



## Happy Thanksgiving!

We should always give thanks. However, in the U.S., we have a special time set aside to give God thanks. Thanksgiving Day was established to give God thanks for survival through a harsh winter and for a bountiful harvest. We have so much to give God thanks for. Take time to give God the thanks and praise before feasting. Enjoy your time with family and friends. This is also a time to show our appreciation by reaching out to those in need of a meal or fellowship.

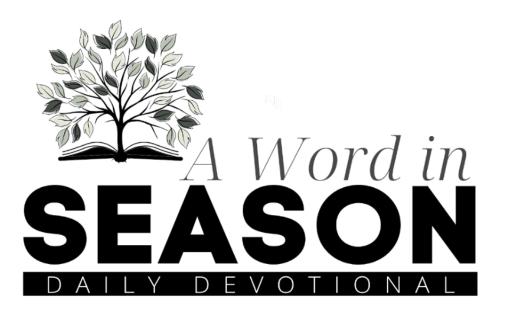
Maintain your focus on the Lord Jesus. We look unto Him as the Author and Finisher of our faith. Don't be distracted from your walk with God by economic turbulence, political upheavals, or social anarchy. The Bible tells us that there is a great falling away (spiritual decline) in the last days. Don't let any of these things move you or cause you to lose focus.

I trust that A Word in Season devotional is a blessing to you. Your words and encouragement help us continue this publication. Thank you. Lady Sarah and I love and appreciate you. You are remembered in our prayers. Love and Blessings.

Yours in Christ,

James D. Corbett

Pastor James D. Corbett



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### Don't Let Sin and Unbelief Rob You

**Dan 11:32** And such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he corrupt by flatteries: but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits.

Sometimes we get disappointed when we expect something from God, and it looks like it doesn't happen. We may begin to doubt Him and if we are not careful, sin will creep in and take the joy of serving God away. You may go through the motions and make a lot of noise, but the passion is gone, and your heart isn't in it. Serving God in these circumstances can become ritualistic instead of authentic.

Too many Christians are not thriving but existing without fire or fervency. We ought to have the passion and commitment that Job and the Hebrew boys had. Job said, "Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him," (Job 13:15). When the Hebrew boys were facing the fiery furnace, they said, "If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up" (Daniel 3:17-18).

**Prayer Focus:** Lord, my heart is for you. Keep me from sin and unbelief that seek to put out my fire. I trust You.

**Verse of the Day: Dan 3:17** If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king.

**Living the Word Today:** Get to know God as Your deliverer. Be strong in Him and do exploits. Don't compromise or quit on Him.

## Your Redemption Is Near

Luke 21:25-28 And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken. And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh.

When we hear about all the things going on in the world today, it can be depressing. Sometimes we have to turn the news off because so many negative things are being reported. The good news is Jesus is still Lord and no matter what is going on, there is a hedge of protection around God's people. He is the keeper of our souls. We can look up because our redemption draws nigh. Jesus is soon to return.

Jesus lives to make intercession for us. He is seated at the right hand of the Father praying on our behalf. Victory is still ours. His strength still abides within us. Jesus came that we might have life and have it more abundantly.

Don't let your soul be disquieted, and don't let heaviness set in. Lift up your head. Keep walking by faith and refuse to be discouraged. You need to be talking and singing about the goodness of the Lord.

**Prayer Focus:** Father, I thank you that I can lift my head knowing my redemption draws near.

**Verse of the Day: Heb 9:15** And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.

**Living the Word Today:** Lift up your head knowing Jesus is your source and strength.

# Spiritual vs Ritualistic

**Mark 6:6** And He marvelled because of their unbelief. And He went round about the villages, teaching.

Most of the world's religions have many rituals. A ritual is something that you do because it is a duty without expecting anything out of it. I used to pray ritualistically. I was raised to pray every night: "Our Father which art in Heaven, 'Hollywood' be thou name." (that's how I thought it went as a child). I didn't expect anything to happen so nothing did.

I went to church, but I was just going because it was Sunday. That was my religious duty. Near the end of service, we had a last offering. I would put my offering on the table and keep walking right out the door - socializing until service was over. Why? I didn't expect anything. It was a ritual to me. I just went through the motions with no real heartfelt relationship with God.

