





# *From The Pastor's Desk*

Dear Church Family,

**Greetings in the Name of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.**

As we look forward to the start of another school year, without a doubt, this is far different than any other year! You are already well acquainted with the events of the past few months. The pandemic has caused situations that we would never have envisioned. It's my prayer that we will stay connected to Christ and the Church. Together we will get through this test of faith and endurance.

While things can be quite discouraging right now, I would encourage you to take some time each day, even if it's a few moments in the morning to read some scripture and pray about the day. Let's take some time to contact members, family, and friends to let them know they are not alone.

While things even seem different in the church right now, please know that the people who make up the church care for you and pray for you! The Pastor, First Lady, Ministerial Staff, Officers, and Leaders are lifting you in prayer and working passionately to keep the church viable and progressive.

There is a wonderful scripture in the Bible I wanted to share with you, that encourages me and affirms my faith.

2 Timothy 1:7 (NIV) 7 For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.

One of the most excellent attitudes to have in life is one of confidence. I believe this confidence is ultimately rooted in a relationship with Jesus Christ.

Keep your eyes on the hope of glory, Jesus. Stand firm in Jesus. This world needs people like you who stand for righteousness and truth! Together we will rise to greater depths and higher heights in Christ. I still believe the best is yet to come.

Also, let's give a shot-out to the fantastic Back to School Community Day Team led by Lisa Rush. When we thought we could not do it this year, the Lord said, "Yes You Can," and we did. We provided backpacks with school supplies, teacher's kits, PPE Home kits, College Student packs, and breast cancer information.

The music supplied by the Cross Street Band Plus. The Mayor, School Superintendent, state, and local officials were in attendance along with many volunteers. From one event with many partners, we served over 500 families.

We give a shout-out for the many sponsors. We are stronger together, even in the pandemic.

Thank you Cross Street Family for all that you do to serve others in these challenging days. The families demonstrated sincere appreciation for your generous acts of kindness.

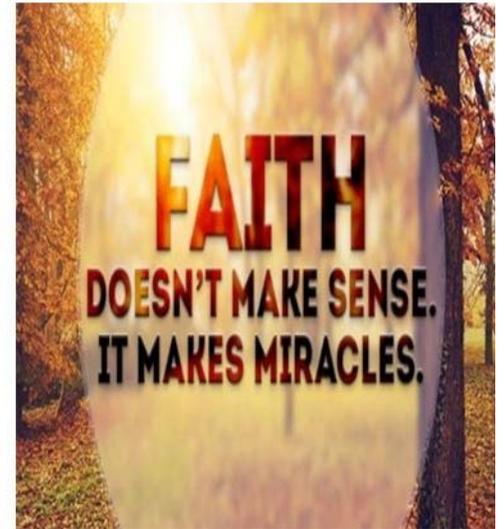
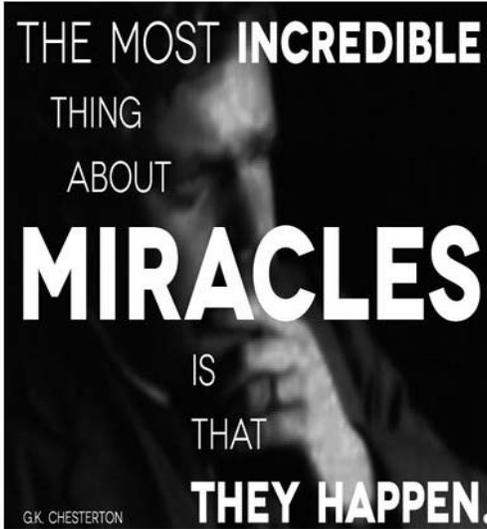
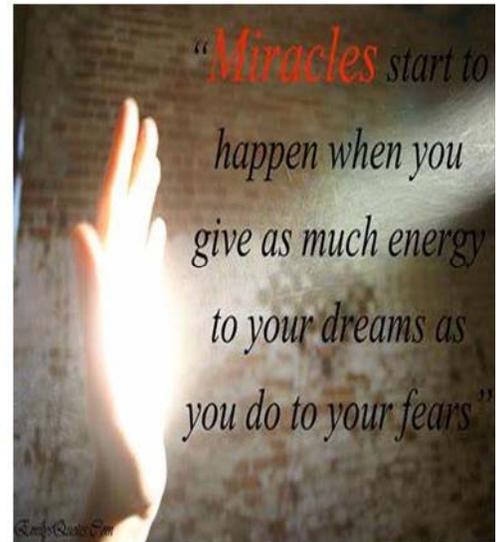
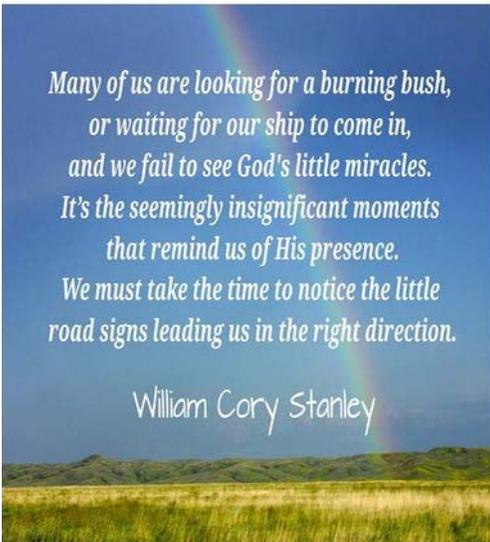
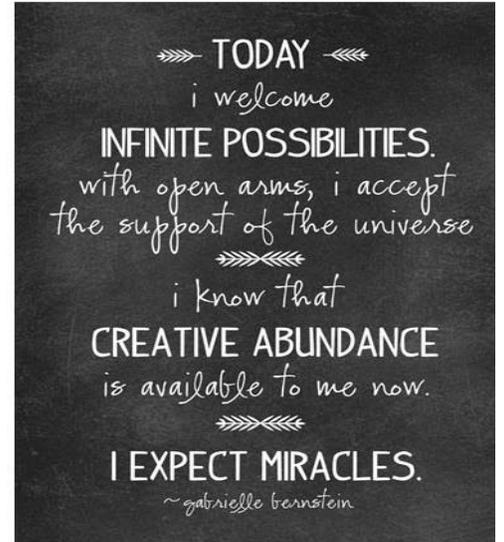
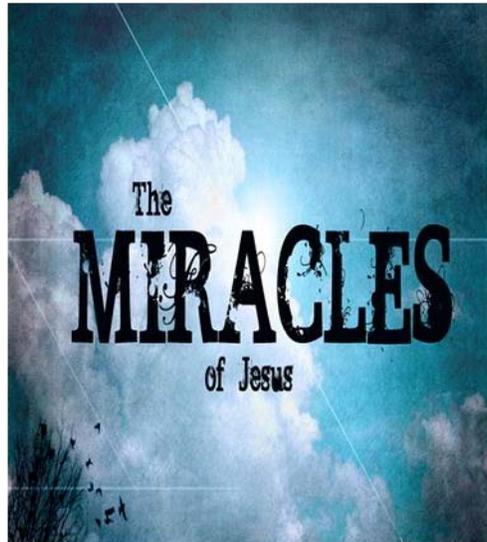
Much love to ALL!

In Christ,

Pastor Moses L. Harvill

# 2020 Vision

## The Year of Expected "Miracles"



**The fruit of the Spirit** abides in us and it is up to us to cultivate it so that we may experience the blessing and the fullness of the Spirit. God is the husbandman..."He prunes, nurtures, waters and protects His own. The indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit will energize and control every faculty of our nature when our will joins the will of God. Then the "beauty of the Lord will be upon us" (Psalm 90:17) and "we shall bring forth fruit unto God" (Romans 7:4)."

## FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

**"But the fruit of the Spirit is LOVE, JOY, PEACE, LONGSUFFERING, GENTLENESS, GOODNESS, FAITH, MEEKNESS, TEMPERANCE: against such there is no law."** (Galatians 5:22, 23)

The fruit of the Spirit abides in us and it is up to us to cultivate it so that we may experience the blessing and the fullness of the Spirit. God is the husbandman..."He prunes, nurtures, waters and protects His own. The indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit will energize and control every faculty of our nature when our will joins the will of God. Then the "beauty of the Lord will be upon us" (Psalm 90:17) and "we shall bring forth fruit unto God" (Romans 7:4)."

The fruit of LOVE when properly motivated "is pure, far reaching, forgiving. There is no limit to the good that LOVE does. God is LOVE. (I John 4:7)

JOY never fades, it is never destroyed by circumstances, it is unaffected by wealth or poverty, sickness or health. It is found in the presence of God (Psalm 16:11)

PEACE "is a tranquility of mind as a result of a right relationship with God". The PEACE of God in our hearts challenges sin at every turn and deals with it immediately in order to maintain that right relationship. (Ephesians 2:14)

LONG-SUFFERING means steadfastness of the soul under provocation. It means forbearance and patient endurance of ill-treatment, without anger or thought of revenge. (Colossians 3:12, 13)

GENTLENESS is sweet reasonableness, calmness and graciousness. It calms troubled waters, settles turmoil and heals strife. (James 3:17)

GOODNESS does good to others. It is kindness of heart and good deeds. It may not always be a gentle word, but a stern rebuke done for the good of someone else. (Psalm 33:5)

MEEKNESS disarms the stormy, tempestuous person. The qualities of mildness and gentleness in dealing with others. It is not weak. It is a high quality of spiritual strength. (I Timothy 6:11)

FAITH means faithfulness to Christ and His cause. It manifests itself in being a trustworthy steward of God. It is trust and obedience, belief in God's word and promises. (Hebrews 11:1)

TEMPERANCE is power, it is strength, having self-control. It means discipline. It provides balance to the Christian's life. It enables him to praise Him whether in discipline or testing. (Proverbs 11:1) (Information taken in part from World-Wide Keswick publication and Holy Scriptures)

Satan tries to imitate the real thing with an artificial fruit. As you can see, the artificial fruit is very much like the real thing and if we are not careful, we can fall into the trap of expressing limited love, temporary joy, numbness, insensitivity, manipulation, hypocrisy, half-heartedness, false modesty and choosing lesser goals.

### THE FRUIT, *The Artificial Fruit,* **The Weed**

LOVE, *limited love, hatred;* JOY, *temporary JOY, sorrow;* PEACE, *numbness, carelessness, anxiety strife;*  
PATIENCE, *laziness, insensitivity, impatience;* KINDNESS, *manipulation by kindness, pride;*  
GOODNESS, *hypocrisy, evil;* F A I T H F U L N E S S, *half-heartedness, infidelity;*  
MEEKNESS, *false modesty, self-seeking;* SELF-CONTROL, *choosing lesser goals, lack of control*  
(The Fruit of the Spirit, John W. Sanderson)

## Prayer—90 devotions from Our Daily Bread Compiled by Dave Branon

### Persistent Prayer

Read: Luke 18:1-8

**Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up.** —Luke 18:1

A friend of mine has been a woman of prayer for many years. She has received countless answers from God, but sometimes she is disheartened because certain prayers for loved ones remain unanswered. Yet she keeps on praying, encouraged by the parable in Luke 18. This story features a widow who badgered a heartless judge for help and finally got it.

Jesus ended His parable with a question: If an unrighteous and disrespected judge finally answers a pestering widow's pleas for help, shall not God answer His own children who cry to Him day and night? (vv. 7-8). The expected answer: "Of course He will!"

George Müller (1805-1898), pastor and orphanage director, was known for his faith and persistent prayer. Many times when he prayed for specific needs for his orphanage, God sent exactly what was required. Yet for more than 40 years he also prayer for the conversion of a friend and his friend's son. When Müller died, these men were still unconverted. God answered those prayers, however, in His own time. The friend was converted while attending Müller's funeral, and the son a week later!

