so give God what He asks for. Tithe continuously so the floodgates and the windows of heaven will stay open to you.

Prayer Focus: Lord, I tithe to you because it's yours. Thank you for increasing me more and more.

Verse of the Day: Luke 6:38 Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal, it shall be measured to you again.

Living the Word Today: Keep tithing. If you are not a tither, start now.



October 19

Resting in the Lord

Matt 11:29-30 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. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Resting in the Lord is when we cease from our own labor. We quit trying to do things in our natural strength and our own abilities. There may be some decisions that we must make in order to rest in the Lord. We must decide to put our trust in the Lord and allow Him to do the work.

Understand that it is the Lord that brings you to a place of rest. Many times, we labor and are heavy-laden with looking for a natural solution. We look for rest in things and ways, spending lots of money. And after doing things and spending lots of money, we're still not at rest. The Lord said, "*I will give you rest.*"

Jesus tells us, when we take His yoke we find rest for our soul. We thank God for the physical rest that our body gets. But if our soul is still troubled, although we have physical rest, there is no rest within. When we are yoked up with Jesus and learn of Him, the yoke is easy and the burden is light. Then we're not stressing, and we can be at peace.

Prayer Focus: Father, I thank you for giving me rest for my soul.

Verse of the Day: Ex 31:17 It is a sign between me and the children of Israel for ever: for in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested, and was refreshed.

Living the Word Today: Thank God for the rest that only comes from the Lord. Rest in the Lord.



October 20

Be Strong and of Good Courage

1Chr 22:9, 13 Behold, a son shall be born to thee, who shall be a man of rest; and I will give him rest from all his enemies round about: for his name shall be Solomon, and I will give peace and quietness unto Israel in his days. Then shalt thou prosper, if thou takest heed to fulfil the statutes and judgments which the LORD charged Moses with concerning Israel: be strong, and of good courage; dread not, nor be dismayed.

Just as God promised to give Solomon peace and quietness from his enemies, He will give us peace and rest from our enemies. Some of the enemies you may be facing today are sickness and disease, poverty, and stress. We must continually confess that by the stripes of Jesus we are healed.

God supplies all our needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. God will give you peace over stress. The battle is not yours but the Lord's. You can do it! Cast your cares over on the Lord, for he cares for you. Let the Lord fight your battles. So when opposition comes, be strong, keep smiling. Declare that you are going to make it. Don't quit, because if you don't quit you can't lose. Confess that you are coming out on the other side victorious!

Prayer Focus: Lord, I thank you for giving me peace and rest in you. Thank you for being my strength and my refuge in the time of trouble.

Verse of the Day: Joshua 1:9 Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God *is* with thee whithersoever thou goest.

Living the Word Today: Be strong and of good courage. The Lord is on your side.



October 21

Healing for the Broken Hearted

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,

God brings healing to those that are broken hearted. Too many of God's people are troubled because they are broken and hurting. Sometimes hurt people will hurt others. They don't mean to, they don't have an evil heart, but because of their brokenness, they will lash out at others. We need to allow God to heal us of our brokenness. One of the things that can cause a broken heart is grief. It could be grief from the loss of a loved one, the loss of a job, or it could be a marital situation.

Grief left unchecked will hold you in a place of hurt and pain. God wants to deliver you from the hurt and the pain of situations. God can deliver us from the pain and hurt of the grief without losing the memory of the situation. An example is when you lose a loved one. Your memory of your loved one is still there, but God delivers you from the pain and hurt of it.

We cannot allow the enemy to hold us in a place of bondage by holding on to grief. When you hold on to grief, you hold on to the pain and hurt from it. Jesus said, He was sent to heal the broken-hearted and to deliver those that are in captivity.

Prayer Focus: Jesus, thank you for healing my brokenness and setting me free.

Verse of the Day: Ps 147:3 He healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds.

Living the Word Today: We must allow Jesus to bring healing to our lives.



October 22

Walk Pleasing unto the Lord

1 John 3:22 And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.

As Christians, we should purpose to please God with our lives. We need to keep our mind focused on Jesus. We cannot allow the issues of life to cause us to become distracted. We need to take heed to ourselves and guard our hearts. We serve the Lord on purpose and sow our lives into the kingdom of God.

According to Colossians 1:10, as we walk pleasing unto the Lord, our good works are fruitful and our knowledge of God is increased. In all that we do we need to seek to please God. In all that we do, we should seek to do it as unto the Lord.

More than all the things we think we can do for God, or the things we can give for the work of God, He wants us. He wants our heart, our worship and our praise. This is most pleasing to Him. As we walk pleasing unto the Lord we come to a place of rest.

In Psalms 69:30-32, the Psalmist states *“I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify him with thanksgiving. This also shall please the LORD better than an ox or bullock that hath horns and hoofs. The humble shall see this, and be glad: and your heart shall live that seek God.”*

Prayer Focus: Father, I on purpose, purpose to please you.

Verse of the Day: Prov 16:7 When a man's ways please the LORD, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him.

Living the Word Today: Honor the Lord with your life today and seek to please Him.