I went from being ritualistic to being spiritual after being born again. These rituals gave me some good habits that brought me to faith. There are things that God wants to get done in the earth, but it's going to take spiritual people to get them done. Christians need to walk in the spirit and grow close in our relationship with God.

**Prayer Focus:** Father, help me to remain sensitive to Your Spirit and avoid serving You out of habit and vain repetition.

**Verse of the Day: Rom 8:1** There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

**Living the Word Today:** Be a spiritual believer. Don't just go through the motions of Christianity.

## The Power of Confession

**Prov 28:13** He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.

Shame and guilt can hinder our walk with God. When we mess up, we should quickly 'fess up' so God can clean us up. Let's come clean with God. If we let the devil beat us up with guilt, it can negatively affect our bodies and minds - creating a self-fulfilling prophecy. Guilt can lead us on a pathway to destruction.

Some of the wealthiest people in America today are people who have bankruptcies in their past and God turned it around. We don't strive for bankruptcy, but no matter what we face, we must trust God to deliver us, forgive us, and we will come out on the other side victoriously.

The Bible has plenty of examples of people whose messed-up lives were restored by the grace and mercy of God. Let's set our minds to be doers of the Word and not allow mistakes and tragedy to destroy our future. God will do a new thing in our lives — we will make it. If we try to hide our sins ourselves, we will not prosper. "...our righteousnesses are as filthy rags..." (Isa 64:6). God is our strength — He cleanses, restores, and recharges us.

**Prayer Focus:** Father, please forgive me for my sins and cleanse me from all unrighteousness. Thank You for total restoration.

**Verse of the Day: 1 John 1:9-10** If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

**Living the Word Today:** Don't waste time on guilt and condemnation. Confess Your sins and watch God move on Your behalf.

## The Grace Pact

**Deut 7:12** Wherefore it shall come to pass, if ye hearken to these judgments, and keep, and do them, that the LORD thy God shall keep unto thee the covenant and the mercy which he sware unto thy fathers:

We have a covenant with God today that is based on His grace. Grace is unmerited favor. It is also the mercy of God. The covenant we have today is not based on our performance; even though we should perform. It's not based on our righteousness, although we should be righteous. We have been **made** the righteousness of God by faith. We have a covenant of grace. Mal 3:6 says, "For I am the Lord, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed." In other words, God is saying, "I have not turned away from the covenant that I have with your father."

**Deut 7:9** "Know therefore that the Lord thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations."

**Prayer Focus:** Father, thank You for Your pact of grace with Your people, whereby we are able to obtain salvation.

Verse of the Day: Eph 2:12-13 That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world: But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.

**Living the Word Today:** Be mindful that it is the grace of God, not our works, that brings us to a place of salvation.

## The Blood Covenant

**Heb 13:20** Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant.

A covenant is more than an agreement. We negotiated an agreement. A covenant's terms are laid out for us to accept. Therefore, a covenant is more powerful. God, in His new covenant with us, writes his laws upon our heart. That means even when we don't know or have head knowledge, He puts His laws inside of us. Jesus Christ came to bring us into a covenant relationship with God the Father.

**Matthew 26:27-29** And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remissions of sins. But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

This verse is talking about the last supper - a commemoration of the Passover. The Israelites were told to take the blood of a lamb and smear it on the lentil of their doors and doorposts. This was so that when the plague of death came through the night to take the life of first-born sons, it passed over the homes of the Israelites. Thank God we have the blood of Jesus applied to our lives.

**Prayer Focus:** God, thank You for the soul-saving blood sacrifice of Your Son, Jesus Christ.

**Verse of the Day:** 1 Cor 11:25 After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.

**Living the Word Today:** The blood of Jesus never loses power.

## We Shall Behold His Glory

**John 11:38-40** Jesus therefore again groaning in himself cometh to the grave. It was a cave, and a stone lay upon it. Jesus said, Take ye away the stone. Martha, the sister of him that was dead, saith unto him, Lord, by this time he stinketh: for he hath been dead four days. Jesus saith unto her, Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God?