Do you have a special burden or request? Keep on praying! Trust your loving heavenly Father to answer according to His wisdom and timing. God honors persistent prayer! —Foanie Yoder

### In Partnership With God

Read: Matthew 6:5-15

**Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.** — Matthew 6:8

A man had transformed an overgrown plot of ground into a beautiful garden and was showing a friend what he had accomplished. Pointing to a bed of flowers, he said, "Look at what I did here." His companion corrected him, "You mean, 'Look at what God and I did here.'" The gardener replied, "I guess you're right. But you should have seen the shape this plot was in when He was taking care of it by himself."

We chuckle at the man's reply, but it expresses a wonderful spiritual truth—we are co-workers with God. This applies to every area of life, including prayer. It answers a question that naturally comes to mind when we reflect on Jesus's statements in Matthew 6. He said we don't need to pray on and on with vain repetitions like the pagans, because our Father knows what we need before we ask (Matthew 6:7-8).

The question is, then why pray? The answer is simple and comforting. God has graciously chosen to give us the privilege of being His partners in both the physical and spiritual areas of life. Through prayer we work with Him in defeating the powers of evil and in bringing about the fulfillment of His loving purposes in the world. Partners with God—what a privilege! What an incentive to pray! —Herb Vander Lugt

**Prayer Tips: Remember PUSH: Pray Until Something Happens.**

### You can Always Pray

Read: Acts 12:1-16

**When hard pressed, I cried to the Lord; he brought me into a spacious place.** —Psalm 118:5

The young mother called out to the missionary, "Come quick! My baby is going to die." Gale Fields was in Papua (a province in Indonesia) helping her husband, Phil, translate the Bible into Orya, a tribal language. But they also provided medical help whenever possible. Gale looked at the malaria-stricken child and realized she didn't have the right medicine to help the infant.

"I'm sorry," she told the mother, "I don't have any medicine for babies this small." Gale paused, then said, "I could pray for her though."

"Yes, anything to help my baby," answered the mother.

Gale prayed for the baby and then went home feeling helpless. After a little while, she again heard the mother cry out, "Gale, come quick and see my baby!"

Expecting the worst, Gale went to the baby's side. This time, though, she noticed improvement. The dangerous fever was gone. Later, Gale would say, "No wonder the Orya Christians learned to pray. They know God answers."

The early Christians prayed for Peter to be released from prison and then were "astonished" when God answered them (Acts 12:16). We respond that way too, but we shouldn't be surprised when God answer our prayers. Remember, His power is great and His resources are endless. —Dave Branon

**Prayer Tip: If you have family members who have stayed from the faith, get James Bank's book, "Prayers for Prodigals."**

### Never Too Busy

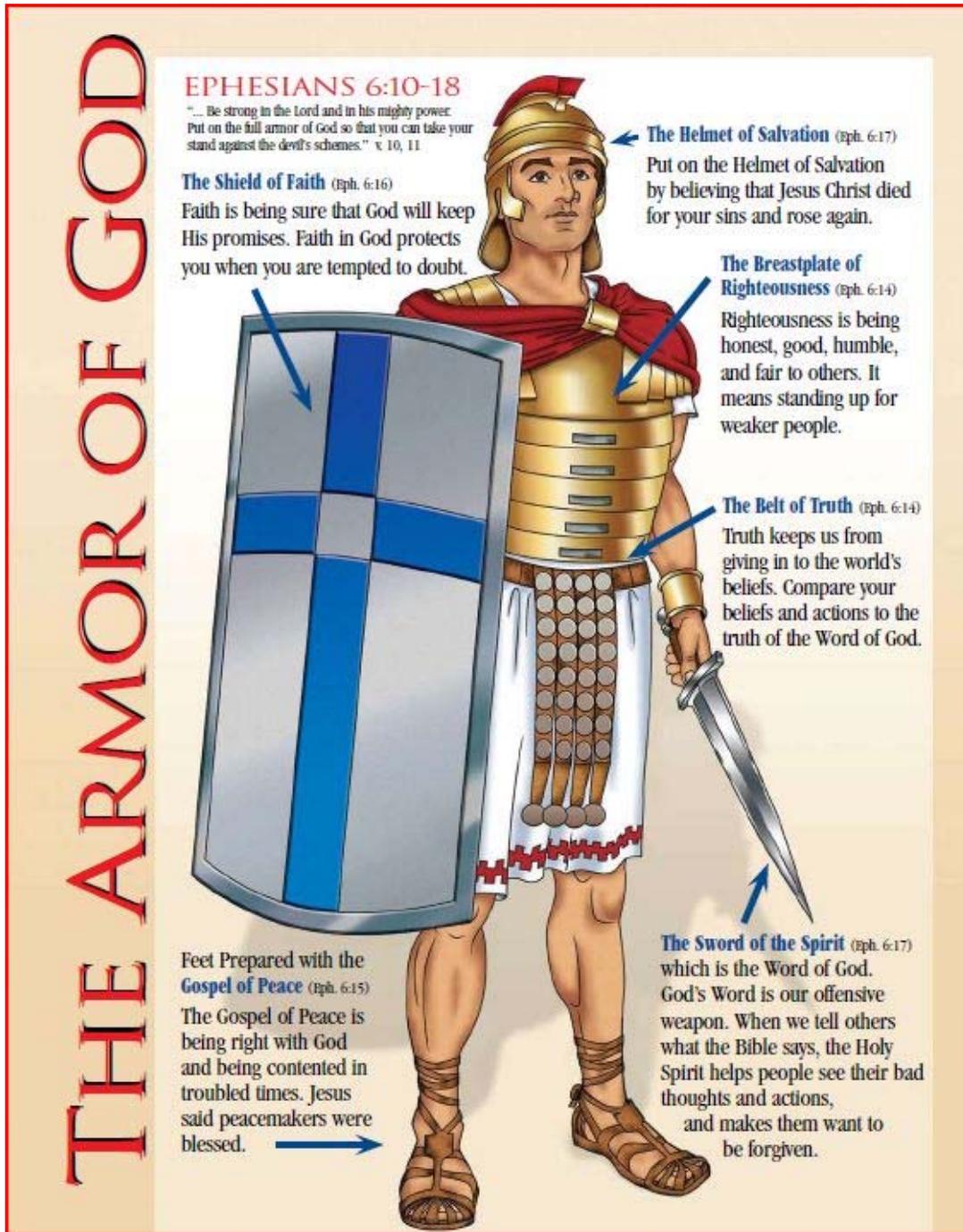
Read: Psalm 145:8-21

**The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.** —Psalm 145:18

College students rent a house from my sister and her husband. One night, a thief attempted to break in. When the young woman living there called the police to tell them that a break-in was in progress, the operator responded in an unusual way: "You'll have to call back in the morning. We're just too busy right now." that response was very disturbing! The young woman had done the right thing by calling the police, but for some reason her plea for help was disregarded. That kind of indifference is upsetting.

Indifference never happens when we go to God in prayer. We may not always feel that God is listening, but He is. He cares, and He will respond. The Bible reminds us that we can take comfort in the fact that our God is deeply concerned with what concerns our hearts: "The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth" (Psalm 145:18). When we call out to Him, we will never get a disinterested response.

Rather than distancing himself from us when we cry to Him, our heavenly Father draw close to us in our time of need. He is never too busy for His child's prayers — He hears us when we call. —Bill Crowder



**Ephesians 6:10-20 (New King James Version)**

10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age,<sup>[a]</sup> against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*. 13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. 14 Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, 15 and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; 16 above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. 17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; 18 praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints— 19 and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel, 20 for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak

## Read the BIBLE in ONE Year

### September

1 Jeremiah 47-49  
 2 Jeremiah 50-52  
 3 Lamentations 1-5  
 4 Ezekiel 1-3  
 5 Ezekiel 4-7  
 6 Ezekiel 8-11  
 7 Ezekiel 12-14

8 Ezekiel 15-18  
 9 Ezekiel 19-21  
 10 Ezekiel 22-24  
 11 Ezekiel 25-27  
 12 Ezekiel 28-30  
 13 Ezekiel 31-33  
 14 Ezekiel 34-36  
 15 Ezekiel 37-39

16 Ezekiel 40-42  
 17 Ezekiel 43-45  
 18 Ezekiel 46-48  
 19 Daniel 1-3  
 20 Daniel 4-6  
 21 Daniel 7-9  
 22 Daniel 10-12  
 23 Hosea 1-4

24 Hosea 5-7  
 25 Hosea 8-10  
 26 Hosea 11-14  
 27 Joel 1-3  
 28 Amos 1-3  
 29 Amos 4-6  
 30 Amos 7-9

### October

1 Obadiah, Jonah  
 2 Micah 1-4  
 3 Micah 5-7  
 4 Nahum 1-3  
 5 Habakkuk 1-3  
 6 Zephaniah 1-3  
 7 Haggai 1-2

8 Zechariah 1-2  
 9 Zechariah 3-6  
 10 Zechariah 7-10  
 11 Zechariah 11-14  
 12 Malachi 1-4  
 13 Matthew 1-4  
 14 Matthew 5-7  
 15 Matthew 8-11

16 Matthew 12-15  
 17 Matthew 16-19  
 18 Matthew 20-22  
 19 Matthew 23-25  
 20 Matthew 26-28  
 21 Mark 1-3  
 22 Mark 4-6  
 23 Mark 7-10

24 Mark 11-13  
 25 Mark 14-16  
 26 Luke 1-3  
 27 Luke 4-6  
 28 Luke 7-9  
 29 Luke 10-13  
 30 Luke 14-17  
 31 Luke 18-21

### November

1 Luke 22-24  
 2 John 1-3  
 3 John 4-6  
 4 John 7-10  
 5 John 11-13  
 6 John 14-17  
 7 John 18-21

8 Acts 1-2  
 9 Acts 3-5  
 10 Acts 6-9  
 11 Acts 10-12  
 12 Acts 13-14  
 13 Acts 15-16  
 14 Acts 17-18  
 15 Acts 19-21

16 Acts 22-24  
 17 Acts 25-26  
 18 Acts 27-28  
 19 Romans 1-4  
 20 Romans 5-8  
 21 Romans 9-11  
 22 Romans 12-16  
 23 1 Corinthians 1-4

24 1 Corinthians 5-8  
 25 1 Corinthians 9-12  
 26 1 Corinthians 13-16  
 27 2 Corinthians 1-3  
 28 2 Corinthians 4-6  
 29 2 Corinthians 7-9  
 30 2 Corinthians 10-13

**Kingdomtide** begins on the last Sunday in August and continues until the beginning of Advent. The emphasis includes evangelism, world missions, and the work for peace and justice in all relationships. During this period, special emphasis is placed on the Kingship of the Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The observance is wrapped up in the heightened awareness of one of the basic tenets of the Christian faith – the hope of the coming of the Kingdom of Heaven

**Color:** Green is symbolic of freshness of nature, hope, life and growth.

**Advent** is the season of expectation, hope and celebration of the past, present, and future comings of Jesus Christ to the world. Much of the focus is on the prophecy of the coming of the Messiah to Israel and the expectancy of that fulfillment. The Advent cry is “Come,” even though Emmanuel has come. Jesus has come, presently comes into the hearts of believers through grace, and is yet to return. This season is a time of anticipation as the Church makes ready for the coming of the Lord and the celebration of Jesus coming as a babe in Bethlehem. Therefore, Advent embodies a vital element of the Christian faith. The Advent season has marked the beginning of the Christian Year since the eight-century and consists of the four weeks before Christmas.

**Color:** Purple (violet or Lilac) is the color used to denote royalty, praying, fasting, and penitence. It represents a symbol of the majesty of Christ, and Jesus’ humanity, suffering, and fasting.

Name of God	Meaning	Application
<b>JEHOVAH –RAPHA</b>	The Lord Who Heals	God has provided the final cure for spiritual, physical, and emotional sickness in Jesus Christ. God can heal us.
<b>JEHOVAH - ROHI</b>	The Lord is My Shepherd	The Lord protects, provides, directs, leads, and cares for His people. God tenderly takes care of us as a strong and patient shepherd.
<b>JEHOVAH – SABAOTH</b>	The Lord of Hosts The Lord of Armies	The Lord of the hosts of heaven will always fulfill His purposes, even when the hosts of His earthly people fail.
<b>JEHOVAH –SHALOM</b>	The Lord is Peace	God defeats our enemies to bring us peace. Jesus is our Prince of Peace. God brings inner peace and harmony.



## Sunday School is a Family Affair

8:45 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. We have classes for all ages – 3 to 103  
 New Members Class meets at the same time.  
 (For Transportation Needs Please call the Church 860-344-9527)

### Come Grow with US!

#### Just Do It

**Devotional Reading:**  
 Matthew 18:23-35

**Scripture:**  
 James 2:14-26

**DECLARATION:**  
 Proverbs 8:8-14, 17-26

#### **Faith without Works Is Dead**

**<sup>14</sup> What good is it, my brother and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? <sup>15</sup> If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, <sup>16</sup> and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? <sup>17</sup> So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.**

**<sup>18</sup> But someone will say, "You have faith and I have works." Show me your faith apart from your works, and I by my works will show you my faith. <sup>19</sup> You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe-and shudder. <sup>20</sup> Do you want to be shown, you senseless person, that faith apart from works is barren? <sup>21</sup> Was not our ancestor Abraham justified by works when he offered his son Issac on the altar? <sup>22</sup> You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was brought to completion by the works. <sup>23</sup> Thus the scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness," and he was called the friend of God. <sup>24</sup> You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone. <sup>25</sup> Likewise, was not Rahab the prostitute also justified by works**

***when she welcomed the messengers and sent them out by another road? <sup>26</sup> For just as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is also dead.***

**Affirmation:** "We commit to demonstrating faith with tangible works."

#### **ENGAGE**

Think of specific examples of persons and expressions which display comparisons and contrasts of a faith that is no more than empty talk with a faith that is proven by actions. These may be persons or expressions in Scripture, history, on television, or in your personal community or environment. What about missionaries who go out into the field? For instance, compare Love a Child Ministries, led by Sherry and Bobby Burnette, with some others you know that may focus on prosperity. Bobby Burnette wrote a book titled, "Love Is Something You Do." Discuss what he possibly has in mind, using examples from your own experiences.

What impression do you have of persons who make professions of faith but the person claiming faith does not back it with good deeds? What do you think about people who brag about what they can do or have done but do not do anything meaningful in the present?

#### **EDUCATE**

Some people make bold claims about the standards by which they live, but their actions deny those claims. How can we tell when someone is genuine? James says the one who has faith will demonstrate that faith by his or her works. James uses the examples from the Older Testament of

Abraham and Rahab.

**James 2:14-18:** The argument James makes here about faith and works assumes an imaginary debater, and his expressions about faith and works have caused many arguments and debates throughout history since his day. Martin Luther, comparing James's Epistle with letters of Paul, called it "a right strawy epistle." Some clarification of the meanings of faith and works is called for here.

Commentators in the Standard Lesson Commentary, Large Print Edition, state of James: "He is blunt. He is not a dispassionate scholar who pontificates from an ivory tower on theories of the relationship between faith and works. The phrase what good is it intends to discover what benefit can come about, based on the conditions James is about to discuss. Faith, as James is using the term here, is a kind of confessional faith. It is a belief or mental assent to the notion that God exists. Faith in its fullness involves a belief and trust that assume the action of a life lived in obedience to the law of Christ (compare Matthew 7:26; James 1:22-25). For the purposes of James' discussion, though, he's using the word faith in a more truncated [limited] sense that his addresses seem to have adopted" (p. 427).

**James 2:19-23:** Verse 19, "You believe that God is one," refers to one of the most basic tenets of the Jewish faith (see Deuteronomy 6:4). James alludes to Genesis 15:6 when he says the Scripture says, "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness" (v. 23). Interestingly, Paul also alludes to Genesis 15:6 in Romans 4:3 and Galatians 3:6, but in those instances, Paul's emphasis is faith over works as a basis of salvation. So, in fact there is no direct contradiction here, for both would

*(Wisdom on page 9)*

**Pray for all of our children, teens, young adults in this school years that God's hands will be upon them keeping them from all hurt, harm and danger. Also pray for all of our families, friends, and all of God's children.**

(Wisdom from page 8)

agree that true faith leads to good works of actions of goodness and righteousness.

James 2:24-26: The actions of Rahab are recounted in Joshua 2:1-21. However, Abraham and Rahab are both cited as examples of faith in Hebrews 11 (verses 8-19 and verse 31, respectively). It is interesting how these two quite obviously contrasting personalities are placed together in such passages. But we see that in these last three verses James is coming down to the point where faith and works are seen as complementary and not contradictory, as might be thought. "Is Faith alone, a faith that produces no action, a valid option? James says no. Abraham's great deed of faith was a long time in coming, but it demonstrated what God foreseen: genuine trust in God's promise, trust that Abraham later put on the line. To be counted righteous like Abraham, one needs the kind of faith that leads to action." So then, where does Rahab enter the picture? "Rahab, like Abraham, was considered righteous on the basis of her faithful deeds-the singular act of harboring the Israelite spies who had entered the city of Jericho. In her hospitality, she provided for Israelites who were in need. In so doing, she set an example of what James calls on his

readers to do" (Standard Lesson Commentary, Large Print Edition, p. 430).

**ELEVATE**

It is a joy to pray for those in need and even greater and deeper gratification to add actions to the prayers by rendering tangible assistance.

Putting faith to work, not in an effort to find justification by adding something to faith, but because faith simply must be expressed actively is exemplary of the true Christian spirit.

Reflect on biblical and contemporary examples of faith that we may seek to demonstrate our own faith in similar ways. Make a list.

Does it become second nature to one to readily act to help someone who is in some sort of need or distress, thus proving one's faith by works? Are we more diligent to put faith into action whenever we see a brother or sister in need?

**I THINK:**

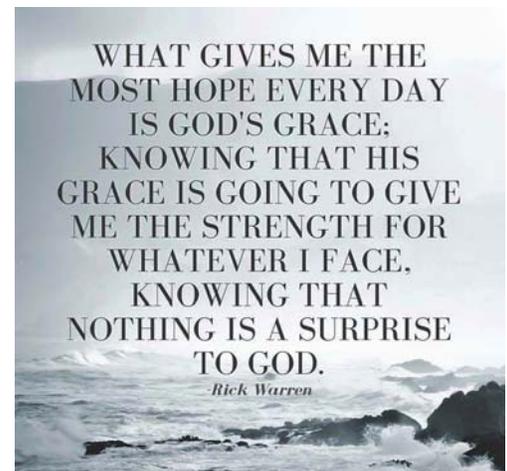
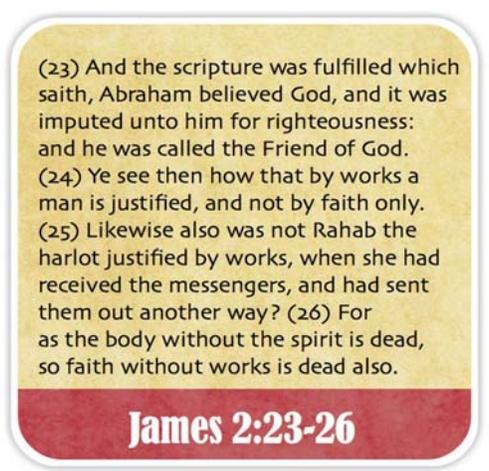
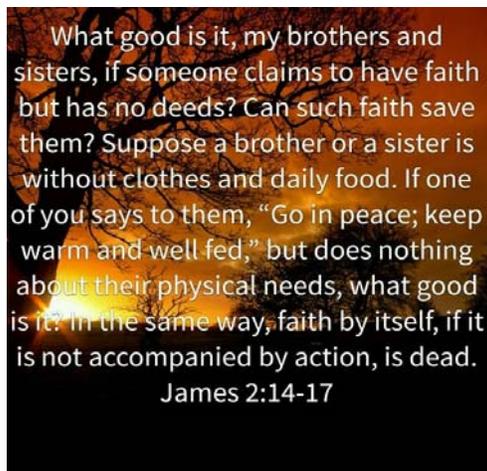
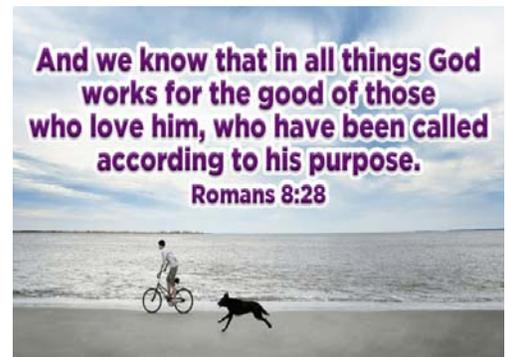
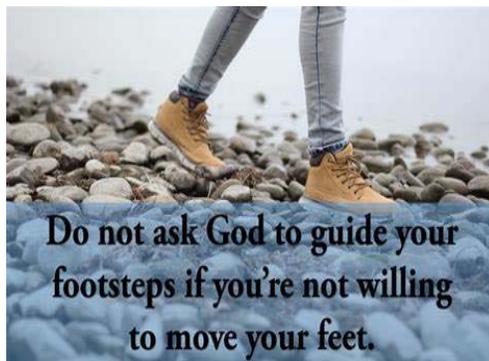
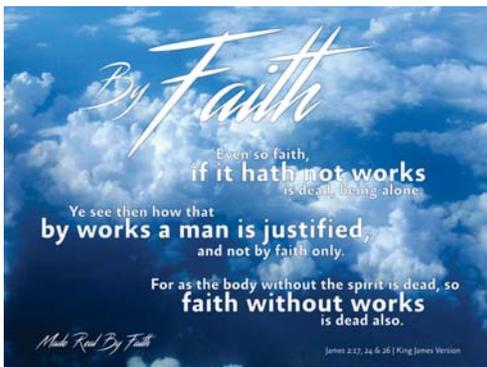
1. Discuss your church's policy for responding when someone in the church or community requests

1. financial assistance for food, clothing, rent, etc. Apply principles from the text to evaluate the policy and to suggest changes if necessary.
2. Role-play a believer's interaction with a person who is without enough to eat or wear. Have some participants play the role of a believer who has "faith" but not works; others will show how faith is put into action.
3. Provide reference tools so participants can research the actions of Abraham and Rahab to provide a depth of understanding of how James uses these two examples.
4. Compare and contrast the text with Romans 4 and Galatians 3. Summarize the points that are in common-then suggest ways to apply James's unique message.

**VERSE OF THE WEEK:**

**Just as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is also dead." James 2:26**

From The Young People-Adult Quarterly (Ages 18 and up) International Sunday School Lessons for Christian Teaching



*(Poems from page 1)*

The man ate the first three apples.  
He traded three apples for shelter from  
the sun and rain.  
He traded three other apples for clothing  
to wear.

Then he looked at the 10<sup>th</sup> apple...and it  
seemed better and juicier than all the  
rest. He knew that God had given him  
the 10<sup>th</sup> apple that he might return it to  
Him out of gratitude for the other nine.  
But the 10<sup>th</sup> apple looked bigger and  
juicier than all the rest. And he reasoned  
that God had all the other apples in the  
world...So he ate the 10<sup>th</sup> apple...and  
gave back to God...the core.

God had given enough apples to supply  
your needs—plus at least one which you  
may show your gratitude to Him. In  
many instances, God is given the leftover  
or the core.

Scriptures teach we should give to God  
first, “Honor God with thy substance, and  
with the first fruits of thine  
increase” (Proverbs 3:9). The choice is  
yours. Will you return to God the largest  
and juiciest of your apples—or only the  
core?

Do not ask to have your life’s load  
lightened,  
But for courage to endure.  
Do not ask for fulfillment in all your life,  
But for patience to accept frustration.  
Do not ask for perfection in all you do,  
But for wisdom not to repeat mistakes.  
And finally, do not ask for more,  
Before saying “Thank You”  
For what you have already received.  
—Brenda Short

### Restoration

Let the rain fall  
So the world won’t see the tears

Let the thunder roll  
While I’m laughing at the midst of trouble  
Like my minds take leave  
Of its senses

I carry the scraps of this broken spirit  
And cast them at the foot of its Maker  
And He will renew my strength  
Like the eagle  
His healing love pouring down  
Like sweet summer rain  
—L. Michaud

### Office Prayer

Lord Jesus, as I enter this work place,  
I bring your presence with me.  
I speak Your Peace, Your Grace, and  
Your Perfect Order into the atmosphere  
of this office.  
I acknowledge your Lordship over all that  
will be spoken, thought, decided, and  
accomplished within these walls.

Lord Jesus, I thank you for the talents  
you have deposited in me.  
I do not take them lightly, but commit to  
using them responsibly and well.  
Give me a fresh supply of truth and  
beauty on which to draw as I do my job.  
Anoint my creativity, my ideas, and my  
energy so that even my smallest task  
may You honor.

Lord, when I am confused, guide; When I  
am weary, energize me.  
Lord, when I am burned out, infuse me  
with the Light of your Holy Spirit.

May the work that I do and the way that I  
do it, bring hope, life and courage to all  
that I come in contact with today.

And, oh Lord, even in this day’s most  
stressful moments...may I rest in you.  
In Your strong and powerful name I pray,  
Jesus Christ, Amen.

### Standing in the Will of God

There are time when it is hard to be  
What we are called to be  
When what we are called to be  
Goes against the flow of the masses  
And we find ourselves  
A peculiar people  
Standing alone in the world  
In the company of God  
—L. Michaud

For a Good Day Every Day

1. Accept each day as God’s special new gift.
2. Every morning, ask Him to bless your day.
3. Start the day with a spiritual warm up. Count you blessing, and believe that this will be one of your best days.
4. Think a good day. We generally get what we expect.
5. Plan a good day. Picture in detail 24 satisfying hours.
6. Work your plan.
7. Enjoy a good day. Don’t let anything that happens keep you from making the best of this day.
8. Make God and doing good vital parts of your day.
9. End your day with thanksgiving for the

day behind you, and for the night and the  
tomorrow before you.

### Nothing is Impossible for God

Child of the dark was written by a woman  
with a second grade education. The  
original draft was written on discarded  
notebooks that she found in the garbage.  
She usually wrote after working for less  
than pennies, picking up paper. Her  
neighbors felt she thought herself  
superior to them and harassed her and  
her children. But regardless of where the  
neighborhood was going she was  
determined to keep her head above the  
water. Her book became the required  
reading of law students in the university  
in a country where the poor and the  
women were given little consideration.

Moses was given the task of confronting  
Pharaoh. The man who had the power  
over life and death of Moses and his  
people. He was slow of speech, so God  
gave him Joshua for a spokesman.  
Armed with a staff and a Word from God,  
Moses, with Joshua for a spokesman,  
won the freedom for the Israelites.

Harriet Tubman had no mobile  
transportation but returned several times  
to the south to lead over three hundred  
salves to freedom. She suffered from  
fainting spells but she never lost a single  
person. She braved the elements, the  
terrain, and the many individuals who  
would have loved to put their hands on  
the \$40,000 award money that was  
offered for her capture.

God understands our shortcomings. We  
need not feel inadequate, unprepared, or  
unqualified to do the work He sets before  
us. He has said, in His Word.....

“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” Isaiah 43: 18.

### The Measure Of A Man

It is not the battles that he has won or  
lost, but the causes for which he fought.  
It is not the number of children that he  
has born, but the manner in which he  
taught them to live.  
It is not the ideals that he claimed to  
believe, but the ideals he demonstrates.  
It is not the material wealth he attains,  
but the use of that wealth toward a  
fulfillment of life.  
—W.D. Albert Simon

(Poems from page 10)

**Praise Break The 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalms:**

The Lord is my Shepard-----**That's Relationship!**  
 I shall not want-----**That's Supply!**  
 He maketh me lie down in green pastures---**That's Rest!**  
 He leadth me beside still waters-----**That's Refreshment!**  
 He restoreth my soul-----**That's Healing!**  
 He leadth me in the paths of righteousness---**That's Guidance!**  
 For his name sake-----**That's Purpose!**  
 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death-  
**That's Testing!**  
 I will fear no evil-----**That's Protection!**  
 For thou art with me-----**That's Faithfulness!**  
 Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me-----**That's Discipline!**  
 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine

enemies----**That's Hope!**  
 Thou anointest my head with oil-----**That's Consecration!**  
 My cup runneth over-----**That's Abundance!**  
 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life-----**That's Blessing!**  
 And I will dwell in the house of the lord-----**That's Blessing!**  
 Forever-----**That's Eternity**

---Submitted by Rosalind M. Wynter, Junior Class

(Beman page 1)

and 1918 respectively. Under this legislation, postal officials were granted the authority to ban newspapers and magazines. Furthermore, interfering with the drafting of soldiers into World War I could result in a \$10,000 fine and a 20 year jail sentence. Also, political dissent and union organizing resulted in incarceration.

During Wilson's presidential campaign, he promised black leaders that he would seek fairness for all Americans. Instead he took away the jobs of 15 out of every 17 federal employees in DC simply because they were black. This ended steady work, decent pay, home ownership and a stable life for many citizens who had just begun to prosper. President Wilson also reinstated segregation in places such as DC street cars, libraries, federal cafeterias, and bathrooms.

Should we continue to memorialize our 28<sup>th</sup> president? Do we desire ideals and actions like these to prevail? Is this the nation we want to become?

It has been argued by many that Woodrow Wilson Middle School should

be changed to Beman Middle School.

Let us examine the ideals and actions of Middletown's Beman family for insight. In 1833, Reverend Jehiel Beman became the first official minister of the Cross Street African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church. The Bemans were freed and educated Blacks who for at least three generations, fought for the uplifting of the people of Middletown, Hartford, New Haven and Boston. This family preached and practiced that it behooved all citizens to educate themselves because knowledge provided protection and the ability to manage one's own life. They espoused learning a trade in order to make a living and owning the place where you laid your head. In spite of struggles and setbacks, the family flourished; members became preachers, teachers, human and civil rights activists, shop owners, shoemakers and land and real estate developers. The Beman's religious and moral values guided them. Throughout Connecticut, they organized and worked tirelessly to end the enslavement of their black and white brethren who were in bondage because of their skin color or their uncontrollable fondness of alcohol.

Unlike Woodrow Wilson, the Bemans would have found reprehensible, the act of taking away any person's livelihood and therefore their stability. They preached and practiced that when you helped your neighbor, you enhanced your community and thus your own life. These are the values we parents and teachers continually convey to our children. When we and most of our youth learn and practice them, these ideals and values will prevail in our country.

Yes, the Beman family deserves to be memorialized by naming our middle school after them, for the Beman's principles can lead us to the nation we want to become.

*In August of 2020, the Middletown, CT Common Council voted with an overwhelming majority of 11-0 (and 1 abstention) to rename the school after the Beman Family.*

Mardi Loman  
 Historian -Cross Street AME Zion Church  
 CT Freedom Trail Committee  
 Middlesex County Historical Society  
 Board

**Pillar of Support**

Lord we pray to You our Father above, that You influence all decisions I, my family, and my friends make today. You're our pillar of support and we want You to support us throughout the day by giving us the capacity. God, we need You to back all actions and decisions that surround us today. Let positivity follow us, oh Lord. And allow us the wisdom to avoid any negative occurrence in our time of need. We thank You, we love you Lord, for gracing us with Your presence, its In Jesus name we ask and pray, Amen, Amen, Amen. —Barbara Perry

**I Believe**

Dear God, we know that the first step in all spiritual healing is to believe. We believe! We open our mind and heart believing in Your infinite power and possibility. We believe that healing is a dynamic and reachable experience, a reality that can be experienced right now. We maintain a patient and loving attitude, for we believe that Your healing activity is now at work in our mind and body. We look forward, with joyful expectation, to the perfect wholeness that You are now bringing into manifestation through us. We also believe in Your constant expression of perfect good in and through us. We rest in the certainty of Your healing power. We know that with You all things are possible. In Jesus Christ's name, Amen. —Barbara Perry

*(Be Kind from page 1)*

that we are in these moments together and we better look out for each other, for we either survive together or we perish all together. I have personally been so touched by the singular gesture by this august, pre-eminent club that I have decided to add my voice to the call to BE KIND.

As Christians, we are familiar with love, affection, care, mercy, concern (positive), compassion, devotion, adoration, friendliness, empathy, sympathy, heed, understanding, forbearance, patience, tolerance, leniency, humanity, charity, help, acceptance and above all this word – KINDNESS. Remember the story of the Good Samaritan? It is a parable by Jesus about a traveler who was beaten up and left for dead on the side of the road. Supposed pious people such as a Priest and a Levite all came by, saw his situation, but did nothing to help. It was a despised and ordinary Samaritan who came to the aid of the traveler. The ultimate kindness to a fellow human is to answer their call for help in time of need. I know quite a few instances in my own life that bring joy to me just by recalling the incident.

**Just in case:**

I was attending a lay-preacher conference in East Hartford years ago when in the midst of the session, a lady started coughing uncontrollably. Without any hesitation at all, another member of the class fishes out a handful of lozenges from her pocket book and hands them over to the struggling lady to help soothe her throat. And sure enough it did. The kind lady carried extra lozenges just in case someone else needed some.

**You need a break:**

I had already done thirty of a forty mile bike ride when I noticed that I had a flat tire. No problem. I got off and started to get the bike and myself in a safe location to fix the problem. Just then, a guy stops his pick-up by my side and insists that I get into his car and come with him to his nearby home only about two hundred yards away. Despite my protestations and reluctance, he managed to get me to his house, helped fix my flat, refreshed me with cold soda and snack and got me back on my way. He knew how it was to get a break when necessary.

**Only For the Stranger:**

You may be familiar with this situation where you are looking for a particular address but the house numbers are so obscure that you cannot determine which home you are

supposed to be aiming for. In times like that, it is so comforting to find the single home which displays the largest, brightest and boldest house number that clearly says to you – ‘this is for the benefit of those who don’t live around here’. You may use that number to nudge on to the one you need. Kindness that is priceless.

**The apple doesn’t fall far from the tree:**

You may not agree with me on this, but I insist that the efforts of all the parents of this world who espouse kindness, humility, justice, probity, care, compassion, love, honesty, sincerity, empathy and understanding in their children are the real heroes and heroines on this planet. The total benefit to all society as a result of well adjusted offspring from any parenting is priceless. It is almost impossible for society to fully reward such parents. The ultimate mark of kindness anyone can show to his or her community within which he or she lives.

**Thank You:**

You see the red heart-shaped symbols all over the community. Do we really know what they represent? The recipients of these messages are the citizens we all call ‘essential workers’. From the office janitor to the EMT driver up to the emergency surgeon, we all appreciate the level of care, compassion, effort and risks they put themselves through in order to keep the rest of society functioning. Their kindness may be overlooked because it is their vocation in the first place. But the risk, the courage, the valor and the fortitude still translate to kindness and care to the rest of us.

**What about you and me?**

Whenever you see those BE KIND symbols, do they speak to you? The Rotary Club is sending us a HUGE message. We have to find in our hearts the level of kindness we are capable of showing to one another. There’s been a lot of racial, political and social tensions mostly based on misguided leadership and unbridled rhetoric. Being kind is unconditional. You don’t want to be kind only to those you like. The parable of the Good Samaritan has stood the test of time, because it covers all aspects of kindness to humanity regardless of your relationship. What is the best you can put forth for the benefit of your fellow citizens, both in your local environment as well as the stranger you didn’t know before?

Let us all genuinely BE KIND for a change. May be, just maybe, the world will become a better place for all of us.  
—kwame6@att.net



## Our Daily Bread

### Day of Encouragement

Estera Piroasca Escobar

**We urge you, brothers and sisters,...encourage the disheartened.** 1 Thessalonians 5:14

Read: 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28

First responders show dedication and courage daily by being on the front lines when disasters occur. In the attack on the World Trade Center in New York City in 2001 when thousands of people were killed or injured, more than four hundred emergency workers also lost their lives. In honor of first responders, the US Senate designated September 12 as the National Day of Encouragement.

While it may seem unique that a government would declare a national day of encouragement, the apostle Paul certainly thought this was needed for the growth of a church. He commended the young church in Thessalonica, a city in Macedonia, to “encourage the disheartened, help the weak, be patient with everyone” (1 Thessalonians 5:14). Although they were going through persecution. Paul encouraged the believers to “always strive to do what is good for each other and for everyone else” (v. 15). He knew that as humans, they would be prone to despair, selfishness, and conflict. But he also knew they would not be able to uplift one another without God’s help and strength.

Things are no different today. We all need to be uplifted, and we need to do the same for those around us. Yet we can’t do it in our own strength. That’s why Paul’s encouragement that “the one who calls you [Jesus] is faithful, and he will do it” is so reassuring (v.24). With His help, we can encourage one another every day.

How can a word of encouragement keep despair away? Who can you encourage today?

**Jesus, thank You for the encouragement You give me each day. Show me who I need to encourage as well.**

### Spiritual Driving

Adam R. Holz

**Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.** Ephesians 5:15-16

Read: Ephesians 5:8-20

I don’t remember many specifics about my driver’s education class. But for some reason, an acronym we learned, S-I-P-D-E, remains firmly lodged in my memory.

The letters stood for **S**can, **I**dentify, **P**redict, **D**ecide, and **E**xecute, a process we were taught to practice continually. We were to scan the road, identify hazards, predict what the hazards might do, decide how we’d respond, and then, if necessary, execute that plan. It was a strategy for being intentional to avoid accidents.

I wonder how that idea might translate to our spiritual lives. In Ephesians 5, Paul told Ephesian believers, “Be very careful, then, how you live-not as unwise, but as wise” (v. 15). Paul knew certain hazards could derail the Ephesians-old ways of living at odds with their new life in Jesus (vv. 8, 10-11). So he

instructed the growing church to pay attention.

The words translated “be very careful, then, how you live” literally mean “see how you walk.” in other words, look around. Notice hazards, and avoid personal pitfalls like drunkenness and wild living (v. 18). Instead, the apostle said, we can seek to learn God’s will for our lives (v. 17), while, with fellow believers, we sing to and give Him thanks (vv. 19-20).

No matter what hazards we face-and even when we stumble-we can experience our new life in Christ as we grow in dependence on His boundless power and grace.

What strategy do you use to recognize what might trip you up spiritually? What role do you think other believers play in identifying and resisting hazards? How might thanksgiving be an important part of avoiding spiritual pitfalls?

**Heavenly Father, as I navigate the spiritual potholes on life’s road, thank You for reminding me to look up to You for help**

### God Our Rescuer

Patricia Raybon

**I will rescue them from all the places where they were scattered.** Ezekiel 34:12

Read: Ezekiel 34:5-12

In the open sea, a rescuer position her kayak to assist panicked swimmers competing in a triathlon. “Don’t grab the middle of the boat!” she called to swimmers, knowing such a move would capsize her craft. Instead, she directed weary swimmers to the bow, or front, of the kayak. There they could grab a loop, allowing the safety kayaker to help rescue them.

Whenever life or people threaten to pull us under, as believers in Jesus, we know we have a Rescuer. “For this is what the Sovereign Lord says: I myself will search for my sheep....I will rescue them from all the places where they were scattered” (Ezekiel 34:11-12).

This was the prophet Ezekiel’s assurance to God’s people when they were in exile. Their leaders had neglected and exploited them, plundering their lives and caring “for themselves rather than for [God’s] flock” (v. 8). As a result, the people “were scattered over the whole earth, and no one searched or looked for them” (v. 6).

But “I will rescue my flock,” declared the Lord (v. 10), and His promise still holds.

What do we need to do? Hold fast to almighty God and His promises. “I myself will search for my sheep and look after them,” He says (v. 11). That’s a saving promise worth holding tightly.

When you feel panicked, what’s your typical reaction? What problem can you release today as you reach instead for God?

**Our rescuing God, when life makes me panic, encourage me to turn from the rolling waves and always reach for You.**

(Perseverance on page 1)

definition.

To persevere means to continue....

To be steadfast and constant, to not stop.

Perseverance gives us the ability to pray when there is nothing else we can do.

We are instructed by God to "Pray without ceasing." (1 Thessalonians 5:17)

To not stop praying .... to continue in doing so we are persevering. This gives us the ability to overcome the greatest difficulties and or obstacles in our pathway.

The fact that persevering means to continue is something we see a lot less of nowadays.

In 1John 2:24 We read "If that which ye have heard from the beginning shall remain in you, ye shall continue in the Son and in the Father."

Perseverance is holding firm to our Faith in the face of life's most difficult storms.

"That which we have heard" now becomes what makes up the very fabric of who we are thus we are able to continue and in doing so we have perfect communion with the Son and the Father.

In John 8:31 Jesus says to us "If ye continue in my word then are ye my disciples indeed"

In John 15:8 Jesus further tells us to "continue in my love"

In Acts 2:42 God tells us that the early Christian church "Continued steadfastly "

Again and again God is telling His church to persevere. To keep moving forward. "Having done all, to stand. Stand therefore..." (Ephesians 6:13-14)

Perseverance is never without difficulty for without the flame of difficulties as a motivation to continue on the right road, the good Christian might become overtaken by a spirit of complacency and despondency.

Acts 14:21 says it like this, "Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God."

You and I were never promised an easy pilgrimage here on earth , but we are always blessed by God with the strength when we are in need to continue on our journey and that's where perseverance takes hold . We continue in the faith despite our tribulations.

In summary, Perseverance is simply continuing to do the things that God has called us to do. It's about continuing what we've started. It's about finishing what we've started and finishing well.

Lets recall the parable of the tower in Luke chapter 14, "For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it? Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him, Saying, This man began to build, and was not able to finish."

Remember what Jesus said when he completed the work the Father sent Him to do. He said "It Is Finished" (John 19:30)

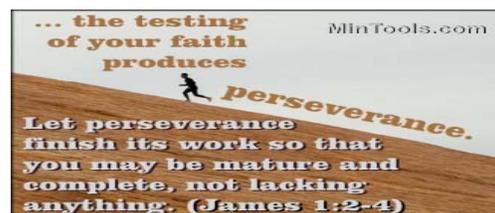
And also what is recorded of Paul saying, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith" (2 Timothy 4:7)

We can truly say, the Bible in its entirety is a book of perseverance.

Lastly, Lets remember those who are watching our lives. We may be the only bible they will ever read.

Hebrews tells us, "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. Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God." (Hebrews 12:1-2)

Lord grant your people the ability today to continue on, to not stop being the people you have called them to be, to be among those who persevere. Amen. -- Greg Adamo



## *Words To Live By*

Do It Again, Lord

"Our Father in Heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven." Matthew 6:9-10 NIV

Dear Lord,

We're still hoping we'll wake up. We're still hoping we'll open a sleepy eye and think, What a horrible dream.

We are sad, Father. And so we come to you. We don't ask you for help; we beg you for it. We don't request; we implore. We've read the accounts. We've pondered the stories, and now we plead, "Do it again, Lord. Do it again."

Remember Joseph? You rescued him from the pit. And Sarah? Remember her prayers? You heard them. Joshua? Remember his fears? You inspired him. The women at the tomb? You resurrected their hope. The doubts of Thomas? You took them away. Do it again, Lord. Do it again.

Most of all, do it again what you did at Calvary. After your Son lay three days in a dark hole, you turned the darkest Friday into the brightest Sunday. Do it again, Lord. Turn this Calvary into Easter.

Let your mercy be upon all who suffer. Give us grace that we might forgive and faith that we might believe.

And look kindly upon your church. For two thousand years you've used her to heal a hurting world.

Do it again, Lord. Do it again.

Through Christ, amen.

From "For The Tough Times" - Max Lucado

***“Daily Confession of Faith”***

***In Christ I am anointed and a powerful person of God.***

***I am a joint-heir with Jesus and more than a conqueror.***

***I am a doer of the Word of God and a channel for His blessings.***

***If God be for me, who can be against me?***

***I am blessed coming in and I am blessed going out.***

***My enemies are fleeing before me.***

***God has commanded His blessing on my storehouses.***

***He has opened His Good treasures and I shall lend and not borrow.***

***I am the head and not the tail.***

***He has given me power to make wealth.***

***I dwell in the secret place.***

***I have His protection and provision.***

***God is my refuge, my fortress.***

***I am not afraid of the snare of the fowler.***

***No Evil shall befall me and no plague shall come nigh my dwelling.***

***God has given his angels charge over me and they are bearing me up in their hands***

***lest I dash my foot against a stone, as declared in Psalm 91.***

***1 Peter 2:9 establishes I am a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation.***

***I am a peculiar person called out of darkness into His marvelous light.***

***1 Peter 2:24 states, I have been healed by the stripes of Jesus.***

***Cancer, sugar diabetes, heart disease, sickness, afflictions, infections,  
or any other disease cannot enter my body.***

***I am without spot or blemish, an intercessor,***

***the righteousness of God, saved, and washed in the Blood of Jesus.***

***“No weapon formed against me shall prosper, and every tongue which rise against me in judgement You shall condemn.***

***This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD,***

***and their righteousness is from Me,” Says the LORD.***

***I am saved from wrath by Him and justified by the blood of the Lamb.***

***Lord I pray that those may prosper that love Jerusalem and that peace will be within them  
and prosperity in their houses according to Psalms 122:6-9.***

***Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah!***

# Spirit Lifters

By Norman Vincent Peale

## Realize the Power Within You

Realize the power that is within you, and you will no longer be the victim of a depressed spirit. And what is this inner power? Simply the God-given ability to believe.

To the extent to which you develop this faculty, you will master the defeats in your life.

The great issue is to learn to believe.

This is stated in one of the most im-

portant of all Scripture passages:

**Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes." Mark 9:23**

Learn to believe. Learn to cast out doubt. This is done by the practice of affirmation.

Affirm faith, think positively, visualize achievement. Never think doubt. Always think faith.

This text affirms that when you learn to believe, the area of the impossible is vastly reduced and the area of the possible is greatly increased.

If you set this text firmly at the center of your thought patterns, you will never again be a victim of low spirits.

