

2018

the year of

HARVEST

VCMi DEVOTIONAL GUIDE - 30 DAYS OF CONSECRATION



Introduction and Instructions

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Victory Christian Ministries International (VCMI) is one church, in many locations. God has assigned us believers all around the world. We are a church without walls. **2018 is The Year of Harvest for Us!** We are believing God for a harvest of souls into the Kingdom, as a church, and for overflowing harvest in every area of our lives.

During the month of January, we are coming together as individual families, and as a church family, to hear from God concerning 2018. Our Apostles, Tony and Cynthia Brazelton, have been led to dedicate the month of January to a season of prayer and fasting. During this time of consecration, we believe we will clearly hear God concerning our part in this great harvest. Our spirits will be revived, our souls will be edified, and we will receive clear divine revelation, in order to maximize this season. We will pray, expand our capacity to believe God, and release our faith for the harvest of souls He has destined the global VCMI church to both *win* and *disciple*.

We believe the key to winning the lost is accurately reflecting Jesus in this world. The world is looking for Jesus. They will find Him in us! The more we discover Jesus, the more we discover our true selves, and the more people will see Jesus in us. **As Jesus is, so are we, in this world** (1 John 4:17).

This time of consecration will provide an opportunity for your family to learn more about what it means to pray and to lead the lost to Jesus. These devotionals are designed to help us focus *on our requirement to pray, on the revelation of who Jesus is, and on our responsibility to evangelize the world.*

Introduction and Instructions

Each of the 30 daily devotionals is divided into 5 parts:

The Scripture(s)

If you have children in your home, it is a good idea to let them take turns reading the verse(s) of the day. It is important that children be participants and not just spectators in the things of God.

The Discussion

This section provides a brief background of the text. The goal here is to discuss the text, in context, with your family.

The Application

Each devotional will provide several application points. As you read each, discuss with your family how each truth can be applied to your lives.

The Declaration of Faith

We believe God has placed the power of death and life in the tongue (Proverbs 18:21). So, each devotional contains a declaration of faith designed to go along with the lesson. Declare the words either with your family (in unison), or have them repeat after you. As you speak the words of faith, do so from a believing heart, thereby activating your faith for what you just studied.

Introduction and Instructions

The Closing Prayer

End each session with a simple prayer, asking God to help each family member receive and apply the truth they have learned that day, and to set their faith in agreement with the global VCMI family. Use this time for prayer requests and include prayer for our Apostles and Campus Pastors.

Choose a time of day when your entire family can gather together with the least number of distractions and interruptions. Make this an interesting and fun time for your family. This is a time of fasting, prayer and consecration for us. *Build a Better Community* starts with building better families.

Social Media

Social Media

As your family comes together each day to study, discuss and meditate the Word, do so with an expectation to hear from God. As God speaks to you, please share what God is saying to you on your social media.

The following is a list of VCMI websites and social media handles, by campus.

Location	Facebook	Twitter	Instagram
Suitland, MD	/vcmsuitland	@vcmisuitland	@vcmisuitland
Washington, DC	/vcmidc	@vcmidc	@vcmidc
St. Charles County, MD	/vcmicc	@vcmicc	@vcmicc
Woodbridge, VA	/vcmiva	@vcmiva	@vcmiva
Orlando, FL	/vcniorlando	@vcniorlando	@vcniorlando
United Kingdom	/vcmiUK	@vcmiUK	@vcmiUK

Each day our locations will share information on social media. Please interact with our campuses and with one another.

Social Media

The goal is to *Build a Better Community*. We will do this both in our local communities and online communities. We are believing God for a Great Harvest!

As you share your thoughts and the insight God reveals to you, please use the following hashtags, as appropriate:

#YearOfHarvest

#ItsHarvestTime

#Harvest

#VCMHarvest

#ThisIsOurSeason

#ThisIsOurTime

#VCMIBBC

#VCMIBuildingABetterCommunity

#BBC

#TeamVCM

January 2 (Day 1): The Power Of Prayer

January 2 (Day 1): The Power Of Prayer

The Scripture(s):

Then God said, “Now let’s make humans who will be like us. They will rule over all the fish in the sea and the birds in the air. They will rule over all the large animals and all the little things that crawl on the earth.” So God created humans in his own image. He created them to be like himself. He created them male and female. God blessed them and said to them, “Have many children. Fill the earth and take control of it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the air. Rule over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

(Genesis 1:26,27)

The highest heavens belong to the LORD, but the earth he has given to mankind.