Here we have two sisters with a seemingly impossible situation. Their brother died and Jesus was not there. Lazarus had been dead for four days and buried in a tomb. Both sisters commented to Jesus that had He been there, their brother would not have died. Jesus made a statement to Mary amid her hopeless situation. He said, "If you shall believe, you shall see the glory of God".

Glory, from a biblical perspective, means beauty, power and honor. It is also a quality of God's character that emphasizes His greatness and authority. If you dare to believe, you shall see God's glory. Your situation may look impossible today, just as it did to Martha and Mary, but believe what God has said. He can turn that situation around for you.

Prayer Focus: Father, thank You for Your glory!

**Verse of the Day: Psa 27:13** I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.

**Living the Word Today:** Believe and trust that You will see the glory of God revealed in Your life. Don't lose hope!

## **Never Stop Seeking the Lord**

**Psa 63:1-2** 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; to see thy power and thy glory, so as I have seen thee in the sanctuary.

As Believers, we sometimes seek after the things of God but not God, Himself. In order to obtain things, we should seek the source of those things. We want God's glory, so, we should seek Him. If we want God's gifts, then we need to seek God.

Continually seek the giver of the gifts instead of the gifts. When we seek the source of the gift, we get Him, and we get all the gifts that the giver has. Get close to God and get the whole package. When you get Jesus, you get God. You will get what God has. We are in covenant relationship with God.

Jesus said all that the Father has is His. All that Jesus has belongs to you and me. Because of this, we are blessed and cannot be cursed. Scripture teaches us to thirst and long after God. As we do so, we know that God is our source, our peace, and our joy. He is our full supply. As you seek the Lord, trust that He will do for you what He said He will do! Know that He gives you all things richly to enjoy. He will not withhold any good thing from you!

**Prayer Focus:** Father, I seek You with my whole heart. Reveal Your love to me in a way that I can plainly see.

**Verse of the Day: Jer 29:12-13** Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you. And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

**Living the Word Today:** Our walk with God is a constant journey to know Him more. Never stop seeking Him.

## Joy in His Presence

**2 Chr 5:13-14 NLT** The trumpeters and singers performed together in unison to praise and give thanks to the Lord. Accompanied by trumpets, cymbals, and other instruments, they raised their voices and praised the Lord with these words: He is good! His faithful love endures forever!" At that moment a thick cloud filled the Temple of the Lord. The priests could not continue their service because of the cloud, for the glorious presence of the Lord filled the Temple of God

There are times when God will open our eyes and allow us to get a glimpse of His glory. I remember once while ministering to the congregation, it was as if my eyesight was going bad and it looked as if a haze or cloud filled the place. However, I realized that it was God's glory. Healing and deliverance began to take place because God's glory had entered in.

Thank God for His glory! As Believers, we should desire the Lord to fill our temples. Our bodies are the temple of God. We should endeavor to live in the presence of God. We shouldn't want to just run in and back out. Don't settle for a weekly experience on Sundays, only to return to the valley for the remainder of the week. Maintain living contact with the Lord. This will allow us to walk in God's glory. As we do so, others will notice and, not only will we be more alive and energetic, but others will see our light and seek to be converted. People can see God's glory on you, and they can also see when it is not.

**Prayer Focus:** Father, show me Your glory and let it rest on me to win others to You.

**Verse of the Day: Psa 16:11** Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.

**Living the Word Today:** Spend time in the presence of the Almighty God. His presence leaves a scent that draws others and changes the world around us.

## The Crooked Made Straight

**Isa 40:1-5** Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the LORD's hand double for all her sins. The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain: And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.

In this passage, Isaiah talks about the comfort of the Lord. Sometimes as believers, when we go through hardships, we can think people don't care if they are not as attentive to our situations as we would like. In the midst of our trials, we must know that God's glory can bring us peace. Don't lash out in anger against other people because they don't see the urgency of your situation. No one can feel the pain as you do. Some people are fighting through their own situations!

Know that in the midst of your situations, God will make the crooked places straight and the rough places in your life smooth. Know that the pressure that you may be feeling is temporary. God, who turns again the captivity of Zion, will turn your situation around. God is on your side. You will see His glory.

**Prayer Focus:** Heavenly Father, I ask you to make my crooked places straight and my rough places smooth. Thank you, Father, for your comfort and turning again my captivity.