## Healing of Sorrow

Sorrow over the death of a loved one is a heavy weight upon the spirit. It often causes the one who mourns to feel that life will never again be filled with high and joyful attitudes.

But life goes on---and one must live it. The passage that follows has probably brought more healing to the human soul and given more lift to the spirit in sorrow than any other passage in all the

literature of the world.

**I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. John 11:25**

What a glorious message! Jesus Christ is alive, and those who believe in Him live, also. So our loved one whom we thought dead isn't dead at all, but lives and shall forever touch our lives with the

same love and tenderness.

This gives a lift to the spirit that one wants to shout from the housetops the glorious fact that through faith in Jesus Christ, we live. So when sorrow comes, repeat over and over this wonderful passage. And presently the shadows will flee away, and the light of a new day will dawn for you.

## What Christ Can Do for You

We read in the Bible of the marvelous things Jesus did for people---and wish that the same experience might be ours. Through faith in Jesus Christ, they were able to accomplish the most astonishing achievements, or were rescued from sad plights or gained tremendous new power over difficulties.

Rather sadly we ask, "Why can't that happen to me?"

It can, and as proof I urge you to meditate upon this tremendous Spirit Lifter:

**Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Hebrews 13:8**

The simple truth stated here is that Jesus Christ never changes. He is an invariable factor in a variable world. He is just the same now as when He walked

the shores of Galilee. He has the same kindness, the same power to heal and change men's lives. He is the same restorer of courage, the same transformer of people's souls.

Any things that He ever did for anyone throughout all history, He can do for you. It all depends upon how completely you surrender yourself Him---and how sincerely you believe.

## Faith, Hope and Love

The best three-point formula for living is in this immortal statement:

**And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love. 1 Corinthians 13:13**

Here are three powerful Spirit Lifters: Faith, the greatest power in this world; Hope, the attitude of expectancy---the best is yet to be; and Love, one of the greatest qualities of all---a heart full of compassion and understanding. Christian love gives deep joy. Let these three shine like stars in your life, and your spirit will be uplifted always.

## Depression Lifted

Many are sick because they are basically unhappy. For this condition a medicine is offered in these words:

**A merry heart does good, like medicine... Proverbs 17:22**

Joy has healing value, but gloom is sickening. This is why Jesus so emphatically tells us to rejoice. Learn to live joyfully. Take a hopeful and optimistic attitude. Think happy thoughts, say happy things and put joy into people's lives. The more you do this, the more surely you will keep your own spirits high.

## You Are Never Alone

**Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go... I will not leave you until I have done what I have spoken to you. Genesis 28:15**

Uncertainties can be frightening, but these reassuring words show that God will be with you wherever you go on in whatever situation you find yourself. You are never alone. He will always see you through.

## Barbara Perry Speaks

### “We See Imperfectly”

**1 Corinthians 13:12 says, “...Now we see things imperfectly, like puzzling reflection in a mirror, but then we will see everything with perfect clarity...” Amen.**

Let us pray, “Father, thank You that there is a purpose for whatever pain comes our way and that You only allow what we can handle and what is for our good. Thank You that though we may not understand it now,

the day is coming when we will see it clearly and understand, it In Jesus’ Name we pray, Amen, Amen, Amen.

We all go through painful times when we’re hurting, and on the surface, the pieces of our life don’t make sense. We think we can’t be a part of God’s plan. But that pain is a part of life, and it often feels like a dark place. It’s easy to get discouraged and think, God, why did this happen? We have to trust that even then, God doesn’t make any mistakes. He’s already designed our life and

laid our every piece down to the smallest detail.

See He never said we would understand everything along the way. God didn’t promise that there wouldn’t be any pain, suffering, or disappointment. But He did promise that it would all work out for our good. That piece that’s painful, that doesn’t look as though it makes sense—when everything comes together, it’s going to fit perfectly in place. We just can’t see it now because the other pieces are not I place, Amen.

### “Why Be Afraid?”

**Psalms 27:5, “...For he will conceal me there when troubles come; he will hide me in his sanctuary. He will place me out of reach on a high rock...” Amen.**

Let us pray, “Father, thank You that You are our light and our salvation and the stronghold of our life. Thank You for Your promise of protecting us when troubles come and placing us out of its reach. Today we will

live from a place of peace, knowing we are safe in the palms of Your hands, its In Jesus’ Name we pray, Amen, Amen, Amen.”

David had all kinds of things come against even his own family. He had many reasons to live worried, be upset, and bitter. But he said, “The Lord is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear? Why should I be afraid?” David lived with this attitude, “God’s got this. I’m not going to worry or live in fear. He will hide me when trouble comes. He will place me out of reach.”

See we may have discouraging situations and difficulties coming against us, but God has placed us out of reach. They can’t defeat us. Now do like David and remain confident. Keep your peace. Because we may feel like we’re surrounded by an army, but the truth is we’re surrounded by God’s favor. The forces that are for us are greater than the forces that are against us.

Remember God’s got this. He’s done it in the past, and He’s not going to stop now. Amen, Hallelujah, thank You Jesus.

### “Be Happy With Who You Are”

**“For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do.” Romans 7:19**

Let us pray, “Father, thank You that though there are areas of our life that need to improve, there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. But we know You are changing us little by little. We also believe that what You started in our life, You

are going to finish, its In Jesus’ Name, Amen, Amen, Amen.”

Many of us don’t really like who they are. We focus on our faults, our weaknesses and we constantly critical toward ourself. We hear that recording of all these things that is wrong with us keeps playing in our mind over and over again. Saying, we’re impatient, we blew our diet, we should be ashamed of ourself.” then we wonder why we’re not happy, not realizing we have an Inner War going on within ourselves.

See it’s very freeing when we can be happy with who we are even though we have a inner war going inside of and some of these areas which we still need to improve. Well I’m hear to remind you today that we don’t have to have it all together to do something great because God is changing us little by little. And if you’re waiting till you overcome every weakness and perform perfectly, you’ll be waiting your whole life time. Amen

### “Prayer Makes The Difference”

**“Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him.” Acts 12:5**

Let us pray, “Father, thank You that when we pray, something powerful happens, supernatural things take place. Help us to develop a habit of praying for others and be patient and stay faithful when we don’t see

anything happening. We believe that our prayers make a difference, its In Jesus’ Name we pray, Amen, Amen, Amen.”

Today’s Scripture says the church was in prayer constantly for Peter, asking God to somehow bring him out. An angel showed up in the prison and woke Peter up and Peter chains fell off Peter’s wrists, and they walked past two guard posts and the prison’s iron gate opened on its own accord. Peter’s life

was spared, Amen. All this happen because someone was praying for Peter, Amen.

So I encourage you to remember this, if we are praying for others like our family members, friends, and relatives we should be like Peters. Cover them in prayer. And when we pray, the Red Seas part, hungry lions can’t open their mouths, cancer is overcome, blessings rain down, Amen. So our prayer can bring an angel, Amen.

### “Pass The Test”

**Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him. James 1:12**

Let us pray, “Father, thank You for both the anointing and the appointing that You have for our life. Thank You for the training and preparation process that You are taking

us through. We believe that we will pass the tests and get to where You are taking us, its In Jesus’ Name, Amen.”

We know the Scripture about David how he was anointed as the next king of Israel. Then at the age thirty-seven David didn’t take the throne until twenty years later. Because he was preparing for where God was taking him. He also was anointed but not appointed. These test he had to pass was being faithful and taking care of sheep even though Saul was trying to kill him.

See if we can be like David by being obedient and don’t get discouraged by the preparation process between the time God puts that dream in our heart and the time it comes to pass, Amen. So if we keep the right attitude, every struggle we go through, every disappointment, every delay is making us stronger, developing our character, growing us up. Pass those tests. It’s getting us prepared, Amen.

### Renew Our Mind, Body, and Soul

Lord, we come before You today in need of Your healing hand. In You all things are possible. We ask that You hold our heart within Yours, and renew our mind, body, and soul. We are lost, but we are singing. Because You gave us life, and You also give us the gift of

infinite joy. Today we ask that You give us the strength to move forward on the path You’ve laid out for us, guide us towards better health and give us the wisdom to identify those You’ve placed around us to help us get better. In Your name we ask and pray. Amen, Amen, Amen.

## THE BEAUTY OF HOLLAND

I AM OFTEN ASKED TO DESCRIBE THE EXPERIENCE OF RASING A CHILD WITH DISABILITY - TO TRY TO HELP PEOPLE WHO HAVE NOT SHARED THAT UNIQUE EXPERIENCE TO UNDERSTAND IT, TO IMAGINE HOW IT WOULD FEEL. IT'S LIKE THIS...

WHEN YOU'RE GOING TO HSEVE A BABY, IT'S LIKE PLANNING A FABULOUS TRIP TO ITALY. YOU BUY A BUNCH OF GUIDEBOOKS AND MAKE YOUR WONDERFUL PLANS. THE COLISEMUM, THE MICHELANGELO DAVID. THE GONDOLAS IN VENICE. YOU LEARN SOME HANDY PHRASES IN ITALLAN. IT'S ALL VERY, VERY EXCITING!

AFTER MONTHS OF EAGER ANTICIPATION, THE DAY FINALLY ARRIVES. YOU PACK YOUR BAGS AND OFF YOU GO. SERVAL HOURS LATER THE PLANE LANDS. THE FLIGHT ATTENDANT COMES IN AND SAYS, "WELCOME TO HOLLAND.

"HOLLAND!!!" YOU SAY, "WHAT DO YOU MEAN HOLLAND! I SIGNED UP FOR ITALY. I'M SUPPORT TO BE IN ITALY! ALL MY LIFE I'VE DREAMED OF GOING TO ITALY."

BUT THERE'S A CHANCE IN THE FLIGHT PLAN. THEY LANDED IN HOLLAND AND YOU MUST STAY. THE IMPORTANT THING IS THAT THEY HAVEN'T TAKEN YOU TO A HORRIBLE, DISGUSTING, FILTHY PLACE, FULL OF PESTILENCE, FAMINE AND DISEASE. IT'S JUST A DIFFERENT PLANE.

SO YOU MUST GO OUT AND BUY NEW GUIDEBOOKS. AND YOU MUST LEARN A WHOLE NEW LANGUAGE. AND YOU WILL MEET A WHOLE NEW GROUP OF PEOPLE YOU WOULD NEVER HAVE MET.

IT'S JUST A DIFFERENT PLACE. IT'S SLOWER-PACED THAN ILALY, LESS FLASHY THAN ITALY. BUT AFTER YOU'RE BEEN THERE AWHILE AND CATCH YOUR BREATH, YOU BEGIN TO LOOK AROUND, AND YOU BEGIN TO NOTICE THAT HOLLAND HAS WINDMILLS, HOLLAND HAS TULIPS. HOLLAND EVEN HAS REM-BRANDTS.

BUT EVERYONE YOU KNOW IS BUSY COMING AND GOING FROM ILTALY, AND THEY'RE BRAGGING ABOUT WHAT A WONDERFUL TIME THEY HAD THERE. AND FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE YOU WILL SAY, "YES, THAT'S WHERE I WAS SUPPOSED TO GO. THAT'S WHAT I HAD PLANNED."

AND THE PAIN WILL NEVER, EVER GO AWAY, BECAUSE THE LOSS OF THAT DREAM IS A VERY SIGNIFI-CANT LOSS.

BUT IF YOU SPEND YOUR LIFE MOURING THE FACT YOU DIDN'T GO TO ITALY, YOU MAY NEVER BE FREE TO ENJOY THE VERY SPECIAL, THE VERY LOVELY THINGS ABOUT HOLLAND.

SOURCE UNKNOWN

## Joyce Meyer: Promises for your Everyday Life - a Daily Devotional

### The Key to Uprooting the Devil's Plan

***<sup>9</sup> Whom resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world. 1 Peter 5:9***

If you want the great and mighty things God has for you, then you must get to the root of your negative mindsets and deal with them. Because until the roots are removed, they'll continue to produce one bad fruit after another.

Too often we spend our lives dealing with the bad fruit of our behavior, but we never dig deep enough to get the root of the problem. Digging deep to take care of the bad root is painful, but it's the only lasting way to take care of the problem. We can either suffer positively, doing what's right, or we can go with the devil's plan. His goal is to keep you stuck in your old habits forever.

Peter tells us to be well-balanced and temperate, withstanding the devil at his onset (see 1 Peter 5:8-9). You must

decide if you want the pain that will take you into a new realm of glory or keep your same old pain and try to hide it while it's rolling inside you.

Withstand the devil today and follow the Holy Spirit to the plan God has for you.

**Prayer Starter:** God, I need Your help to withstand the devil's plan. I know digging out bad roots is painful, but if it bring me closer to Your plan for me, I want to do it. Strengthen me as I resist the devil and submit myself to follow You.

### Let Peace Rule Your Life

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

We all have emotions, and they're here to stay. I believe one of the main goals of every believer should be emotional stability. We should seek God to learn how to manage our emotions and not allow them to manage us.

Think about this: You're out shopping

for a specific item you're in need of. You've made a commitment to the Lord to get out of debt. You've agreed to really watch your spending and not purchase things you don't need. But while shopping, you discover that the stores are having a big sale of 50 percent off the already marked down merchandise. What do you do? Do you follow your emotions and give in, or do you wait until your emotions settle before making a decision?

God wants you to make decisions ruled by peace. Letting His peace rule you

often means waiting a little while until the emotions settle down, then checking to see if you really believe it's the right thing to do.

Don't let your emotions make your decisions. Always go with peace.

**Prayer Starter:** Lord, I choose to let Your peace rule in my heart. I don't want to make decisions based on my emotions, but I want to calmly and peacefully choose the paths that You want me to take.

### "God Causes Things to Happen at the Right Time"

***"For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry." Habakkuk 2:3***

Are you waiting for the desires of your heart to begin to manifest? Are you praying for bondages to fall off of you so you can see your dreams come to pass? Are you waiting and praying for the salvation of friends and family? Are you

trusting God for prosperity, favor, promotion, honor, and all the blessings found in His Word?

Are you tired of waiting for harvest time in your life? Are you frustrated, crying out, "When, God, when?" Then you need to understand that God's timing is often a mystery. He doesn't do things on our timetable. Yet His Word promises that He will not be late, not one single day.

God causes things to happen at exactly the right time! Your job is not to figure out when, but to make up your mind that you won't give up until you

cross the finish line and are living in the radical, outrageous blessings of God! The more you trust Jesus and keep your eyes focused on Him, the more life you'll have. Trusting God brings life. Believing brings rest. So stop trying to figure everything out, and let God be God in your life.

**Prayer Starter:** God, I know that Your timing is perfect, even when I grow tired of waiting. Help me to trust in You and rest in Your plan for me.

### Waiting Expectantly

***"Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find, and knock, and it shall be opened unto you:"***  
Matthew 7:7 KJV

Have you been praying about a situation in your life and found yourself waiting for a breakthrough? Are you wondering why the answer hasn't come yet? Do you feel as though victory is passing you by?

Sometimes when we pray long and hard about a situation in our life without

receiving any answers, we just learn to live with it. We go on about our business, wondering if or when God will send the answer. But God does hear those prayers, and He's working out the answers even though we may not know all the details. Our situation can change suddenly, quickly, without warning!

Until then we can either wait passively or expectantly. A passive person gives up, but the expectant person, on the other hand, is hopeful, believing the answer is just around the corner, due to arrive any minute. His belief is not a passive thing. His heart is

full of hope, expecting his problem to be solved at any moment. He wakes up every morning expecting to find his answer. He may wait and wait, but he'll keep asking until suddenly, God turns everything around.

**Prayer Starter:** I want to wait expectantly not passively. I'll keep asking You for my breakthrough, knowing full well that You'll bring it at the right time.

# A Bird's Eye View Of The Bible

## Old Testament

There are 39 books in the Old Testament library.  
There are four types of writing in the Old Testament:  
Law, History, Poetry, Prophecy.

It is helpful to know which kind of literature you are reading before you start: is it poetry, or is it history?

### LAW

**Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy.**

The first five books of the Bible are sometimes called the Law of Moses. They give many of God's laws about how to live.

### HISTORY

**Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1&2 Samuel, 1&2 Kings, 1&2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther.**

These 12 historical books cover the occupation of the Promised Land, the time of the Judges, Israel's kings, the fall of the two kingdoms and a return to Jerusalem.

### POETRY

**Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs.**

Nearly one third of the Old Testament is written in poetry. These five poetical books ask profound questions about evil, pain, love, wisdom and God.

### PROPHECY

**Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel, Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi.**

The 17 prophetic books account for almost a quarter of the Bible. They are divided into "Major Prophets" (the first five books) and, "Minor Prophets" (the last 12). The "Minor" ones are shorter, not less important.

## New Testament

There are 27 books in the New Testament library.  
There are three types of writing in the New Testament:  
History, Letters, Prophecy.

Before you study a New Testament book it helps to consider what kind of literature you are reading: is it a letter or is it history?

### HISTORY

**Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Acts**

The first four books, called gospels, are not like our modern biographies. But they do give four portraits of Jesus. Acts is part two of Luke, about the early church.

### LETTERS

#### PAUL'S LETTERS

Romans, 1 Corinthians, 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1 Thessalonians, 2 Thessalonians, 1 Timothy, 2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon.

We have 13 of Paul's letters. Except for one personal one, Philemon, they were all written to groups of Christians.

#### OTHER LETTERS

**Hebrews, James, 1 Peter, 2 Peter, 1 John, 2 John, 3 John, Jude.**

We don't know who wrote Hebrews. Tradition states that all the writers of the New Testament, except for John, were martyred.

### PROPHECY

**Revelation**

Written by the apostle John, this book has seven letters to churches and numerous visions about God.



# A Prayer for Our World

God, You alone are worthy of honor, glory, and praise. With You, we can overcome every storm—including the global impact COVID-19 is having on our world.

Right now, we are asking You to:

- Heal those who are sick and protect those who are not.
- Give our leaders extra wisdom as they navigate this pandemic and economic uncertainty.
- Strengthen Your global Church. Reveal to us how we can partner together to reach the needs of those around us.
- Calm our fears. Fill us with Your hope, joy, and peace as we continue to trust in You.
- Use this pandemic to pave the way for spiritual renewal. We want Your glory, power, and healing to be on display.

Come Lord Jesus, come.  
In Jesus' Name, Amen.

**YouVersion**

**NOW, THEN NEXT**

**He holds success in store for the upright. Proverbs 2:7**

Recently attended a high school graduation during which the speaker provided a needed challenge for the young adults awaiting their diplomas. He mentioned that this was a time in their lives when everyone was asking them, "What's next?" What career would they be pursuing next? Where would they be going to school or working next? Then he said that the most important question was what were they doing now?

In the context of their faith journey, what daily decisions would they be making that would guide them to live for Jesus and not for themselves?

His words reminded me of the book of proverbs, which makes many pointed statements about how to live-now. For instance: practicing honesty, now (11:1); choosing the right friends, now (12:26); living integrity, now (13:6); having good judgement, now (13:15); speaking wisely, now (14:3).

Living for God now, by the leading of the Holy Spirit, makes the decisions about what is next much easier. "The Lord gives wisdom;...he holds success in store for the upright,...he guards the course of the just and protects the way of his faithful ones" (2:6-8). May God supply what we need for us to live by His guidelines now, and may He guide us into what's next for His honor. Dave Branon

**What changes in direction do you need to make now to honor God? How can you seek God's guidance and empowerment in doing so?**

Thank You, heavenly Father, for Your guidance in my life today. Protect me and give me wisdom to live in a way that both pleases You and reveals who You are.

To learn more about the spiritual life, visit [ChristianUniversity.org/SF212](http://ChristianUniversity.org/SF212)

**Today's Scripture — Proverbs 2:1-11**

<sup>1</sup> My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands within you, <sup>2</sup> turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding— <sup>3</sup> indeed, if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, <sup>4</sup> and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure, <sup>5</sup> then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God. <sup>6</sup> For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding. <sup>7</sup> He holds success in store for the upright, he is a shield to those whose walk is blameless, <sup>8</sup> for he guards the course of the just and protects the way of his faithful ones.

<sup>9</sup> Then you will understand what is right and just and fair— every good path. <sup>10</sup> For wisdom will enter your heart, and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul. <sup>11</sup> Discretion will protect you, and understanding will guard you.

**Insight**

The book of Proverbs contains general wisdom applicable to people everywhere. No one has a corner on sayings like "walk with the wise and become wise; associate with fools and get in trouble" (Proverbs 13:20 NLT) and "Ill-gotten treasures have no lasting value" (10:2). But what isn't common to people everywhere is the attribution of everyday wisdom to the God of gods. The name of the Lord (YAHWEH) is used eighty-seven times in Proverbs to give source, story, spirit, and context to the wisdom of these proverbs. The Lord of Israel's exodus, wilderness, exile, and Messianic hope wants us to know that He's the beginning and end of all true wisdom and knowledge (2:6). It's the God of Solomon's insight who can be trusted to turn even common sense into timely perspective and actions that help us while giving honor to Him (3:5-7). Mart Dehaan

Ministries, Grand Rapids, Michigan, Reprinted by Permission



**Crises/Emergency: Cell phone 860-754-4606**

Cross Street Recovery Ministry the "Hope Line" is in operation 24 hours per day. Please call 860-754-4606 if you, a friend and/or a family member are in need of counseling and/or are in crisis, **PLEASE** dial the "Hope Line". All information will be confidential.

**CROSS STREET MINISTRY OF RECOVERY**  
*We can't but through God, all things are possible. How might we pull on God's strength to help each other recover?*

**Let the spirit of God work for you in a Mighty, Mighty Way**

For more information contact:  
 Church office 860-344-9527.or  
 Rev. Gregory B. Winborne: Days: 860-616-3834

# BLACK LIVES MATTER



When you have a scale that is out of balance, to even things up, you can either add more to one side or take away from the other. The **Black Lives Matter** movement suggests that the scales of justice are out of balance.

To get into balance, this movement is asking us to add more attention to the civil rights and treatment of black individuals and ensure that the weight put upon the value of protecting black lives is equal to the weight put upon that of all Americans' lives. This movement is not about taking away from the value of other lives, but, simply, balancing the scales.

To counter with "All Lives Matter" is to suggest that you think the scale is already balanced – I assure you, it is not. The Black Lives Matter movement does not suggest any lives should matter less, just that they all should matter equally as much.

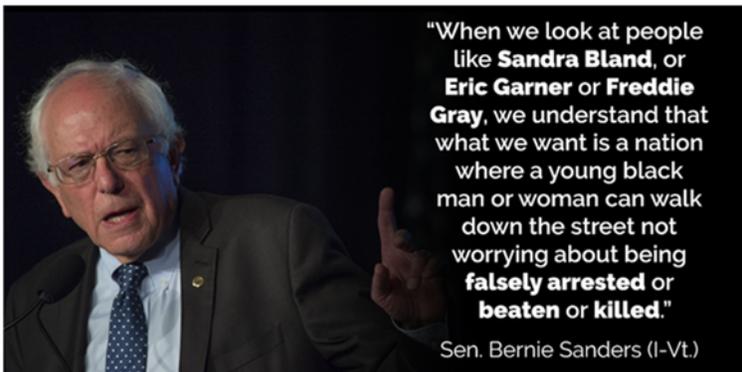
YES, ALL LIVES MATTER  
BUT WE'RE FOCUSED ON THE BLACK ONES RIGHT NOW, OK?  
— BECAUSE IT IS VERY APPARENT  
THAT OUR JUDICIAL SYSTEM DOESN'T KNOW THAT.  
PLUS, IF YOU CAN'T SEE WHY WE'RE EXCLAIMING #BLACKLIVESMATTER YOU ARE PART OF THE PROBLEM.

Lets Be Clear, We Said:  
**BLACKLIVESMATTER**  
We NEVER Said  
**ONLYBLACKLIVESMATTER**  
That Was The Media, Not Us  
In Truth, We Know That  
**ALLLIVESMATTER**  
We've Supported Your Lives  
Throughout History  
Now We Need Your Help w/  
**BLACKLIVESMATTER**  
For Blacks Lives Are In Danger

**FREEDOM IS NEVER VOLUNTARILY GIVEN BY THE OPPRESSOR; IT MUST BE DEMANDED BY THE OPPRESSED.**  
-MLKJ

Law and order exist for the purpose of establishing justice and when they fail in this purpose they become the dangerously structured dams that block the flow of social progress.

– Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



"When we look at people like **Sandra Bland**, or **Eric Garner** or **Freddie Gray**, we understand that what we want is a nation where a young black man or woman can walk down the street not worrying about being **falsely arrested** or **beaten** or **killed**."

Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.)

**Until justice is blind to color, until education is unaware of race, until opportunity is unconcerned with the color of men's skins, emancipation will be a proclamation but not a fact.**  
– Lyndon B. Johnson

## WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

<p><b>Sunday</b>  <b>8:45 a.m. Church School</b>  <b>10:00 a.m. Worship Service</b>                  2nd Sunday Senior Usher Board Meeting (following service)                  Youth Meeting 1st &amp; 4th Sunday's (following service)</p> <p><b>Monday</b>                  6:00 p.m. Zumba                  7:00-9:00 p.m. Bible Study, Eddy Shelter                  7:00 Media Ministry (1st and 3rd of month)</p> <p><b>Tuesday</b>  <b>Special Prayer for Pastor Harvill</b>                  6:00—7:00 p.m. Prayer meeting and</p>	<p>bible study.</p> <p><b>Wednesday</b>                  6:00 p.m. Zumba                  6:00 p.m. Ministerial Staff (1st of month)</p> <p><b>Thursday</b>                  6:00 p.m. Steward Board                  7:00 p.m. Trustee Board (2nd of month)</p> <p><b>Friday</b>  <b>Day of Fasting</b>                  6:00 p.m. Vision Choir (3rd &amp; 4th of month)                  6:00 pm - 7:30 pm Cross Street Recovery Ministry (room 2)</p>	<p><b>Saturday</b>                  10:00 a.m. Pastors Aide (2nd)                  11:00 a.m. Security Ministry Meeting (2nd Saturday of month)                  12:00 noon Missionaries (2nd Saturday of month)</p> <p><b>Choir Rehearsals</b>                  Men - 7 p.m. Monday                  Women - Tuesday &amp; Friday before 5th Sunday                  Children - 7 p.m. Friday before 1st Sunday                  Unity - 7 p.m. Thursday                  Praise &amp; Worship Choir 7:00 pm Wednesday</p>
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## MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

<p><b>Sunday Morning Worship</b>  <b>Time:</b> EVERY SUNDAY @ 10:00 AM  <b>Join Zoom Meeting Link:</b>                  (Just type into your browser)  <a href="https://zoom.us/j/959628798">https://zoom.us/j/959628798</a>  <b>Dial-In Phone#:</b> (929) 205-6099  <b>Code:</b> 959628798#</p>	<p><b>BIBLE STUDY INFO:</b>  <b>Time:</b> EVERY TUESDAY @ 6:00 PM  <b>Join Zoom Meeting Link:</b>                  (Just type into your browser)  <a href="https://zoom.us/j/562367770">https://zoom.us/j/562367770</a>  <b>Dial-In Phone#:</b> (929)205-6099  <b>Code:</b> 562367770#</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sunday School ZOOM Meetings</b></p> <p><b>8:30 a.m.- Dr. Long's Sunday School Class</b>                  Voice Only Call: (929) 205-6099; Code: 734629713#                  Web-link for Video Call: <a href="https://zoom.us/j/734629713">https://zoom.us/j/734629713</a></p> <p><b>9:00 a.m.- Contemporary Sunday School: Adults</b>                  Voice Only Call: (929) 205-6099; Code: 140827210#                  Web-link for Video Call: <a href="https://zoom.us/j/140827210">https://zoom.us/j/140827210</a></p> <p><b>9:30 a.m.- Beginners Sunday School: Ms. Carolyn Smith</b>                  Voice Only Call: (929) 205-6099; Code: 233007146#                  Web-link for Video Call: <a href="https://zoom.us/j/233007146">https://zoom.us/j/233007146</a></p> <p><b>11:00 a.m.- Primary Sunday School: Rev. Earlene Grant</b>                  Voice Only Call: (929) 205-6099; Code: 614890401#                  Web-link for Video Call: <a href="https://zoom.us/j/614890401">https://zoom.us/j/614890401</a></p> <p><b>11:30 a.m.- Juniors Sunday School: Rev. Greg Winborne</b>                  Voice Only Call: (929) 205-6099; Code: 856361645#                  Web-link for Video Call: <a href="https://zoom.us/j/856361645">https://zoom.us/j/856361645</a></p>
<p><b>12Noon PRAYER MEETING:</b>  <b>Time:</b> EVERY WEDNESDAY @ 12:00 PM  <b>Join Zoom Meeting Link:</b>                  (Just type into your browser)  <a href="https://zoom.us/j/528449909">https://zoom.us/j/528449909</a>  <b>Dial-In Phone#:</b> (929) 205-6099  <b>Code:</b> 528449909#</p>	<p><b>6pm PRAYER MEETING:</b>  <b>Time:</b> EVERY WEDNESDAY @ 6:00 PM  <b>Join Zoom Meeting Link:</b>                  (Just type into your browser)  <a href="https://zoom.us/j/695948020">https://zoom.us/j/695948020</a>  <b>Dial-In Phone#:</b> (929) 205-6099  <b>Code:</b> 695948020#</p>	

**We thank you for your generous giving. Ways you can give:**

- Online: [crossstreetamezion.org](http://crossstreetamezion.org)
- 1. Realm, (Realm: <https://onrealm.org/TheCross/-/give/> TJXKDEVIXE)
- 2. Text 73256 (Thecross)
- 3. PayPal,
- CASHAPP: \$TheCross440
- 4. Mail: P.O. Box 223 Middletown, Ct 06457,
- 5. Drop off on Sunday 11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.
- 6. Call the office for someone to pick up
- 7. Church outside Lockbox

(Note: you can find links on the website; <http://www.crossstreetamezion.org/Give>)

The Cross Street Journal is published Bi-monthly. It can be found on our website: **[crossstreetamezion.org](http://crossstreetamezion.org) & in the front lobby.** If you would like a PDF copy sent to you, Email your request to: **[ken46@snet.net](mailto:ken46@snet.net).** If you have an article or information (word count 1000 - 1500 or less) for current and future publications the deadline for this information is the Monday after the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each Month. **You may submit your information in the following ways:** place the information on a CD (Window format) and leave it in the Cross Street office, E-mail Ken Simmons ([Ken46@snet.net](mailto:Ken46@snet.net)), or give it to him. **Praise God!!!**

### The Year of Expected "Miracles"



#### CROSS STREET A.M.E. ZION CHURCH

Organized in 1823

440 West Street P.O. Box 223  
Middletown, CT 06457

Phone: 860-344-9527 Fax: 860-344-1740

[crossstreetchurch@snet.net](mailto:crossstreetchurch@snet.net)  
[www.crossstreetamezion.org](http://www.crossstreetamezion.org)

**Sunday School — 8:45 a.m.**  
**Worship Service — 10:00 a.m.**

**Rev. Moses L. Harvill, M. Div.,**  
Pastor

Email: [mharvill@snet.net](mailto:mharvill@snet.net)

**The Rev. Dr. Terry L. Jones**  
Presiding Elder

**Mrs. D. Diane Proctor**  
Missionary Supervisor

**The Right Reverend Dennis Proctor**  
Presiding Prelate

#### Ministerial Staff

- Rev. Robyn Anderson-Turner
- Rev. William D. Wilson
- Rev. Ella Frances Perry
- Rev. Karen Nesmith
- Rev. James Battle
- Rev. Myrtle Turner
- Rev. Gregory Winborne
- Rev. Joyce Johnson
- Rev. Earlene Grants
- Sister Felicia Freeman



#### "I am a Christian"

By Maya Angelou

When I say ... "I am a Christian"  
I'm not shouting "I'm clean livin'."  
I'm whispering "I was lost,  
Now I'm found and forgiven."

When I say ... "I am a Christian"  
I don't speak of this with pride.  
I'm confessing that I stumble  
And need Christ to be my guide.

When I say ... "I am a Christian"  
I'm not trying to be strong.  
I'm professing that I'm weak  
And need His strength to carry on.

When I say ... "I am a Christian"  
I'm not bragging of success.  
I'm admitting I have failed  
And need God to clean my mess.

When I say ... "I am a Christian"  
I still feel the sting of pain.  
I have my share of heartaches  
So I call upon His name.

When I say ... "I am a Christian"  
I'm not holier than thou.  
I'm just a simple sinner  
Who received God's good grace,  
somehow!

#### The Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13 (KJV)

Our Father which art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom  
come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is  
in heaven. Give us this day our daily  
bread. And forgive us our debts, as we  
forgive our debtors. And lead us not  
into temptation, but deliver us from evil:  
For thine is the kingdom, and the  
power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.



Then the Lord answered me and said:  
Write the vision and make it plain on  
tablets, that he may run who reads it.  
Habakkuk 2:2

#### The Jabez Prayer

And Jabez called on the God of Israel  
saying, "**Oh, that You would bless  
me indeed, and enlarge my territory,  
that Your hand would keep me from  
evil, that I may nor cause pain!**" So  
God granted him what he requested.  
1 Chronicles 4:10 (NKJV)

#### "God's Word

*For the word of God is quick, and power-  
ful, and sharper than any two-edged  
sword, piercing even to the dividing  
asunder of soul and spirit, and of the  
joints and marrow, and is a discernor of  
the thoughts and intents of the heart"*  
Hebrews 4:12

**Prayer:** Forever, O Lord, your Word is  
settled in heaven. I bless you because  
you have given me rest according to all  
that you have promised to me. Not one  
word of all your good promises has ever  
failed. In light of this truth, I will walk in  
your Word at all times.  
I love your Word, Father, it is a lamp  
unto my feet, and a light unto my path.  
All of your words are pure, O God, and  
you are a shield to me. Lord God, your

way is perfect, and your Word is tried.  
You are a shield and a mighty buckler to  
me as I trust in you.  
With your Word you made the heavens,  
O Lord. all of your promises are yes in  
Christ, unto your glory, O God. You  
have spoken through your Word since  
ancient times, in order to give light to  
those who sit in darkness, and you guide  
my feet in the way of peace.  
Your Word is quick, alive, and powerful,  
and sharper than any two-edged sword.  
It pierces even to the dividing asunder of  
my soul and spirit, and of my joints and  
marrow, and is a discernor of the  
thoughts and intents of my heart.  
Father, I am thankful for your Word, and  
I will endeavor to walk in the light of your  
Word all the days of my life.

**If you were to die today, do you know where you will spend eternity ???**

#### Doxology

*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. To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.*  
Jude 24-25