(Psalm 115:16)

David said, “I look at the heavens you made with your hands. I see the moon and the stars you created. And I wonder, “Why are people so important to you? Why do you even think about them? Why do you care so much about humans? Why do you even notice them? You made man almost like gods. You crowned them with glory and honor. You put them in charge of everything you made. You put everything under their control.”

(Psalm 8:3-6)

January 2 (Day 1): The Power Of Prayer

The Discussion:

Many Christians question whether we should pray. The questions arise because of a lack of understanding concerning our responsibility in this world. Today we will look at the relationship between God's sovereignty and our responsibility. God is unquestionably sovereign. At the same time, He holds us accountable for our decisions and responsible for our actions. Our sovereign God has made us free moral agents in this world. God gave us the right to choose and it is His desire that we choose Him and His ways. In many ways, prayer is a decision to involve God in your earthly circumstances.

God created a system where He rules the heavens and we, as humans, are charged to rule the earth. This system hinges upon our right to choose. God has given us the ability to make our own decisions. Without question, God wants us to choose Him, so we can properly represent (or RE-Present) Him in the earth. God made us to show the earth what heaven is like. But if He did not give us the right to make our own decisions, then He would be doing everything and not us. There would be no real need for man. Worship would be fake because it would not be genuine. Submission would be phony because it would be forced. Sacrifice would be a worthless because it would be orchestrated. God gives us both the charge to rule the earth and the choice not to do it if we don't want to. This then leaves this world, and many of the decisions that are made here, in our hands and NOT God's!

January 2 (Day 1): The Power Of Prayer

This is where prayer comes in. God is looking for agreement on this planet. God is looking for humans to bind and loose. God is looking for mankind to become conduits of His grace, glory, anointing and power, in this world. This is key and central to understanding the importance of prayer.

The Application:

1. God made the earth and every living thing in it (outside of man) in five days. On the sixth day, God made man and placed man in charge of everything He made. From that day forward, man is in charge. When we get a revelation of this, we will operate in the power and authority given to us by God.

2. David was fascinated with God's fascination with us. David was amazed that our God, who sits on the circle of the earth (Isa 40:22), would take the time to think about a man. David said, "You made man almost like gods. You crowned them with glory and honor. You put them in charge of everything you made. You put everything under their control." God made man just a little below Himself and He then placed man over everything He created. God placed us in charge and then charged us to rule over everything under our control.

3. We are supposed to exercise the authority given to us by God. We are called to do all we are anointed by God to do. And to then believe God to do those things that exceed human power, ability or strength. We believe God and invoke His involvement through the vehicle of prayer.

January 2 (Day 1): The Power Of Prayer

4. The entire earth functions on system of cause-and-effect, sowing-and-reaping, and the free will of humans. Many Christians don't understand this. To make a bad situation worse, some Christian leaders have confused followers with statements like, "God is in control!" God is not in control of the things we do. As a loving Father, He seeks to lead us, but if we reject Him, He allows the rejection. God will never force us to operate in His best. **God will allow whatever we allow. God will permit whatever we permit.** This is why it is so critical that we pray. Prayer agrees with God and it welcomes His involvement.

5. God wants our worship, service and sacrifice to be an act of our will. Our worship is pure when it is not forced. Our service is acceptable when it is performed with an attitude of gratitude. Our sacrificial offerings generate a sweet-smelling savor in God's nostrils when they were initiated in our hearts. Simply put, God gave us the right to choose and He wants us to choose Him! And when it comes to operating in divine power in the earth, He wants us to choose to get Him involved through prayer.

6. God has given you the authority to rule, govern and dominate on this planet. While there are many things you cannot do without God (things that exceed human power, ability and strength), there are also many things God has chosen NOT to do without you! He does not just want to live in heaven. **He has chosen to live IN YOU!** You are the proof He exists. You are His representative in the earth. So, while you are counting on God to do what only he can do, He is counting on you to pray, to believe Him, to release your faith, and to live "As Jesus is, in this world!"

January 2 (Day 1): The Power Of Prayer

*** Over the next 30 days, as you fast and pray, your focus will be on releasing heaven's influence on this planet. As we fast and pray as a global church, we believe God will change the world through us!

The Declaration of Faith:

Father, this is the year of Harvest for me! You made plans for me before the world began. You redeemed to my purpose. You lead me and love me. You freely offer me Your best. I know I have the right to choose. I choose YOU! I choose life and not death, blessing and not cursing, victory and never defeat! I choose to exercise my authority on this planet. I do what You have graced me to do. I operate in the anointing You have freely released over my life. And I get You involved in my life daily, through the vehicle of prayer. I pray, I believe You, I release my faith, and I believe I receive when I pray. You want to change this world for Your glory. I declare that You will do it through me and every member of VCMI! I declare this by faith. In Jesus' name, Amen.

The Closing Prayer:

Father, we come to you in the name of Your dear Son, our Lord, Jesus the Christ. We thank You for always hearing us when we pray. We thank You for redeeming us from destruction. We thank You for calling us to our purpose. We thank You for connecting us to such a great church. We lift up our leaders and every member of VCMI, worldwide. We pray that You will stir up the gift You placed in us. We pray that as a church, we would pray daily. Collectively Father, we all pray for The Harvest You have called us to reap in this season. We pray for a harvest of souls and a harvest on every seed we have every sown. We pray this by faith, in Jesus' name, Amen!

January 3 (Day 2): Our Responsibility to Pray

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The Scripture(s):

You have not, because you ask not.

(James 4:2)

The Discussion:

In yesterday's devotion, we discussed the relationship between God's sovereignty and our responsibility. We looked at Psalm 115:16, where the psalmist told us that the heavens belong to the Lord, but the earth, God has given to us. We looked at Psalm 8:3-6, where David was fascinated with God's fascination with us. David was amazed that God placed man in charge of everything He made. Lastly, we looked at Genesis 1:26,27, where we saw that God created us in His image and after His likeness. He then gave us the power to rule, govern and dominate this planet.

While God is unquestionably God, the Bible is clear that we, as men, have a leadership role on this planet. If people are going to see God, they are going to have to see Him IN and THROUGH us. You are the only Jesus the world may ever see and you must live like it every day. This is why we, as members of VCMI, boldly declare: "As Jesus is, so are we, in this world."

As divine leaders on this planet, God expects us to live as conduits of His supernatural power, and to bring heaven down to the earth daily. We do this through the vehicle of prayer.

January 3 (Day 2): Our Responsibility to Pray

The Application:

1. God is committed to the system He created.

a) Some people think that since God is sovereign, they don't need to pray. They think, "God knows all things, He already made plans, and He is going to do whatever He wants to do. There is no need for me to pray." People who think this way don't understand the system God created. Remember, God placed man (humans) in charge of this planet. God is so committed to this system that He seeks the cooperation of humans through which to operate in the earth.

b) **Without God we cannot. Without man, God will not.** While God is God and He can do whatever He wants, the Bible is clear that He has chosen to operate in the earth through men, with the cooperation of humans.

c) Since God placed humans in charge of the planet and since He is so committed to this system, God actively seeks the cooperation of humans in the earth, in order to perform His will. When God wanted to operate freely, in the earth, without having to look for the cooperation of a man, He came as a man Himself. While God was in the earth, in human form, as Jesus, He had unfettered access to a human body. Now that Jesus is has ascended to heaven, the Father is looking for that same access through us! This is why God requires us to die to self. God commands us to die to sin, self and selfishness, so that He can freely flow through us. This is how God manifests His power in the earth. He does it through humans. He does it through US!

January 3 (Day 2): Our Responsibility to Pray

2. Prayer is how we invoke God's involvement in our situations.

a) Prayer is agreeing with God's plans and purposes by faith, knowing the plans are already complete.

b) Prayer is how the earth agrees with heaven.

c) