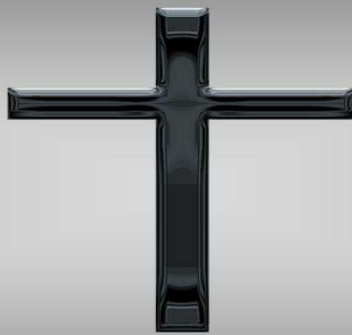


THE CROSS



“A CHURCH WHERE EVERYBODY IS SOMEBODY AND CHRIST IS LORD OF ALL”



How To Pray

Question: **How do I start?**

Answer: Praying is not as hard as you might think. What is hard is getting into the habit of talking to God everyday. Maybe you could start by picking a time everyday. Think about things you want to say. “Thank you” or “I m sorry” or “Please help me.” You don’t have to use fancy words. You can talk to

God like you talk to your dad, mom or a friend.

Question: **Can I tell God anything?**

Answer: Yes you can. There isn’t a thing you could say to God that would make him stop loving you. You can tell him when you’re sad or grumpy. You can thank him when

(How to Pray on page 10)

MAY / JUNE 2020
Volume 24 Issue 3

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Bible Verses About Forgiveness

Bible Verses About Forgiveness: 20 Encouraging Scripture Quotes

Posted By Pamela Rose Williams On June 21, 2011 @ 5:47 pm In Bible, Bible Verses, Quotes | [247 Comments](#)

Forgiveness is a huge subject and certainly one in which the Bible is not silent. In the Bible we can read about our amazing and loving Heavenly Father who forgives us of all trespasses. God calls sinners to seek Him and promises them forgiveness. It is because of His

(Forgiveness on page 12)

Think About It

John the Baptist: Forerunner for Jesus

The twenty-first century lifestyles seem to place a premium on winning; second place might as well be last place. It really does not matter whether an individual or team gave his or their best efforts. Finishing without the prize trophy results in lowered chins and drooped shoulders. Before Jesus began his public ministry, John the Baptist was the preeminent preacher of his day. Although his

(Think About It page 14)

The New Normal

The New Normal
The one thing I know for sure is that this world we live in, is not going anywhere soon. That is just my personal feeling. The other thing on which I am sure everyone else will agree with me is; to quote what the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, Nancy Pelosi said to Tom Delay when he told her that he was going to go back on an

agreement they had made earlier; she said, “Life on this planet as you know it will not be the same ...”.

Yes, that is a phrase I will like to hang on to for the rest of my life on this planet. After we manage to survive this current health scare brought on by the virus known as COVID-19, the life we knew and

(New Normal on page 11)



Visit our
Facebook page



From The Pastor's Desk

Dear Faithful Members:

As we worship in Drive-in, Zoom, Facebook, and Conference Call church I want to encourage you to think about the incredible majesty of God as the creator of everything. He is the giver of life and the reason we have breath in our lungs to live another day.

In the Old Testament of Scripture, we are told the story of Nehemiah, who was given a mission by God to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem and dedicate the City to God and His people. After the walls had been rebuilt and many of God's people living in exile returned to the city, they joined together to worship God. In Nehemiah 9, verse 6 they said: *"You alone are the Lord. You made the Heavens, even the highest heavens, and all their starry host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. You give life to everything, and the multitudes of Heaven worship you."*

God used Nehemiah to work a miracle for the Israelite's, and they responded by worshiping the Lord because they were so Grateful. They acknowledged that this task could not have been completed if God All- Powerful was not on their side.

Let's remember today that the same God who worked this miracle is the same God we worship. He hasn't changed. He still keeps His promises and works miracles for and through us. The bible says that God is the same yesterday, today, and forever. He can work a miracle in our nation just like he did for the nation of Israel.

He is an unchanging God who is always faithful to His people! In the Month of May we are praying for Miracles: healing, deliverance, comfort, protection, and provisions. Join others in praying, participating, and helping to make this Month a Miracle in contributions to the Mortgage Fund.

A very special thank you for your generosity in helping to keep the church going during COVID-19.

He is an unchanging God who is always faithful to His people!

Let's worship God together! Much Love Pastor and First Lady.

In His Service,

Pastor Harvill

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

Online: crosstreetamezion.org

1. Realm, (Realm: <https://onrealm.org/TheCross/-/give/TJXKDEVIXE>)
2. Text 73256 (Thecross)
3. PayPal,
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

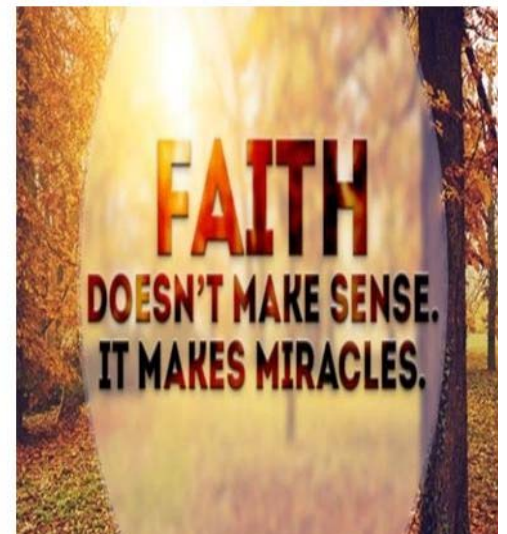
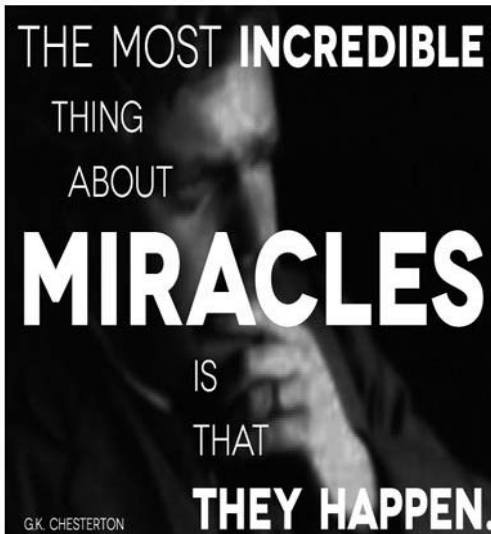
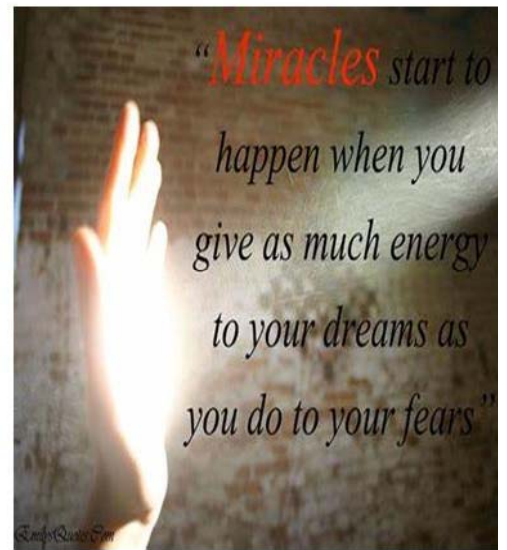
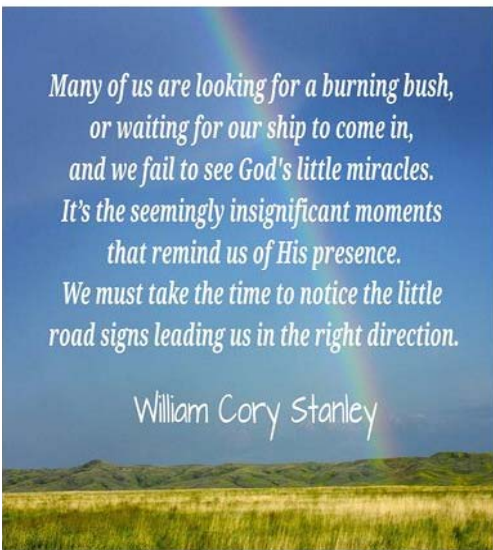
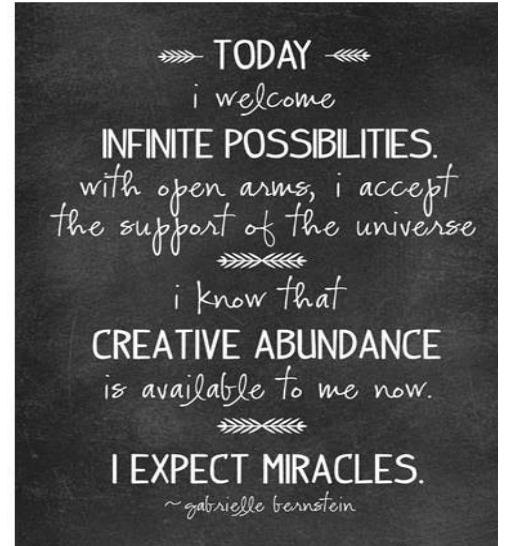
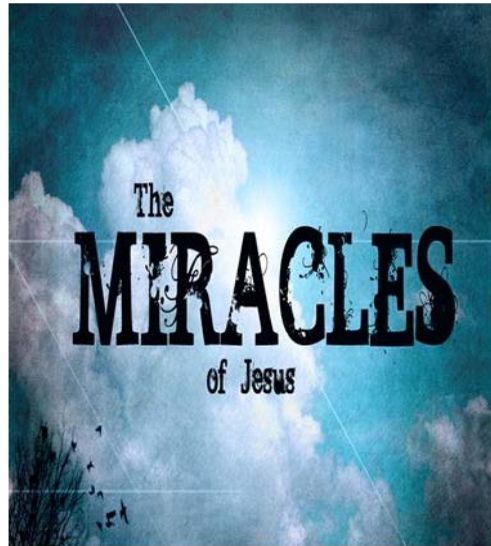
(Note: you can find links on the website; <http://www.crosstreetamezion.org/Give>)