**Verse of the Day: 2 Cor 1:3** Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort.

**Living the Word Today**: Rest in God's comfort and ability to make all the crooked, rough paths in your life straight.

## See God's Glory

**Ex 33:17-22** And the LORD said unto Moses, I will do this thing also that thou hast spoken: for thou hast found grace in my sight, and I know thee by name. And he said, I beseech thee, shew me thy glory. And he said, I will make all my goodness pass before thee, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD before thee; and will be gracious to whom I will be gracious and will shew mercy on whom I will shew mercy. And he said, Thou canst not see my face: for there shall no man see me, and live. And the LORD said, Behold, there is a place by me, and thou shalt stand upon a rock: And it shall come to pass, while my glory passeth by, that I will put thee in a clift of the rock, and will cover thee with my hand while I pass by

**Ask God**: Just as Moses asked God to see His glory, we can also ask God to see His glory. God allowed Moses to see His goodness and His glory. God's glory brings blessings, goodness, healing, and prosperity in our lives.

**Fret Not:** Don't worry about anything. Don't be anxious about anything. "Fret not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity. For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither as the green herb" (Ps 37:1-2). Don't allow yourself to become stressed and worried because of what others are doing. Don't compare yourself to others.

**Believe**: At the tomb of Lazarus, Jesus told Martha, "Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God?" (John 11:40). Believe and you will see God's glory.

**Prayer Focus:** Father, I desire to see Your glory.

**Verse of the Day: Psa 37:5** Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass

**Living the Word Today:** Serve the Lord and allow him to engulf you in his glory.

## Be a Spiritual House

**Matt 16:18** And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

God wants to build us up to be spiritual houses. Christians should not just exist. Christians should thrive! Where the spirit of the Lord is, there is life. God is the giver of life.

There were certain things that I was raised up to know not to do in the church. Even stone-cold sinners had boundaries. If you went to church, you didn't cuss in the church, you didn't smoke, you didn't drink; not in the church! As a matter of fact, when you got in the church, you sat down and got up when service was over. If you had to go to the bathroom, you held it. You went before church started and that was it. If others were in the spirit and you weren't, you sat there quietly until it was over.

That same respect should be for God not only in the church but in your body as well. I'm talking about becoming a spiritual house. We are the temple of God. Whatever God is going to do in the earth today, He's going to do it through people like you and me. God wants to work through us. That's why we must dedicate and consecrate ourselves to live a spiritual life so that we can be available for the use of God.

**Prayer Focus:** Lord, I leave drama and foolishness behind. Help me to focus on Your business.

**Verse of the Day: Heb 12:1** Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.

**Living the Word Today:** Represent Jesus! He wants you to be a spiritual house.

## Newness of Life from the Inside Out

**2 Cor 5:17** Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

When we say we are Christians, we should walk in the newness of life. If you have not made the decision to become a Christian, I invite you to become one today. The bible says, "For whosoever calleth upon the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Romans 10:13). When we are born again, old things are passed away. A great change takes place; God changes us from the inside out. The transformation occurs in the heart - the core of man.

**Prov 4:23** Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

Politicians, sociologists, and others try to cure the ills of society. However, until an axe is laid to the root of a tree, problems will remain. A sinful heart may manifest in different ways, but it will still be present. The "axe" we need is a new life in Christ. We need the life that only Christ can bring – total transformation and restoration. When we become new creatures in Christ, our desires change.

**Prayer Focus:** Lord Jesus, come into my heart and be my Lord and Savior. Change me from the inside out.

**Verse of the Day:** Rom 10:9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

**Living the Word Today**: Give your life to God. Allow Him to change you from the inside-out and walk in the newness of life.

## A New Creation

**2 Cor 5:17** Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

Being a new creature means being a new creation. Talking a lot about what we did before becoming saved can be unfruitful. We are new in Christ. The Bible teaches us to "remember not the former things." God does not even remember your past transgressions! He chooses not to because He made you brand new! "And their sins and iniquities I will remember no more" (Heb.10:17).

**Isa 43:18-19** Remember ye not the former things, neither consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.

We often use this verse to remind us to forget bad things that have happened to us, but we also need to forget some good things from the past to avoid competing with or comparing our current situations to successes of the past. God wants to do something new in our lives but we must let go of what **was** and embrace what **is**, so that we can look to God for what is to come.

**Prayer Focus:** Father, thank You for all You have brought me through and for what You are bringing me to.

**Verse of the Day: Psa 103:12** So far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.

**Living the Word Today:** Be like your heavenly Father and remember your sins and iniquities no more!

## We Are Delivered

**Col 1:12-13** Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us to be meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:

When we are born again, God delivers us from the things that held us in bondage before we said yes to Him. We may struggle with things, but according to the Word of God, we have been delivered!

Sometimes in our efforts, we are trying to stop things that God wants us to be totally delivered from in our own strength. Jesus came to bring deliverance to our lives and not leave us in the same state in which He found us. Now, it is up to us to make the choice to walk in deliverance. We can choose to go back into bondage, but we don't have to. We have been delivered.

Not only have we been delivered, but we have also been forgiven. Guilt and condemnation are self-inflicted, and they are tools of the enemy to confine us to the sin of our past. God has forgiven us, so we must forgive ourselves.

**Prayer Focus:** God, thank You for delivering me from everything that had me bound.

**Verse of the Day: Col 1:14** In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins.

**Living the Word Today**: Choose to walk in your deliverance and your forgiveness today!

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## **Christ Lives in You**

**1 Cor 13:16** Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?

You are the temple of God and God's Spirit lives in you. The same spirit that went back into the tomb and raised Jesus from the dead is the same Holy Ghost that lives within you. The Holy Spirit went back into Jesus' dead body and produced enough force to blow the gravestone away, and Jesus became alive again! That force is enough to propel you over whatever situation you face.

What would happen if, we, the church stayed conscious of the fact that God lives on the inside of us? It would change our behavior because we know God is in us. We take God with us wherever we go. If we are married to a Christian that means God is our father-in-law. The way we treat our spouse is the way we are treating God's child. Overall, if we know Christ is in us, it will change the way we treat people and the way we act.

**John 13:34** A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.

**Prayer Focus:** Lord, I know you live in me, so I will respect my body and act in ways that please you.

**Verse of the Day: 1 John 4:4** Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world.

Living the Word Today: Represent Jesus all day, every day!

## The Seed Principle

Mark 4:30-32 And he said, Whereunto shall we liken the kingdom of God? or with what comparison shall we compare it? It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when it is sown in the earth, is less than all the seeds that be in the earth: But when it is sown, it groweth up, and becometh greater than all herbs, and shooteth out great branches; so that the fowls of the air may lodge under the shadow of it.

Operate by the seed principle. Keep some seed in the ground, including "deed seeds." Do some good deeds and watch how God will cause favor to come upon you. God will direct you to the right place at the right time. It will happen for you everywhere you go, and favor will be upon you everywhere you go. You may not understand it or might feel like you don't deserve it. There are some things God wants to do for you just because you are His. Even things we want but haven't asked for, God looks at our hearts, meets our needs, and fulfills our desires.

God put Adam to sleep and when he woke up, his loneliness problem was solved! When we give out love, we get a whole lot of love back. Operate by the seed principle in every arena of life. Everything God has in the kingdom operates by the seed principle.

**Prayer Focus:** Father, thank You for the seed principle at work in my life.

**Verse of the Day: Gal 6:7** Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

**Living the Word Today:** Put the seed principle to work in your life. Sow good seeds and reap a good harvest.

## **Empowered by Righteousness**

**Psa 37:16** A little that a righteous man hath is better than the riches of many wicked.

If you walk in righteousness, God will empower you and increase your borders and cause you to get into a level of overflow. Walking in the righteousness of God brings multiplied blessings upon your life. The way of the transgressor is hard. When you allow sin to creep into your life, it will rob you of all your blessings.

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

**Prov 10:2** Treasures of wickedness profit nothing: but righteousness delivereth from death.

So many families and so many homes have been devastated because they opened the door to sin and did not know there was a high price tag. Low living has a high price tag! The thing you thought you got away with today, you will pay for tomorrow.

Righteousness brings blessings and peace of mind to your life because you purpose to honor God. Don't ever think your service to God is in vain. God pays well! If you serve God faithfully you will reap the benefits.