October 23

Don't Lose Your Focus

Isa 26:3-4 Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee. Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH is everlasting strength:

There are a lot of distractions in the world today. There are many things competing for your attention. Busyness is one of those things. We become busy doing things and are not really focused on the things of God. Worry is another thing that can cause you to lose focus. When we focus on the problem, we lose sight of Jesus, the answer. We start looking for our own solutions and we can get off course.

When you lose your focus, you lose your peace. When you find that your peace is gone, stop! Ask yourself, is my mind on Jesus or is my mind on what I have to do, my job or some other situation? Jesus said when we keep our mind stayed on Him, He will keep us in perfect peace.

If you have lost your peace, refocus, and put your trust in the Lord. Begin to say what the Lord says about you. Believe the report of the Lord. Allow your confession to line up with the Word. God says He will create the fruit of your lips.

Prayer Focus: Father, I thank you that you will keep me in your perfect peace as my mind is stayed on thee.

Verse of the Day: John 16:33 These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

Living the Word Today: Keep your mind stayed on Jesus today and trust in Him. Remember, Peter defied natural law and walked on the water as long as he kept his eyes on Jesus.



October 24

Wait On the Lord

Ps 27: 13-14 I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living. Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD.

If things are not going the way you would like today, wait on the Lord. Don't give up. Wait until your change comes. Know that the Lord will cause them to work in your favor. When you cannot see the way, keep walking by faith.

When it appears no one understands what you're talking about, keep speaking your faith. Keep living for God. Wait on the Lord and watch your change come. While you are waiting on the Lord:

1. Fret Not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity. (Ps 37:1)

2. Trust in the LORD, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. (Ps 37:3)

3. Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass. (Ps 37:7)

Prayer Focus: Father, I thank you that as I wait upon you today, you will renew my strength and I shall not faint.

Verse of the Day: Ps 37:4-5 Delight thyself also in the LORD: and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

Living the Word Today: Wait on the Lord today and put your trust and confidence in Him; He will bring it to pass.



October 25

Living With No Excuses

Luke 14:16-19 Then said he unto him, A certain man made a great supper, and bade many: And sent his servant at supper time to say to them that were bidden, Come; for all things are now ready. And they all with one consent began to make excuse. The first said unto him, I have bought a piece of ground, and I must needs go and see it: I pray thee have me excused. And another said, I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them: I pray thee have me excused.

An excuse is an invalid reason for neglect of duty. We must get beyond excuses in life. If we have an excuse, we see no need to change. If we can justify why we did what we did, we are not motivated to do anything different. We must learn to live our lives without excuses. Sometimes people will listen to an excuse out of courtesy. They really don't believe it and think if you had done this and this or that then that problem would not exist. In other words, there would be no excuse.

When we constantly make excuses, people will have a low opinion of us. We see people in very difficult situations; yet they never make any excuses, and they triumph in that situation! What is your excuse? Make a decision to do something about it in order to do whatever it is God is telling you to do.

Prayer Focus: Father, I ask you to help me live my life with no excuses.

Verse of the Day: Ps.138:8 The LORD will perfect that which concerneth me: thy mercy, O LORD, endureth forever: forsake not the works of thine own hands.

Living the Word Today: Get rid of the excuses in your life today.



October 26

Living With No Excuses (cont.)

Luke 14:16-19 Then said he unto him, A certain man made a great supper, and bade many: And sent his servant at supper time to say to them that were bidden, Come; for all things are now ready. And they all with one consent began to make excuse. The first said unto him, I have bought a piece of ground, and I must needs go and see it: I pray thee have me excused. And another said, I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them: I pray thee have me excused.

When we see ourselves losing in life or not liking the situation we're in, making excuses usually changes nothing. As long as we can blame someone else for our situation, we have no reason to change. After all, it is not my fault that I am going through this situation!

Eve had an excuse for disobeying God; she blamed the serpent. Adam had an excuse for his disobedience; he blamed the woman God gave him. Cain had an excuse for the murder he committed; he blamed God for not accepting his offering. The disciple had an excuse for not doing what he was told; his excuse was he did not know where Jesus was. What is your excuse? Don't allow an excuse to keep you out of the will of God. Face the challenges in faith. Live without excuses.

Prayer Focus: Father, I decide today to live my life with no excuses.

Verse of the Day: James 2:20 But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?

Living the Word Today: God is the answer to every situation. Purpose to please God with your life.



October 27

Kept by the Power of God

1Sam 2:9 He will keep the feet of his saints, and the wicked shall be silent in darkness; for by strength shall no man prevail.

We are kept by the power of God. The devil cannot come and pluck you out of God's hand. No weapon formed against you shall prosper. Just because people treat you wrong, it does not mean you need to stoop to their level. If you will just trust in the Lord, you will not be moved. The Bible says, "you shall not be moved".

Set your face like a flint; don't be moved by the situations and circumstances. God will keep you. *"They that trust in the LORD shall be as mount Zion, which cannot be removed, but abideth for ever."* (Ps 125:1) God loves you and there is nothing you can do about it! He loves you despite your shortcomings! You would never have thought God would pick you, but He did! You would not have picked you!

Even though you might be going through some tribulation, God still loves you! He loves you unconditionally. You are already accepted by God. Be confident in knowing that He who has begun a good work in you, shall continue until the day of Jesus Christ! You are kept by His power!

Are you willing to pay the price of going through the process? Are you willing to live right and honor God no matter what? In your times of testing, you must learn to encourage yourself! God has a plan for your life. He must take you through the process to refine you!

Prayer Focus: Lord, I thank you for keeping me and for opening doors for me that no man can shut!

Verse of the Day: Jude 24 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy.

Living the Word Today: God will take care of you. He is the one that has graced you. He is the one who has anointed you!



October 28

God Loves You

Romans 5:8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

It is so awesome to think that God loved us even when we were messed up. God loved us and reached out to us and gave us His love. We as believers have to accept that love. The scripture says if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our hearts. We need to get beyond the guilt and condemnation of the past and accept the fact that God loves us today.

As we walk in the newness of life, we walk in the fullness of God's love knowing that because of His love we will make it. Because of his love we are strengthened. Because of his love we have peace. Because of his love God hears and answers our prayers.

We have already been accepted. If God loves us that much, we ought to love ourselves. We really cannot love others until we love ourselves. We cannot love God until we love others. We must accept the fact that God has made us in His likeness and His image. A part of that likeness and image is to be a person of love as the scripture declares to us that God is love.

God loves you without condition and without reservation. Accept the fact that God loves you. Walk in that love and watch how God will continue to strengthen and bless your life. So, if no one tells you that they love you, always remember that God loves you.

Prayer Focus: Father, may I be established in the revelation that you love me unconditionally.

Verse of the Day: 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.

Living the Word Today: Even when you don't feel lovable, God loves you anyway.



October 29

Turn to God With All Your Heart

Joel 2:12-13 Therefore also now, saith the LORD, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the LORD your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil.

As believers, we have to continually look unto Jesus as the author and finisher of our faith. We encourage sinners to turn to the Lord and give up their sinful ways. We as believers also need to serve God with all our hearts, not just a part of us. We need to diligently seek after Him.

When you search for Him with all your heart then you shall find Him. When you want to see Him move in your situations and circumstances, put your whole heart into it and you will hear answers from God. We must earnestly seek God. We must diligently pursue after God and stay attached to Him. As we do, we will see God move in our situations and circumstances. He is a God that is near at hand and not a God that is far off. Yet and still, we need to seek to know Him even more. We need to seek to fellowship with Him. Not only are we seeking after God, but God is seeking after us. He is knocking on the door of our hearts. We must always stay connected to God.

Prayer Focus: Father, I purposely give you my heart today. I search for you with all that is within me. I want to have greater fellowship with you.

Verse of the Day: Revelation 3:20 Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

Living the Word Today: Search for God with all that is within you. Get to know God even more.



October 30

Total Healing

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 Jesus came for our total healing. The Bible says in Psalm 147:3, "He healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds." God came for our healing: spirit, soul and body. It says in the Bible in John 15:13, Jesus laid down His life for His friends and there is no greater love than to lay down your life for your friends.

Jesus came to bring us deliverance in all aspects of our lives. Romans 5:8 talks about how He commended His love towards us while we were yet sinners. Jesus took the stripes upon His back that we might be healed. He was bruised for our iniquities. Therefore, healing belongs to us as the children of God. The Bible says healing is the children's bread.

Prayer Focus: Father, I lay claim on my total healing knowing that it is the children's bread. I thank you for total healing: spirit, soul, and body.

Verse of the Day: Isaiah 53:5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

Living the Word Today: Accept your healing today!



October 31

We Can Do All Things Through Christ!

Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

You are a “can do” person. The Lord says we can do all things through Him that strengthens us. Acts 1:8 says *“But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”* Therefore, we need to have the attitude – “I can do it”.

Through Christ you can do whatever “it” is. You can do whatever God has assigned or whatever God has commissioned you to do. Whatever direction God has given you for life, you need to have this heart attitude that I am a “can do” person. Say, “I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me.”

It is easy to give up and quit and say “I can’t do this. This is too hard for me”. God’s grace is sufficient; so whatever the challenge and whatever the thing that is set before us, God has already graced us to deal with it. Just remember you are a “can do” person!

Look beyond your human limitations. God is not going to tell you to do something we cannot do. So if it is in His Word and God already commissioned us to do it and blessed us to have it; you can do it. Change your heart attitude and make up your mind today, “I can do this.” You may say, “Well this is too hard...” You are not doing it by yourself. You are doing it through Christ who strengthens you. You can do this! You are a “can do” person!

Prayer Focus: Father, I can make those adjustments I need to make. I thank you for making me a “can do” person.

Verse of the Day: Joshua 1:9 Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

Living the Word Today: You can do it through Christ!



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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

Pray this: Dear God, I come in the name of Jesus asking forgiveness for my sin. I invite Jesus to come into my heart to be my Lord and Savior. Save me, Lord. I yield my life unto you this day. Thank you Lord for saving me. Amen

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



MARRIAGE & RELATIONSHIP matters



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