Note: Quarterly Conference will be held on Tuesday at 6:00 P.M. All Ministers, Officers, and Leaders please make plans to attend.

Join Zoom Meeting Link:
Quarterly Conference Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/562367770>
(929)205-6099, Code: 562367770#

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**; FAITHFULNESS, *half-heartedness*, **infidelity**;
MEEKNESS, *false modesty*, **self-seeking**; SELF-CONTROL, *choosing lesser goals*, **lack of control**
(The Fruit of the Spirit, John W. Sanderson)

Lord Hear Our Prayers

God'

Great is your faithfulness, O God, my Father. Morning by morning new mercies I see. I know that your hands will supply all that I need. Thank you, Lord, for your loving care and supply in my life. I claim the promises of your Word today. I believe your Word, and I look forward to all you are going to do in my life.

You are Jehovah-jireh, my provider. You know exactly what I need, when I need it, and how my needs will best be met. Thank you for the delight you experience as you give me the desires of my heart. I love you, and you love me.

Thank you, Father, for your great mercies which are new in my life each morning. Your grace and loving favor are upon me and within me. Indeed, your loving kindness is better than life to me. Thank you for always providing me with my daily bread, and so much more. I rejoice in you and in the knowledge that you are the God of more than enough.

Thank you, Father, for caring about me and my loved ones. I know you want all needs to be met, and you cannot fail in meeting them. I praise you for the wonderful realization that you do fulfill all your promises in my life.

Thank you for your word which will never return to you void. I claim the promises of your Word for me, my family, and our lives. I take my stand upon the solid promises of your Word, Father. Thank you for meeting my every need. Amen

The Needs of Your Family

Key Scripture: "And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24:15).

Key Thought: "A happy family is but an earlier heaven" (Sir John Bowring).

Prayer: Heavenly Father, you are the one who sets the solitary into families,¹ and you have promised to be a Father to the fatherless.² I pray for my family, Lord, that you would ever watch over our comings and goings, and that underneath us we would always find your everlasting arms.³

Bless our family, Lord, and keep us safe from all harm.⁴ Plant your hedge of protection around us,⁵ and let us always dwell in safety.⁶ Thank you for blessing our family with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.⁷

Help me to remember that our home will be built through wisdom, and by understanding it will be established.⁸ By knowledge shall all the chambers of our home be filled with precious and pleasant riches.⁹ Thank you, Father.

Your Word, O Lord, declares that the home of the righteous shall be filled with much treasure.¹⁰ In times of wickedness, you have promised that the house of the righteous will stand.¹¹ Thank you, Father. I believe this promise, and I appropriate it for my home and family.

Because I believe on your Son, the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, I know that you have saved me, and I claim your promise that you will save my household as well.¹² Thank you, Father, for all your abundant blessings in my life and the lives of my family.

References: (1) Psalms 68:6; (2) Psalms 68:5; (3) Deuteronomy 33:27, (4) Proverbs 29:25; (5) Job 1:10; (6) Psalms 4:8; (7) Ephesians 1:3; (8) Proverbs 24:3-4; (9) Proverbs 24:4; (10) Proverbs 15:6; (11) Proverbs 12:7; (12) Acts 16:31.

Taken from Bible Prayers for all your needs by Victory House

Obedience

Key Scripture: "If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land" (Isaiah 1:19, NKJV).

Key Thought: Obedience is a life style.

Prayer: Dear God, I love you and I want to obey you. I'm thrilled with your Word that teaches me that as I obey you and keep your words, I will experience your love, and you will make your abode with me.¹ Your abiding presence gives me fullness of joy,² and inspires me to obey you more and more.

As I ponder the importance of obedience in my life, Lord, I am truly stunned by your promise which tells me that if I will obey your voice and keep your covenant, I will become your special treasure.³ Your Word teaches me that all your promises are yes to me, in Christ Jesus.⁴

Please forgive me, Lord, for each time when I have disobeyed you in any way. I truly repent of all disobedience in my life.

Show me your ways, O Lord, and teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation.⁵ Let your Spirit guide me into all truth, according to your Word.⁶

I now surrender to your will in all things,⁷ as I commit myself to obeying you.

References: (1) John 14:23; (2) Psalms 16:11; (3) Exodus 19:5; (4) 2 Corinthians 1:20; (5) Psalms 25:4-5; (6) John 16:13; (7) Luke 22:42.

THE ARMOR OF GOD

EPHESIANS 6:10-18
"... Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes." v. 10, 11

The Shield of Faith (Eph. 6:16)
Faith is being sure that God will keep His promises. Faith in God protects you when you are tempted to doubt.

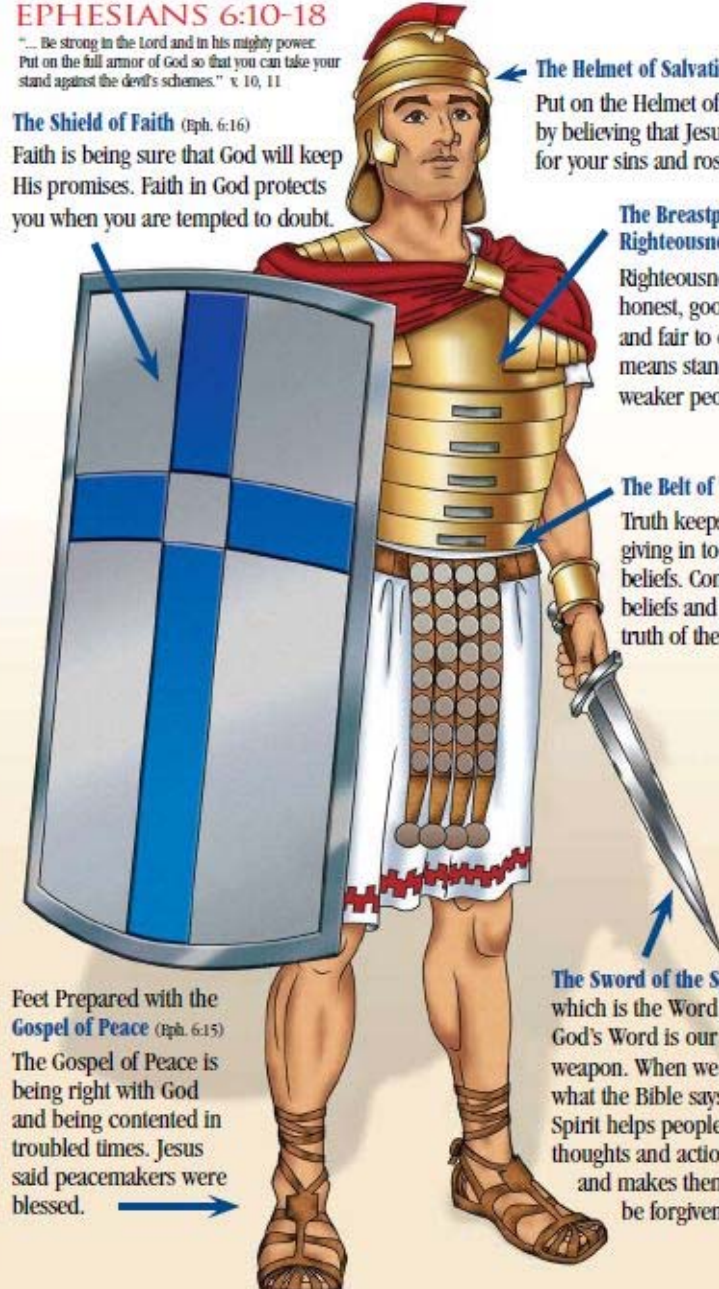
The Helmet of Salvation (Eph. 6:17)
Put on the Helmet of Salvation by believing that Jesus Christ died for your sins and rose again.