**Prayer Focus:** Father, I thank you that I am empowered by righteousness and it brings your blessings to my life.

**Verse of the Day: Psa 37:29** The righteous shall inherit the land, and dwell therein forever.

**Living the Word Today:** Walk in the righteousness of God and be empowered.

## **Delight Thyself in the Lord**

**Psa 37:4** Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

To delight in the Lord means to find our pleasure and happiness in Him, in His being and what He has done in our lives and relationships with Him. We all need to strive to be happy in the things of God.

Once you find your happiness in Him, then He will give you the desires of your heart. If I am not finding my happiness in Him, then I don't get the desires of my heart. Getting the desires of your heart means to get the requests of the heart. Once your delight is in the Lord, the things in your heart will be Godly and it will be easy for God to grant you those desires. We should purpose to delight ourselves in the Lord and let our longing soul be satisfied with the presence of Almighty God. As we do, we will get the desires of our heart.

As we delight ourselves in the Lord, it is much like a child that has a happy and pleasant attitude towards a parent and wants to do what's right and to please his or her parent. The parent will do everything they can to give that child their desires, especially when they know they will do the right thing with them. But, when they know the child will not do the right thing with them, it makes it harder to grant those desires. So, we should please God and have our desires in HIM.

**Prayer Focus:** Father, I find delight and pleasure in serving you. Thank you for your Word being alive within me and my heart being knitted together with yours.

**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: Take joy in serving the Lord.

## The Lord Will Bring You Forth

**Psa 105:37** He brought them forth also with silver and gold: and there was not one feeble person among their tribes.

When the children of Israel were in bondage in Egypt, they cried out to God by reason of their evil task master. God heard the cry of their heart and sent Moses to challenge Pharaoh to let His people go. God is the one who brought them forth.

Pharaoh, a type of the enemy, did not want to let the people go from bondage but after ten plagues came upon the Egyptians, the Bible says, "with a strong hand", God delivered them from the house of bondage and He brought them forth with silver and gold, and the Lord took all the years which they had worked and restored it back unto them.

**3John 2** Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.

God did that for the Israelites without medical care, without investments, without 401K, and He is the same God that delivers us today! Let's believe God for our deliverance from everything that tries to hold us back. We will walk forth with plenty and in good health!

**Prayer Focus:** Lord, I trust you to bring me forth just like you brought the Israelites forth.

**Verse of the Day: Ps 105:38** Egypt was glad when they departed: for the fear of them fell upon them.

**Living the Word Today:** Trust God to bring you forth.

## God's Loving Kindness Is Better than Life

**Psa 63:3** Because thy lovingkindness is better than life, my lips shall praise thee.

We should praise God for His love and His kindness toward us. He is a loving God who shows great love and kindness towards us. He has not dealt with us according to our actions but according to His grace and His mercy.

We could not make it if it were not for the Lord being on our side. Thank God for His love and compassion for us. Our lives would be empty without God's love. But because of His love, our lives are full and have purpose. We are here today because of God's love for us.

Nothing that this world has to offer can compare to God's love for us. More than money, we need God's love; more than material things, we need God's love; more than prestige and fame, we need God's love. The good news is God does love us so we should walk in love every day.

God will not take His lovingkindness from us, therefore, as we begin each day, we should ask God to continue to bless us, strengthen us, and help us understand His lovingkindness.

**Prayer Focus:** Thank you, Father, for your lovingkindness, and thank you for establishing me in your unconditional love. I praise you for your love that is greater than life.

**Verse of the Day: Psa 89:33** Nevertheless my lovingkindness will I not utterly take from him, nor suffer my faithfulness to fail.

**Living the Word Today**: Praise God because of His lovingkindness.

## **Total Victory**

**1 John 5:4** For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.

We may be in the world, but we are not of the world; we are of God. Our citizenship is in heaven. Because of that Greater One living on the inside, we have victory. The devil is called the prince of this world, but the Greater One lives within us.

We have victory over sin, sickness, and disease because Christ lives within us. We are overcomers! We have victory over poverty because of God at work in us. We have victory over depression and oppression that would try to rob us of our joy and energy. Thank God the Lord has come to set the captives free! In all things, we are more than conquerors! No weapon formed against us shall be able to prosper!

**Deut 20:4** For the Lord your God is he that goeth with you, to fight for you against your enemies, to save you.

**1 Cor 15:57** But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Prayer Focus:** Father, I thank you and give you praise for total victory!

**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:** Confess victory over your life. It is yours by faith in the finished work of Jesus Christ.

## The Gift of Thanks

**1 Thes 5:18** In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

**Psa 107:1** O give thanks unto the LORD, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.

**Eph 5:20** Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Notice that in all three scriptures above, the Bible is instructing us to GIVE thanks. Thankfulness is a gift that we give and one that we receive. As we enter the holiday season, much attention and planning goes into things that we want to give others and things that we would like to receive, but what better way to show appreciation to God and our loved ones than to give the gift of thanks?

Giving thanks expresses a heart full of gratitude and appreciation. In all of our getting, giving, and planning, let's not forget to give the gift of thanks. This is God's will for us.

**Col 3:17** And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

**Prayer Focus:** Father, I offer unto You a sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.

**Verse of the Day: 1 Thes 5:18** In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

**Living the Word Today:** One of the best gifts we can give to God and others is the gift of thanks.

## A Heart of Thanksgiving

**Psa 9:1** I will praise thee, O Lord, with my whole heart; I will shew forth all thy marvellous works.

**Col 3:15** And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

True thankfulness is a matter of the heart. Whether we express gratitude audibly, through works or deeds, or through our body language, God knows us and He sees our hearts. What goes in it or comes out of it can bring life or could also defile us and others. That is why the Bible teaches us to "keep" our hearts.

**Prov 4:23** Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

**Matt 15:18** But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man.

God wants us to have a heart of thanksgiving towards Him and our fellow man. When we find it difficult to be grateful because of our circumstances, we should seek God and allow Him to purify our hearts with His love.

**Prayer Focus:** Father, help me to have a heart full of love and gratitude.

**Verse of the Day: Psa 19:14** Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer.

**Living the Word Today:** Be grateful in everything. Ask God to create in you a clean, grateful heart.

## Love God with Your Whole Being

**Deut 6:5-6** 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.

Loving God more than things will cause us to live a godly life above circumstance, "flesh" challenges, and the pulls of the world. Our love for God should be the dominant force in our lives.

The Lord Jesus said, "If ye love me, keep my commandments" (John 14:15). Our obedience to God is the evidence of our love for Him. When we love God, it is our heart's desire to please Him. We have to love God more than we love the pleasures of sin. We have to love God more than ourselves or the things we do.

Our love for God is also measured by how we love one another because we cannot love Him whom we have not seen if we don't love one another whom we have seen. Therefore, the primary thing is our love for God and secondly, our love for people. Set that in motion throughout the day by just saying, "Lord, I love you" and keep saying it in your spirit.

**Prayer Focus:** Lord, I purpose to walk in love today. I love you and I am grateful and thankful for what you have done in my life.

**Verse of the Day: Psa 31:23** O love the LORD, all ye his saints: for the LORD preserveth the faithful, and plentifully rewardeth the proud doer.

**Living the Word Today**: Walk in love by loving God, obeying Him, and loving one another.

## **Don't Fear Evil Tidings**

**Psa 27:1-3** The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? When the wicked, even mine enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, they stumbled and fell. Though an host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear: though war should rise against me, in this will I be confident.

God is the Greater One who lives within us. He is greater than the enemy who is against us. He is greater than all the things that we are facing or going through and the different challenges that we have. He is greater than the enemy's roar that tries to paralyze us and cause us to be fearful. There is none greater than our God!

No matter what you are facing today, remember that the Greater One lives on the inside of you. He is enough to put you over. He is enough to cause you to walk in total victory on every side. We need to look unto the Lord to give us the victory that we need.

God put His Angels on duty and encamped them round about us. Your foes and enemies who would come against you, those that seek to do you harm, God will handle them. He will make your enemies your footstool. Put your trust in the Living God!

**Prayer Focus:** Lord, I come against the spirit of fear and resist it. I will put my trust in the Living God!

Verse of the Day: Heb 4:15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.

**Living the Word Today:** Trust in the Lord. There is nothing too hard for Him.

## Trust in the Lord

**Psa 56:1-3** Be merciful unto me, O God: for man would swallow me up; he fighting daily oppresseth me. Mine enemies would daily swallow me up: for they be many that fight against me, O thou most High. What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee.

Trust is a manifestation of our faith. When it feels like you are going through difficult times and the enemy is against you, who do you put your trust in? Who do you put your confidence in? When we trust God, we demonstrate our faith in Him. He is the one who said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."

Faith ultimately says I give up my will to take up your will; I give up my way and take on God's way. I do it God's way, and my outcome shall always be victory. If I can trust God with my life, I can trust Him with my money, with my health, and my relationships. If God cares enough about me to keep me from going to hell, I know He cares enough about me to fix all the other situations. God is trustworthy; He will not let you down! He cannot lie and He never fails! He is our present help in the time of trouble.

Rom 10:11 For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.

**Prayer Focus:** Father, today I on purpose say, I trust you and you are my Lord! Father, I surrender my life to you. Jesus, I acknowledge you as Lord of my life.

**Verse of the Day: Psa 62:8** Trust in him at all times; ye people, pour out your heart before him: God is a refuge for us. Selah.

**Living the Word Today:** Put your confidence in God, knowing that He will never leave you nor forsake you.

### **Faith Drives Out Fear**

**Psa 56:4** In God I will praise his word, in God I have put my trust; I will not fear what flesh can do unto me.

We cannot let fear dominate our way of thinking. Fear and faith work against each other. Faith is the positive, while fear is the negative. Faith believes that the outcome will be positive; fear believes that the outcome will be negative. Faith comes from the heart of God and fear comes from satan. Fear is really a perverted form of faith.

What are we going to believe? Are we going to believe the report of the Lord, or are we going to listen to the roar of the enemy? God's word drives out fear. It is just like when the light is turned on in a room; the darkness is not turned off. When a light is turned on, what happens to the darkness? The darkness must go! Likewise, if we turn faith on, fear must go!

When the disciples and Peter were in the boat, they all saw the same storm and realized the danger. But Peter heard Jesus say "come." The rest of them heard it with their ears, but he heard it with his heart and enough faith was released for him to walk above the water.

The same God who did it for Peter is no respecter of persons! If you will dare to believe God, you shall rise above the circumstances and the storm will have to cease because you are walking in faith and trusting in the Living God.

**Prayer Focus:** Father, I thank you for your Word that drives out all fear.

**Verse of the Day: Rom 10:17** So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

**Living the Word Today:** Don't allow fear to drive out your faith. Trust in God, be confident in Him.

### Rest in the Lord

**Jer 6:16** Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein.

God brings us to a place of rest in our soul. Most of the world today is facing so many challenges. We hear about all that is going on in the world around us, and if we are not watchful, we can get weary; but the Lord gives rest to the weary soul.

It is only God who can bring us to a place of rest. He said in Matt 11:28-30, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 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".

**Ps 37:7** 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.

When you have weariness, God can bring you to a place of rest-replenish, refresh, and restore you. So if you have been weary and feel like the pressures of the world are more than you can bear, give it to Jesus and rest in Him.

**Prayer Focus:** Lord, help me to come to a place of rest in You.

**Verse of the Day: Jer 31:25** For I have satiated the weary soul, and I have replenished every sorrowful soul.

**Living the Word Today**: Lay down the burdens of this life at the feet of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We can rest safely in His arms.

## **God Sent HIs Word for Our Healing**

**Ps 107:20** He sent His Word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions.

"My son, attend to My Words; incline thine ear unto My sayings. Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh (Prov 4:20-22)." The Word of God has a medicinal effect in those that receive it. His Word produces life and healing. Like medicine, we must take it or apply it correctly for maximum benefits

## Receiving the healing benefits of God's Word

- A. Hear God's Word Concerning Healing Romans 10:17 So then faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God
- B. Pray In Line with God's Word For Your Healing 1John 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 we desired of Him
- C. Confess God's Word concerning Healing- Matt 8:17 That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses

**Prayer Focus:** Father, may healing and divine health be fully manifested in my body

Verse of the Day: 1Peter 2:24 By whose stripes ye were healed

**Living the Word Today:** Confess scriptures that promise healing and divine health over your life. Say them aloud