The Breastplate of Righteousness (Eph. 6:14)
Righteousness is being honest, good, humble, and fair to others. It means standing up for weaker people.

The Belt of Truth (Eph. 6:14)
Truth keeps us from giving in to the world's beliefs. Compare your beliefs and actions to the truth of the Word of God.

The Sword of the Spirit (Eph. 6:17)
which is the Word of God. God's Word is our offensive weapon. When we tell others what the Bible says, the Holy Spirit helps people see their bad thoughts and actions, and makes them want to be forgiven.

Feet Prepared with the Gospel of Peace (Eph. 6:15)
The Gospel of Peace is being right with God and being contented in troubled times. Jesus said peacemakers were blessed.



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,^[a] 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

MAY

- 1 2 Chronicles 26-29
- 2 2 Chronicles 30-32
- 3 2 Chronicles 33-36
- 4 Ezra 1-4
- 5 Ezra 5-7
- 6 Ezra 8-10
- 7 Nehemiah 1-3

- 8 Nehemiah 4-6
- 9 Nehemiah 7-9
- 10 Nehemiah 10-13
- 11 Esther 1-3
- 12 Esther 4-7
- 13 Esther 8-10
- 14 Job 1-4
- 15 Job 5-7

- 16 Job 8-10
- 17 Job 11-13
- 18 Job 14-17
- 19 Job 18-20
- 20 Job 21-24
- 21 Job 25-27
- 22 Job 28-31
- 23 Job 32-34

- 24 Job 35-37
- 25 Job 38-42
- 26 Psalms 1-4
- 27 Psalms 5-8
- 28 Psalms 9-12
- 29 Psalms 13-15
- 30 Psalms 16-18
- 31 Psalms 19-21

JUNE

- 1. Psalms 22-24
- 2. Psalms 25-27
- 3. Psalms 28-30
- 4. Psalms 31-33
- 5. Psalms 34-36
- 6. Psalms 37-39
- 7. Psalms 40-42

- 8. Psalms 43-45
- 9. Psalms 46-48
- 10. Psalms 49-51
- 11. Psalms 52-54
- 12. Psalms 55-57
- 13. Psalms 58-60
- 14. Psalms 61-63
- 15. Psalms 64-66

- 16. Psalms 67-69
- 17. Psalms 70-72
- 18. Psalms 73-75
- 19. Psalms 76-78
- 20. Psalms 79-81
- 21. Psalms 82-84
- 22. Psalms 85-87
- 23. Psalms 88-90

- 24. Psalms 91-93
- 25. Psalms 94-96
- 26. Psalms 97-99
- 27. Psalms 100-102
- 28. Psalms 103-105
- 29. Psalms 106-108
- 30. Psalms 109-111

July

- 1. Psalms 112-114
- 2. Psalms 115-118
- 3. Psalms 119
- 4. Psalms 120-123
- 5. Psalms 124-128
- 6. Psalms 129-132
- 7. Psalms 133-136

- 8. Psalms 137-139
- 9. Psalms 140-144
- 10. Psalms 145-147
- 11. Psalms 148-150
- 12. Proverbs 1-3
- 13. Proverbs 4-7
- 14. Proverbs 8-11
- 15. Proverbs 12-14

- 16. Proverbs 15-18
- 17. Proverbs 19-21
- 18. Proverbs 22-24
- 19. Proverbs 25-28
- 20. Proverbs 29-31
- 21. Ecclesiastes 1-3
- 22. Ecclesiastes 4-6
- 23. Ecclesiastes 7-9

- 24. Ecclesiastes 10-12
- 25. Song 1-4
- 26. Song 5-8
- 27. Isaiah 1-3
- 28. Isaiah 4-6
- 29. Isaiah 7-9
- 30. Isaiah 10-12
- 31. Isaiah 13-15

Easter tide covers a fifty-day period (six Sundays) that challenges persons to reflect on the resurrection of Jesus. Ascension Day is celebrated the sixth Thursday after Easter and commemorates the last manifestation of Jesus to His followers after the resurrection. (Luke 24:50-51 and Acts 1:2-11.) Ascension Sunday is the Sunday following Ascension Day. The season ends with the Day of Pentecost.

Color: White is the appropriate color for the season, with gold as an accent color. White is symbolic of light, joy, purity, glory, and the bright light of truth.

The Season After Pentecost covers 10-14 Sundays. The liturgical color is red for the Season After Pentecost.

Trinity Sunday is the first Sunday after the day of Pentecost. This Sunday emphasizes the three-fold manifestation of the Godhead (God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit/Ghost): three and yet one. White is the appropriate color.

Color: Red is symbolic of loyalty, power, witness, Christian zeal, blood, fire, the work and ministry of the Church, and the Holy Spirit.

Name of God	Meaning	Application
EL OLAM	The Eternal God The Everlasting God	He is the Beginning and the End, the One who works His purposes throughout the ages. He gives strength to the weary.
EL ROI	The God Who See Me	There are no circumstances in our lives that escape His fatherly awareness and care. God knows us and our troubles.
EL SHADDAI	The All Sufficient One, The God of the Mountains, God Almighty	God is the all-sufficient source of all of our blessings. God is all-powerful. Our problems are not too big for God to handle.
IMMANUEL	God With Us "I AM"	Jesus is God in our midst. In Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form.



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!

A New Day Is Coming!

Devotional Reading:
 Zechariah 8:18-23

Scripture:
 Zechariah 8:1-8, 11-17

DECLARATION:

¹ The word of the Lord of hosts came to me, saying: ² Thus says the Lord of hosts: I am jealous for Zion with great jealousy, and I am jealous for her with great wrath. ³ Thus says the Lord: I will return to Zion, and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem; Jerusalem shall be called the faithful city, and the mountain of the Lord of Hosts shall be called the holy mountain. ⁴ Thus says the Lord of Hosts: Old men and old women shall again sit in the streets of Jerusalem, each with staff in hand because of their great age. ⁵ And the streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls playing in its streets. ⁶ Thus says the Lord of hosts: Even though it seems impossible to the remnant of this people in these days, should it also seem impossible to me, says the Lord of hosts? ⁷ Thus says the Lord of hosts: I will save my people from the east country and from the west country; ⁸ and I will bring them to live in Jerusalem. They shall be my people and I will be their God, in faithfulness and in righteousness.

¹¹ But now I will not deal with the remnant of this people as in the former days, says the Lord of hosts. ¹² For there shall be a sowing of peace; the vine shall yield its fruit, the ground shall give its produce, and the skies shall give their dew; and I will cause the remnant of this people to possess all these things. ¹³ Just as you have been a cursing among the nations, O house of Judah and house of Israel, so I will save you and you shall be a blessing. Do not be afraid, but let your hands be strong. ¹⁴ For thus says the Lord of hosts: Just as I purposed to bring disaster upon you, when your ancestors provoked me to wrath, and I did not relent, says the Lord of hosts, ¹⁵ so again I have purposed in these days to do good to Jerusalem and to the house of Judah; do not be afraid. ¹⁶ These are the things that you shall do: Speak the truth to one another, render in your gates judgments that are true and make for peace, ¹⁷ do not devise evil in your hearts against one another, and love no false oath; for all these things that I hate, says the Lord.

Affirmation: “We have never been the same since the day on which the voice of God overwhelmed us at Sinai.” Abraham Joshua Heschel

ENGAGE

It is customary for us, when meeting or greeting someone to ask, “How are you?” To this

question, we give an obligatory answer; “I’m fine, thanks.” But sometimes we have to wonder how we would respond if someone told us how they are really feeling. What is the person said, “I’m not feeling well today.” Or, “My back hurts.” Or, “I’m really sad.” What would your response be?

The fact is that life does not always turn out the way we want every day. There are good and bad days. We will have good and bad seasons in life. As Zora Neale Hurston wrote, “There are years that ask questions and years that answer.” ⁸ We learn to deal with those days, seasons, or years, times when we ask questions and times when we have answers. That is life.”

What gives us courage to face the days, seasons, or years that may be difficult is the assurance that we are not alone. God promised to be with us, and God’s promises cannot fail. God will never leave us or forsake us. In our roughest days and darkest moments, God is there. While at times we feel powerless about the circumstances of our lives, we hold on and are sustained by our faith that reminds us that God is present with us. Always.

EDUCATE

In the years 520-518 BCE, Zechariah the prophet urges the returning exiles as well as those who had never left and gone into

(New Day Coming 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.

(*New Day Coming* from page 8)

captivity to rebuild God's house. Like the prophet Haggai, Zechariah shares the zeal to get the Temple ready for God's presence.

Zechariah's message was aligned with portions of the Pentateuch known as the Holiness School (see Leviticus 17:26). It is because of the expectation of Yahweh's tangible presence that is promised that Zechariah urges the people to repent. "In the eighth month, in the second year of Darius, the word of the Lord came to the prophet Zechariah son of Berechiah son of Iddo, saying: The Lord was very angry with your ancestors. Therefore say to them, Thus says the Lord of hosts: Return to me, says the Lord of hosts, and I will return to you, says the Lord of hosts. Do not be like your ancestors, to whom the former prophets proclaimed, 'Thus says the Lord of hosts, Return from your evil ways and from your evil deeds.' But they did not hear or heed me, says the Lord" (1:1-4).

⁽⁸⁾ Zora Neale Hurston, *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, Harper & Row Publishers, New York, 1937, p.20)

Zechariah begins his message with a reminder to the people how angry Yah-weh had been. God was faithful and kept the covenant as promised. However, the people had been unfaithful, broke covenant and sinned. The prophet likely hoped that his words would have a positive impact on these people; they had recently returned from exile, a punishment that was perceived as a direct result of God's wrath against their ancestors. While we can acknowledge that not all hardship is "deserved," we often fail to repent or take inventory of our lives when we sin and face punishment. We often make up or find excuses, because "There is nothing we forget as eagerly, as quickly, as the wickedness of man." 9

For the remnant of the Israelites who had returned from exile, the transformation of Jerusalem from a city that had been devastated to a

thriving metropolis filled with children, men, and women who had attained advanced age, would have appeared too difficult, even perhaps impossible. "Thus says the Lord of hosts: Old men and old women sit in the streets of Jerusalem, each with staff in hand because of their great age. And the streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls playing in its streets. Thus says the Lord of hosts: Even through it seems impossible to the remnant of this people in these days, should it also seem impossible to me, says the Lord of hosts?" (8:4-6). This is a challenge to believe in God's power; nothing is impossible with God.

The prophet Zechariah desired to bring the nation to repentance, not to drive them to despair. In his prophecy, he sets before them the great things God had in store for them, encouraging them to hope. "Thus says the Lord of hosts; Let your hands be strong-you that have recently been hearing these words from the mouths of the prophets who were present when the foundation was laid for the rebuilding of the temple, the house of the Lord of hosts. For before those days there were no wages for people or for people or for animals, nor was there any safety from the foe for those who went out or came in, and I set them all against one another. But now I will not deal with the remnant of this people as in the former days says the Lord of hosts. For there will be a sowing of peace; the vine shall yield its fruit, the ground shall give its produce, and the skies shall give their dew; and I will cause the remnant of this people to possess all these things" (8:9-12). Yes a new day is coming!

⁽⁹⁾ Abraham J. Heschel, *The Prophets*, New York, The Jewish Publication Society of America, 1962, p. 172)

ELEVATE

A new day is promised and is on the way. The prerequisite condition for this new day is repentance, a change of heart and behavior. All the prophets carry the same message:

the prophetic directive is clear. Prophets are not interested in cosmetic tinkering around the edges that show a little improvement. The prophetic message insists on redemption. Sinful behavior cannot go on forever and will not be tolerated.

When true and right religion from an uncontaminated heart and with pure intention is practiced, God is glorified, and others will be drawn to this true worship and worship God as well. "Thus says the Lord of hosts: Peoples shall yet come, the inhabitants of many cities; the inhabitants of one city shall go to another, saying, 'Come, let us go to entreat the favor of the Lord, and to seek the Lord of hosts; I myself am going. Many people and strong nations shall come to seek the Lord of hosts in Jerusalem, and to entreat the favor of the Lord. Thus says the Lord of hosts: In those days ten men from nations of every language shall take hold of a Jew, grasping his garment and saying, 'Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is with you'" (8:20-23).

I THINK:

1. How can we respond to God's presence and make it known to others?
2. Create a litany of hope for God's ongoing presence and work in the world.

VERSE OF THE WEEK:

I have purposed in these days to do good to Jerusalem and to the house of Judah; do not be afraid. Zechariah 8:15

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

(How to Pray from page 1)

everything is going your way. You can lean on God when you're having a bad day. You can talk to him just like you would talk to a friend. But you know what? Your friends might let you down. Sometimes you might not have someone to listen to you. But God will always listen and he'll understand.

Question: How do I know God hears me?

Answer: God promises to listen! God has promised in the Bible that he will listen to you. Look at Psalm 66:17-19 and read John 16:23, where God promises to listen when you pray in Jesus' name. Most important of all, the Holy Spirit lives in your heart. He helps you know for sure that God listens when you talk to him.

Question: Must I fold my hands and close my eyes when I pray?

Answer: That 's one way to do it. Closing your eyes shows you don't want anything to get in the way of talking with God. But it's not the only way to pray. You can pray while on your knees or standing up. You can pray with toys in your hands or while your hugging your mom or dad. You can talk to God at anytime because he is always right there with you, and he wants you to be his friend.

**Personal Prayer of Commitment
TO GLORIFY GOD**

In view of [all] the mercies of God, I make a decisive dedication of my body - present-ing all my members and faculties - as a living sacrifice, holy (devoted, consecrated) and well pleasing to You, God, which is my reasonable (rational, intelligent) service and spiritual worship. It is [not in my own strength] for it is You, Lord, Who is all the while effectually at work in me - energizing and creating in me the power and desire - both to will and work for Your good pleasure and satisfaction and delight.

Father, I will not draw back or shrink in fear, for then Your soul would have no delight or pleasure in me. I was bought for a price - purchased with a preciousness and

paid for, made Your very own. So, then, I honor You, Lord, and bring glory to You in my body.

I called on You in the day of trouble; You delivered me, and I shall honor and glorify you. I rejoice because You delivered me and drew me to Yourself out of the control and dominion of darkness (obscurity) and trans-ferred me into the kingdom of the Son of Your love. I will confess and praise You, O Lord my God, with my whole (united) heart; and I will glorify Your name for evermore.

As a bond servant of Jesus Christ, I receive and develop the talents which have been given me, for I would have You say of me, "Well done, you upright (honorable, admirable) and faithful servant!" I make use of the gifts (faculties, talents, qualities) according to the grace given me. I let my light so shine before men that they may see my moral excellence and my praiseworthy, noble and good deeds, and recognize and honor and praise and glorify my Father Who is in heaven.

In the name of Jesus, I allow my life to lovingly express truth in all things - speak-ing truly, dealing truly, living truly. Whatever I do - no matter what it is - in word or deed, I do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus and in [dependence upon] His Person, giving praise to God the Father through Him. Whatever may be my task, I work at it heartily (from the soul), as [something done] for the Lord and not for men. To God the Father be all glory and honor and praise. Amen.

Scripture References (AMP):
Romans 12:1, Matthew 25:21, Philippians 2:13, Romans 12:6, Hebrews 10:38b, Matthew 5:16, 1 Corinthians 6:20, Ephesians 4:15, Psalm 50:15, Colossians 3:17, Colossians 1:13, Colossians 3:23, Psalm 86:12

Taken from "Prayers That Avail Much" Special Edition James 5:16. An Intercessor's Handbook of Scriptural Prayers by Word Ministries, Inc.

Prayers in the Bible

1 Samuel 1:12: And it came to pass, as she continued praying before the LORD, that Eli marked her mouth.

1 Samuel 1:26: And she said, Oh my lord, as thy soul liveth, my lord, I am the woman that stood by thee here, praying unto the LORD.

1 Kings. 8:54: And it was so, that when Solomon had made an end of praying all this prayer and supplication unto the LORD, he arose from before the altar of the LORD, from kneeling on his knees with his hands spread up to heaven.

2 Chronicles 7:1: Now when Solomon had made an end of praying, the fire came down from heaven, and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices; and the glory of the LORD filled the house.

Daniel 6:11: Then these men assembled, and found Daniel praying and making supplication before his God.

Daniel 9:20: And whiles I was speaking, and praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my supplication before the LORD my God for the holy mountain of my God;

Mark 11:25: And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.

Luke 1:10: And the whole multitude of the people were praying without at the time of incense.

Luke 3:21: Now when all the people were baptized, it came to pass, that Jesus also being baptized, and praying, the heaven was opened,

Luke 9:18: And it came to pass, as he was alone praying, his disciples were with him: and he asked them, saying, Whom say the people that I am?

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(How to Pray page 10)

Luke 11:1: And it came to pass, that, as he was praying in a certain place, when he ceased, one of his disciples said unto him, Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples.

Acts 11:5: I was in the city of Joppa praying: and in a trance I saw a vision, A certain vessel descend, as it had been a great sheet, let down from heaven by four corners; and it came even to me:

Acts 12:12: And when he had considered the thing, he came to the house of Mary the mother of John, whose surname was Mark; where

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lived all our lives, all over the globe, is not going to be the same any more. For one thing, we have and still continue to lose lives all over the globe due to the virus. As of now, early May in 2020, the world has lost 266,010 people, who otherwise would be alive and living their normal lives. The U.S. alone has lost more in the initial three months of the epidemic than was lost in the entire twenty years (1955-1975) of the Vietnam War.

The scare is not just how many more people are going to be lost further, but how much longer are we going to deal with this epidemic before it dissipates and disappears. No one knows for sure. What we all know, I am pretty sure about, is that, again to quote the Speaker "Life on this planet as you know it will not be the same ...". Just as a conversation piece, I want to make a wild prediction on some of the elements of our lives that are not to going to be the same any longer.

To begin with, health care systems all over the globe are going to be re-examined for equity, probity and effectiveness. Nations are going to study the performance of their current health systems to determine how they lived up to, or not to expectations as the case might be.

many were gathered together praying.

1 Corinthians 11:4: Every man praying or prophesying, having his head covered, dishonoureth his head.

2 Corinthians 8:4: Praying us with much entreaty that we would receive the gift, and take upon us the fellowship of the ministering to the saints.

Ephesians 6:18: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

Not since the 1918 global epidemic, popularly known as the Spanish flu has the entire world faced the truth about the efficacy or not of its individual health systems all over the earth. Is it time to promote universal health systems that may guarantee some semblance of equal and effective care for all? Let the diagnoses and subsequent recommendations begin.

The next in line is the global economy. All along, we've learned to recognize two major economic principles as the guiding forces that control global trade and commerce, market capitalism and controlled socialism. Well, it has become abundantly clear at least to the major markets around the globe that we definitely need a better mechanism for global production. We need better research and development and much more robust distribution channels that are flexible, amenable and realistic. Within authoritarian systems, quick turn-around is touted as pristine. But we forget that in a vast global, seamless supply and demand culture, accountability, openness and resiliency are more preferred and more paramount; which may not be conducive to the source of production. For goodness sake, how did we, as global consumers and economic partners, agree to consolidate the total

Colossians 1:3: We give thanks to God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you,

Colossians 4:3: Withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds:

1 Thessalonians 3:10: Night and day praying exceedingly that we might see your face, and might perfect that which is lacking in your faith?

Jude 20: But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,

production of all our needs and supplies within a singular environment? Obviously, the concept of scale of production does not apply in all circumstances. Profit and greed are not always the hallmark of success. Some other system is necessary to ensure equity and reliability.

Being forced to retrieve into the safety of social distancing for work, for education, for recreation and for survival has brought home the need for flexible work places and places of learning and recuperation. Indeed the old ways of getting together have been seriously challenged in this era of the pandemic. For decades, people who worked from home, such as I did for over ten years when I worked for an insurance company, were considered the exception. It was extraordinary and required numerous approval and clarification and serious justification. After all, companies had invested in serious capital to be able to gather employees under a set of brick and mortar surroundings for a reason. Exceptions were generally, just that. Now, with the concept of social distancing and the dread of personal contacts with each other, it appears we are going to chart a whole new working environment. Even some medical practitioners have started

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patient contacts and evaluation through virtual means. No telling how far the universe will go with social distancing in the new world order.

A percentage of my personal formal college education was supplemented by the British system of distance learning. In the 1950s through the 1980s there was a great deal of effort to promote British college education worldwide. The effort was done through 'correspondence courses'. That is today's virtual, online learning. The big difference is the power of technology that makes it possible and quite convenient to have a single source of instruction be disseminated and broadcast to the ends of the world, based on the capability to log in and tune in with the appropriate communication bandwidth. In principle the first-class education accorded anyone, anywhere in the world can be available to anyone else, anywhere else in the world. This means any MIT or Cornell or Cambridge instruction by any of the best minds of the world is virtually and visibly available to anyone with the appropriate technology and appropriate clearance to participate.

The list is endless. If we had a virtual town hall meeting and we asked each participant to list what they consider as a new world order of doing things, we would come up with hundreds of valid, practical insights. Here is just a minuscule list of examples.

In political voting – it should be possible to vote virtually from anywhere. If a Supreme Court judge

can participate in court proceedings from a hospital bed, others can participate in virtual court proceedings anywhere. Imagine giving testimony while on board a cruise ship.

We need to be a smart nation of citizens. Future wars may not be direct, physical with brutal ammunition-based weaponry. They could, instead, be virtual and viral. We need a smarter, more resilient government that can pro-act and react on a dime against any and all unfriendly virtual foes.

If more and more of the interactions among ourselves are going to be dependent on communications and technological tools, it is imperative to re-consider those tools of technology, such as the internet, WI-FI and connectivity as public utilities and to promote and provide/distribute the services in the same manner as we create, promote and maintain roads and highways. They should not be in the hands of private for-profit companies as we have today. What if at any moment, AT&T or Verizon decides to withhold services in the middle of a national or regional crisis when communication to all citizens is crucial?

Various industries all over the globe are going to re-examine their operations and either re-tool their practices or fold and go out of business all together. Countries that rely purely (or close to mainly) on tourists interests are going to rethink their business models. From the current epidemic, air travelling, the complex business of aircraft manufacturing, the entire hospitality

industries of hotels, motels, restaurants and airports are going to be candidates for retooling.

How about sports and the complex industry of outdoor entertainment? It is going to be a long time to come before we see thousands and thousands of spectators sitting or standing side by side and jumping up and down on each other at various sporting arenas. Would you be the first to enter a sports stadium after the dust settles?

The scenario applies to any groupings of individuals in any environment. Churches, stadiums, arenas, outdoors, indoors all are going to do soul searching strategies before deciding on the best way forward. If virtual, online access to a spiritual, religious meeting becomes even partially acceptable, it is not farfetched at all to imagine joining in and participating in a specific religious service across the globe, via the internet and communication connectivity.

The world we live in and the universe we have come to know are going to be different. Here is another marker for historical references. This makes the Y2K events of 1999 and 2000 as well as the September 11 events of 2001 appear tame and controlled. Going forward, we will be using the events of 2019 up to whenever it dissipates, as our new landmark.

Welcome to the new normal.

Kwame6@att.net

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great mercy ^[1] and grace that God rescues the believer from the dominion of darkness that began way back in the Garden ^[2]. Jesus extends a loving invitation for forgiveness of sins which is only possible through His shed blood. He gave His life so that we may live. We are forgiven because He was forsaken – That is amazing love! Here are some

encouraging Scripture quotes about forgiveness.

Isaiah 55:6-7 “Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

God's Character is Forgiving
Psalm 51:17: The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Psalm 86:4-5: Gladden the soul of your servant, for to you, O Lord, do I lift up my soul. For you, O Lord, are

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good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon you.

Psalm 103:8-12: The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

Isaiah 1:18: “Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.

Jesus Invites and Forgives

Matthew 5:22-24: But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, ‘You fool!’ will be liable to the hell of fire. So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.

Matthew 11:28-30: “... Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Luke 7:47-48: “...Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven—for she loved much. But he who is forgiven little, loves little.” And he said to her, “Your sins are forgiven.” (Jesus speaking to the accusers and the woman caught in adultery)

Luke 23:43: “And he said to him, “Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise.” (Jesus

speaking to the thief on the cross)

John 4:13-14: Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” (Jesus speaking to the woman at the well)

God’s Gift to All – The Only Way ^[3]

Seek the LORD while He may be found ... call upon His name

Acts 4:10-12: “... let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well. This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” (Peter speaking to the rulers of the people and the elders at Jerusalem)

Acts 10:42-43: “...And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.” (Peter speaking of what Jesus commanded the Apostles to do)

2 Corinthians 5:18-19: All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

Ephesians 1:7-10: In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses,

according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

Colossians 1:13-14: He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

The Christian’s Attitude of Forgiveness

Matthew 6:14: For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you (attitude: forgive because you love the Lord)

1 Corinthians 13:4-7: Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. (attitude: can love cover it?)

2 Corinthians 2:5-8: Now if anyone has caused pain, he has caused it not to me, but in some measure—not to put it too severely—to all of you. For such a one, this punishment by the majority is enough, so you should rather turn to forgive and comfort him, or he may be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow. So I beg you to reaffirm your love for him. (attitude: stand ready to forgive)

Galatians 6:1-2: Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. (attitude: approach gently and stand ready to restore the relationship)

Ephesians 4:31-32: Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along

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with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you. (attitude: loving and forgiving just like God forgave you)

Christian Quotes About Forgiveness

“A forgiveness ought to be like a canceled note, torn in two and

burned up, so that it can never be shown against the man.” ~ Henry Ward Beecher

“Forgiveness is an act of the will, and the will can function regardless of the temperature of the heart.” ~ Corrie Ten Boom

“Man has two great spiritual needs. One is for forgiveness. The other is for goodness.” ~ Billy Graham

“Forgiving and being forgiven are two names for the same thing. The important thing is that a discord has been resolved.” ~ C.S. Lewis

“To err is human, to forgive, divine.” ~ Alexander Pope

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(Think About It on page 1)

outward appearance was somewhat unusual, his message was powerful. People followed his leadership. John the Baptist, however, realized that his ministry was one of preparation for someone greater. When Jesus arrived. John knew he would have to take second place.

John’s life, though, is not a sad one. In fact, John the Baptist demonstrated that great dignity and significance could be found in being the forerunner, in being someone whose role would diminish in the presence of greatness. No, John’s life is not a sad one-it is a powerfully significant one!

John’s message and appearance (Matthew 3: 1-4)

John’s ministry of proclamation took place in the wilderness of Judaea. This was the fulfillment of the prophecy of Isaiah; his message was one of repentance. His appearance was rugged, and his diet was earthy.

John’s challenge to the Pharisees and Sadducees (Matthew 3:5-11)

Many people responded to John’s message and he Baptized them in the Jordan River. When the Pharisees and Sadducees came to hear him, John recognized their hypocrisy and spoke directly to their wicked hearts. John challenged the religious leaders self-righteous, misplaced faith in their physical connection to Abraham and proclaimed that only genuine repentance would permit them to escape the coming messianic wrath. John declared that his baptism was preparatory, however, it pointed to

the One who would baptize “with the Holy Ghost, and with fire” (Matthew 3: 11)

Jesus’ remarks concerning John the Baptist (Matthew 11:7-10).

Jesus’ threefold question to the multitudes caused them to think seriously about the ministry and character of John the Baptist. Jesus’ conclusion was that John’s ministry and character demonstrated unparalleled greatness, for he pointed people to Jesus.

AGE-GROUP EMPHASES

Children: It is not too early to establish in our children respect for the position and ministry of their pastor. We should help our children see that the ministry of preaching the Word of God is of supreme importance.

Youths: Young people often have difficulty understanding what it means to be the “least in the kingdom of heaven” (Matt. 11:11). We must help them discover that seeing themselves, as the center of the world does not lead to greatness. The act of humbling themselves and pointing people to Jesus produces true greatness.

Adults: It is natural for adults to want their latter years to be smooth and stress free. However we must not become spiritually complacent, but to remain genuine and authentic in our faith. This demands consistency between what we say and how we act. Thomas R. Chmura

Count your Blessings

If you woke up this morning with more health than illness, you are more blessed than the million who will not survive this week.

If you have never experienced the danger of battle, the loneliness of imprisonment, the agony of torture, or the pangs of starvation, you are ahead of 500 million people in the world.

If you can attend a church meeting without fear of harassment, arrest, torture, or death, you are more blessed than 3 billion people in the world.

If you have food in the refrigerator, clothes on your back, a roof over your head and a place to sleep, you are richer than 75 per cent of this world.

If you have money in the bank, in your wallet, and spare change in a dish, you are among the top 8 per cent of the worlds wealthy.

If you can read this message, you are more blessed than over 2 billion people in the world that cannot read at all.

Submitted by Rosalind M. Wynter,
Junior Class 2001

Prayer: The Most Important Thing We Can Do. E.M. Bounds

More time and early hours for

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prayer would act like magic to revive and invigorate many a decayed spiritual life. More time and early hours for prayer would manifest in holy living. A holy life would not be so rare or so difficult a thing if our devotions were not so short and hurried. A Christ-like temper would not be so rare if our closeted prayers were lengthened and intensified. We live shabbily because we pray sparingly.

Time spent feasting in our closets will bring health to our lives. Our ability to stay with God, in our closet measures our ability to stay with Him throughout the rest of the day. Hasty

closet visits are deceptive and defaulting. We are not only deluded by them, but we are losers by them In many ways and in many rich legacies. Tarrying in the closet instructs and wins. We are taught by it, and the greatest victories are often the results of great waiting, waiting till words and plans are exhausted. Silent and patient waiting gains the crown. Jesus Christ asks with an affronted emphasis, "Shall not God avenge his own elect which cry day and night unto him" (Luke 18:7 KJV)?

To pray is the greatest thing we can do. And to do it well there must be calmness, time and deliberation;

otherwise it is degraded into the littlest and meanest of things. True praying has the largest results for good, and poor praying the least. We cannot do to much of real praying; we cannot do to little of the sham. We must learn anew the worth of prayer, enter anew the school of prayer.

There is nothing which takes more time to learn. And if we are to learn the wondrous art, we must not give a fragment here and there. Instead, we must grasp the best hours of the day for God and prayer, or there will be no praying worth the name.

THE BEST PRAYER OF ALL TIMES

God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change,
the courage to change the things I can,
and the wisdom to know the difference.

Living one day at a time;
Enjoying one moment at a time;
Accepting hardship as the pathway to peace.

Trusting that He will make all things right if I surrender to His will;
That I may be reasonably happy in this life,
and supremely happy with Him forever in the next.

Amen!

MyCoolestQuotes.blogspot.com

Prayer - The Power of Forgiveness

Father, bless me with the wonderful power of forgiveness, give me the grace to unconditionally forgive those who have done me wrong.

Give me the strength to let go of all ill-will, the strength to forgive myself of my own failings and sins, knowing that you have already forgiven me.

Free me of all anger, bitterness, hate, unforgiveness.

Read the full prayer @ christianstt.com

Admit you are a sinner

"There is no one righteous, not even one...for all have fall short of the glory of God." Romans 3:10, 23 (See Romans 5:8; 6:23)

Ask God's forgiveness and repent of your sins. "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." Romans 10:13 (See Acts 3:19)

Believe in Jesus

Put your trust in Him as your only hope of salvation. "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whomever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16 (See John 14:6)

Become a child of God by receiving Christ. "To all who received Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God." John 1:12 (See Revelation 3:20)

Confess Jesus is your Lord

If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. Romans 10:9-10

Healing Prayer

Lord Jesus, heal me.
Heal in me whatever You see needs healing.
Heal me of whatever might separate me from you.
Heal my memory,
heal my heart, heal my emotions,
heal my spirit, heal my body
heal my soul.
Lay Your hands gently upon me and
Heal me through Your love for me.

Amen.

Merciful God, I need and desire mercy from you. I deserve punishment for my sin but I ask forgiveness and mercy. I ask for wisdom and knowledge about you and your ways, God. Teach me and guide me so I stay away from temptation. Fill me with knowledge so I can be more like you.

Amen.

[Based on Hosea 6:6] DailyPrayerGuide.net

Prayer to Walk By Faith & Not By Sight

You always keep your Word and your Word is true.

My faith relies on believing in your son Jesus Christ and your Word. Not in what I see or feel.

At times, feelings may mislead me into thinking negatively.

Give me the strength to have faith and pray even when I do not feel to do so.

Read the full prayer @ ChristiansTT.com

Words To Live By

Things May Not Be What They Seem!

Regardless of how tall you are, you cannot see ahead to tomorrow. So be patient in life.
Regardless of how big and strong you are, you are not capable of carrying yourself into the grave. This calls for humility.
Regardless of how light or dark the pigmentation of your skin is, you still need a light source in the dark. This calls for modesty.
Regardless of how rich and affluent you think you are, you still walk yourself to bed. This calls for all of us to be contented with what we have.

Here are a few simple coincidences that you may never have thought about – till now.

MOSQUE has 6 letters, same as CHURCH.
QUR'AN has 5 letters and so is BIBLE.
LIFE has 4 letters, same as DEAD.
LOVE has 4 letters, and so is HATE.
FRIENDS has 7 letters, and so is ENEMIES.
TRUTH has 5 letters, same as LYING.
HURT has 4 letters, same as HEAL.
POSITIVE has 8 letters, same as NEGATIVE.
SUCCESS has 7 letters, same as FAILURE.
ABOVE has 5 letters, same as BELOW.
CRY has 3 letters, same as JOY
ANGER has 5 letters, same as HAPPY.
RIGHT has 5 letters, same as WRONG.
RICH has 4 letters, same as POOR.
PASS has 4 letters, same as FAIL.
KNOWLEDGE has 9 letters, and so is IGNORANCE.
HIM has 3 letters, guess what – and so is HER.
BLACK has 5 letters, just as WHITE.
TABLE has 5 letters, and so is CHAIR.
FATHER has 6 letters, same as MOTHER.

These may all appear to be just coincidences, but they could be giving us some hints. Such as not thinking ourselves to be too wise. Whatever life brings us, there could be the other side.

We may think it is the usual alarm clock that wakes us up. But the same alarm clock is never able to wake up the dead. In effect, it is just by the grace of God, that we live and breathe and are conscious.

Let us be grateful to God for the gift of life. We play very little in it. The rest is the prerogative of our Lord and savior. Be grateful for your life.

These lines have been circulating over the web, all I did was to clean them up and pre-package them for your enjoyment and reading pleasure.

Kwame6@att.net

“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

Afraid of nothing

Fear haunts the minds of so many people. It is a paralyzing sickness. One verse that has helped many is this:

The LORD is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear? The LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? Psalm 27:1

Fear always lurks among shadows. It thrives in darkness. A spiritually darkened mind is a breeding ground for terrifying fears. Flood the darkness with light and fear scurry away. Fill the mind with light, and fears are driven off.

Fears develop when you feel weak. But the Lord transmits strength. Result? You are afraid of nothing.

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 the 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 believes 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.

Clean Mind and High Spirits

You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. John 15:3

This Spirit Lifter tells us that the word of Jesus Christ, when recorded in consciousness and held there, can make you clean of all guilt. How? The answer is by forgiveness from wrong thoughts and actions, by

changing thoughts from impure to wholesome thinking, by filling the mind with faith so you experience a truly marvelous brain-and-soul-washing.

The ugliness of hate is washed from the mind; all sin are forgiven. The inner cleanness thus gained is an amazing source of high spirits.

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.

Barbara Perry Speaks

"Prayer For God's Peace Within"

Father, You have called us to be still before You, to rest in Your love and to patiently bear the cross that is set before us, knowing that You are not only at our side every moment of the day, but dwelling deep within our heart. We ask that You help us to depend on You in all things, knowing that nights of sadness will soon be turned into mornings of joy, when You are by our side. Keep us from fretful thoughts and foolish imaginings, knowing that You are our best and Heavenly Friend, Our Shepherd, Our Provider, Our Defender and the Rock of Our Salvation, Amen. And last Father we ask that You draw us closer to Your heart of love. Quiet our spirit, still our soul and instill in our inner being Your perfect peace that passes all understanding. Help us to pray, to be still and know that You are God, our God in whom we trust. Its in Jesus' name we pray. Amen, Amen, Amen.

"You Are Not A Finish Product"

But now, O Lord, thou art our father; we are the clay, and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand.

Isaiah 64:8

Let us pray, "Father, thank You that You are the Potter and we are the clay. Thank You for where we are right now, faults and all, and that You are molding and making us. Help us to stop being against ourself and simply trust You with the process for further change, its un Jesus' name, We pray. Amen, Amen, Amen.

One of the worst mistakes we can make is to go through life being against our self. Some of us live with a nagging

feeling that's always telling something negative. We hear this negative playing in our minds for so long that it's become normal. We have some areas in which we still struggle and need to improve-but being down on our self is not going to help us do better. Keep your flaws in perspective.

See God is the Potter, we are the clay. He's the one who is making and molding us. It may not be happening as fast as we would like, but we don't control the timetable. Trust Him in the process where we are in right now. Enjoy where we are while God is in the process of changing us. Remember, We are on the Potter's wheel and God is still working on us, Amen.

"Make Yourself Be Still"

2 Chronicles 20:17 says, "...But you will not even need to fight. Take your positions; then stand still and watch the LORD's victory. He is with you, O people of Judah and Jerusalem. Do not be afraid or discouraged. go out against them tomorrow, for the LORD is with you! ..."Amen.

Let us pray, "Father, thank You for Your hand of protection upon our life. We choose to be still, to get quiet before You, and listen to You. Give us the grace to accept Your timing and rest in the fact that You've already scheduled things in for us, its in Jesus' Name, Amen."

When we feel overwhelmed and we're tempted to take everything into our own hands, we have to make ourself be still. The battle is not ours, the battle is the Lord's. See as long as we 're fighting it, God is going to step back and let us do it on our own. But when we put it back in His hands, God will fight our battles. Now all we have to do is our part and rest. I tell you, Trust God's timing. He knows what He is doing. We may not understand why something is taking so long, but sometimes God will delay an answer so He can show His power in a greater way, Amen.

"Dare To Ask Big"

Matthew 21:22 says, "...And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive..." Amen

Let us pray, "Father, thank You for Your grace, favor, and mercy. Thank You for being the God of overflow! We are asking You for the more-than-enough life that You have promised. We believe that You will give us the desires of our heart, and our cup will run over. In Jesus' Name, Amen."

When God laid out the plan for our life, He didn't just put into it what we need to get by and endure until the end. No,

He put more than enough in it. He's God of abundance. God says we are to reign in life, that whatever we touch will prosper and succeed. So don't pray to just get by. Dare to ask big. Ask for what God has promised us. And ask Him for new levels. Ask Him for explosive blessings. Ask Him to propel you into your purpose. Yes, we should thank God that our needs are supplied, but don't settle there.

I want you to remember He is a more-than-enough God. He wants us to have an abundance so we can be a blessing to those around us, Amen

Prayer For Strength

Father in heaven, we stand before You today in Your omnipotent presence to ask that You grant us strength. We want You to give us the strength to power through all of the tasks today-whether little or big. It is by Your will that we live oh Lord. We also know it is also by Your will we will not go weak or weary today. We will not go lazy nor will we fail to do all things set before us because You strengthen us. Thank You for Your everlasting presence Lord and in Jesus' name, we pray.

THE BEAUTY OF HOLLAND

I AM OFTEN ASKED TO DESCRIBE THE EXPERIENCE OF RAISING 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 HAVE A BABY, IT'S LIKE PLANNING A FABULOUS TRIP TO ITALY. YOU BUY A BUNCH OF GUIDEBOOKS AND MAKE YOUR WONDERFUL PLANS. THE COLISEUM, THE MICHELANGELO DAVID. THE GONDOLAS IN VENICE. YOU LEARN SOME HANDY PHRASES IN ITALIAN. IT'S ALL VERY, VERY EXCITING!

AFTER MONTHS OF EAGER ANTICIPATION, THE DAY FINALLY ARRIVES. YOU PACK YOUR BAGS AND OFF YOU GO. SEVERAL 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 SUPPOSED TO BE IN ITALY! ALL MY LIFE I'VE DREAMED OF GOING TO ITALY."

BUT THERE'S A CHANGE 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 ITALY, 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 REMBRANDTS.

BUT EVERYONE YOU KNOW IS BUSY COMING AND GOING FROM ITALY, 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 SIGNIFICANT LOSS.

BUT IF YOU SPEND YOUR LIFE MOURNING 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

Call God 'Abba'

For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. Roman 8:15 KJV

Fear can be a powerful influence in our lives. It's really just the enemy's perversion of faith. He says to us: 'Believe what I'm telling you. This is not going to work. Your prayers aren't any good. You don't have right standing with God. You are a failure.'

Fear always tells you what you're not, what you don't have, what you can't do and what you'll never be. But Romans 8:15 says that you are a child of God who can call Him "Abba Father."

The word was a term little children used in addressing their fathers. It would be similar to our word Daddy. It is less formal than Father and denotes a comfortable closeness between a child and his or her father.

Jesus said we could call God 'Abba' because He had delivered us from all fear. He will always take care of His beloved children, and we can approach Him without fear of rejection. When we run to Him with any problem or pain, He's waiting with open arms to comfort and encourage us.

Prayer Starter: Abba Father, I know that You will take care of me, Your beloved child. You alone can deliver me from all fear, so I run to Your open arms.

A Great Trade

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

Did you know that God wants to make a trade with you? He has a standing offer every minute of every day, and it's amazing how few of us actually take Him up on it. He wants you to give Him all your cares, problems and failures. In return He'll give you His peace and joy.

God really does want to take care of us, but in order to let Him, we've got to stop trying to take care of ourselves and worrying about every little thing we can't control. Many people would like for God to take care of them, but they insist on worrying or trying to figure out an answer on their own, instead of waiting for God's direction.

God will give us peace, but we must first give Him our worries. What a great trade! We give God our worry, and He

gives us His peace. We give Him all our cares and concerns, and He gives us His protection, stability and joy. That's the amazing blessing and privilege of being cared for by Him.

Prayer Starter: Lord, You have offered me an amazing trade. You are so much more capable than I am, so I give You all of my cares and receive all of the peace and joy that You offer me!

Keep God's Temple in Good Shape

What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? 1 Corinthians 6:19

Until I turned 64, I'd never exercised in a serious way. I had walked and done a few things to stay in decent shape, but I was not dedicated to exercise. I had reached into my excuse bag many times over the years and come up with all

kinds of 'reasons' I could not exercise. But the Lord spoke to me and encouraged me to begin a serious workout program so I could be strong for the last third of my journey through life.

I already had good eating habits, and when I obeyed the Lord and started going to the gym several times a week, I stepped into a new season of life. I looked better, I felt better, and most importantly, I was honoring God by taking good care of the body He gave me.

I urge you to trust God and start finding ways to pursue health daily. The Word says that our bodies are temples of God. I don't know about you, but I want to make sure that God likes His temple! Today, make the choice to keep your temple in excellent shape for God.

Prayer Starter: I commit to a lifestyle of good physical health. Help me to make good choices that will continually improve my health. My body is Your temple, and I want to keep it in excellent shape for You!

Forgetting About Ourselves

I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. Galatians 2:20

Paul said that he had been "crucified with Christ." in other words, he had to stop thinking about himself in order to live for God. And we are encouraged to do the same.

At this point you may be thinking, "What about me? Who is going to take care of me?" This is usually what prevents us from living the way God wants us to live. It always comes back to me.

We are so accustomed to seeing our satisfied that the very thought of forgetting about ourselves even for one day can be frightening. But if we can muster up the courage to try it, we will be amazed at the freedom and joy we experience.

your life away rather than trying to keep it. When you get the focus off of you and onto God, God can show you how to live a truly meaningful life.

I encourage you to start your days by dedicating yourself to God. When you do, He will faithfully help you live a godly life.

Prayer Starter: lord, I offer You my eyes, ears, mouth, hands, feet, heart, finances, gifts, talents, abilities, time, energy, all of me! It's not about me. It's all about You

The secret to having joy is giving

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

THE MAN IN SEAT 2D

Be rich in good deeds, and [be] generous and willing to share.
1 Timothy 6:18

Kelsey navigated the narrow airplane aisle with her eleven-month-old daughter, Lucy, and Lucy's oxygen machine. They were traveling to seek treatment for her baby's chronic lung disease. Shortly after settling into their shared seat, a flight attendant approached Kelsey, saying a passenger in first class wanted to switch seats with her. With tears of gratitude streaming down her face, Kelsey made her way back up the aisle to the more spacious seat, while the benevolent stranger made his way toward hers.

Kelsey's benefactor embodied the kind of generosity Paul encourages in his letter to Timothy to instruct those in his care with the command to "do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share" (1 Timothy 6:18). It's tempting, Paul says, to become arrogant and put our hope in the riches of this world. Instead, he suggests that we focus on living a life of generosity and service to others, becoming "rich" in good deeds, like the man from seat 2D on Kelsey's flight.

Whether we find ourselves with

plenty or in want, we all can experience the richness of living generously by being willing to share what we have with others. When we do, Paul says we will "take hold of the life that is truly life" (V. 19)
Kirsten Holmberg

Who has been "generous and willing to share" with you? With whom can you share generously today?

God, please give me a generous spirit as I renew my hope in you.

Read about learning to love like Jesus at
Discoveryseries.org/q0208

¹⁷ Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸ Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. ¹⁹ In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

Insight

The false teachers Paul previously warned the elders about (Acts 20:29) had infiltrated the Ephesian church, leading many believes in Jesus astray. Relationships were fractured: fellowship and worship were disrupted. Paul asked Timothy to help get the Ephesian believers back on the right track and wrote him this letter to help him in this difficult leadership task (1 Timothy 1:3). Timothy was to deal decisively with the false teachers (1:3-20; 4:1-16; 6:3-20), strengthen the leadership by appointing godly people to be elders and deacons (3:1-12), and teach the members how to relate to one another (2:1-12; 3:14-16; 5:1-6:2). In the final section of the book, Timothy confronts materialism in the church. The believers are to pursue contentment as a guard against greed (6:6-10), and he warns the rich believers not to be proud or trust in their wealth but generously use their resources to benefit others (VV. 17-19). K. T. Sim

Ministries, Grand Rapids, Michigan,
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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

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

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

<p>Sunday Morning Worship Time: EVERY SUNDAY @ 10:00 AM Join Zoom Meeting Link: (Just type into your browser) https://zoom.us/j/959628798 Dial-In Phone#: (929) 205-6099 Code: 959628798#</p>	<p>BIBLE STUDY INFO: Time: EVERY TUESDAY @ 6:00 PM Join Zoom Meeting Link: (Just type into your browser) https://zoom.us/j/562367770 Dial-In Phone#: (929)205-6099 Code: 562367770#</p>
<p>12Noon PRAYER MEETING: Time: EVERY WEDNESDAY @ 12:00 PM Join Zoom Meeting Link: (Just type into your browser) https://zoom.us/j/528449909 Dial-In Phone#: (929) 205-6099 Code: 528449909#</p>	<p>6pm PRAYER MEETING: Time: EVERY WEDNESDAY @ 6:00 PM Join Zoom Meeting Link: (Just type into your browser) https://zoom.us/j/695948020 Dial-In Phone#: (929) 205-6099 Code: 695948020#</p>

Sunday School ZOOM Meetings

- 8:30 a.m.- Dr. Long's Sunday School Class**
 Voice Only Call: (929) 205-6099; Code: 734629713#
 Web-link for Video Call: <https://zoom.us/j/734629713>
- 9:00 a.m.- Contemporary Sunday School: Adults**
 Voice Only Call: (929) 205-6099; Code: 140827210#
 Web-link for Video Call: <https://zoom.us/j/140827210>
- 9:30 a.m.- Beginners Sunday School: Ms. Carolyn Smith**
 Voice Only Call: (929) 205-6099; Code: 233007146#
 Web-link for Video Call: <https://zoom.us/j/233007146>
- 11:00 a.m.- Primary Sunday School: Rev. Earlene Grant**
 Voice Only Call: (929) 205-6099; Code: 614890401#
 Web-link for Video Call: <https://zoom.us/j/614890401>
- 11:30 a.m.- Juniors Sunday School: Rev. Greg Winborne**
 Voice Only Call: (929) 205-6099; Code: 856361645#
 Web-link for Video Call: <https://zoom.us/j/856361645>

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- 3. PayPal,
- 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 & in the front lobby. If you would like a PDF copy sent to you, Email your request to: 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 2nd 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), 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
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

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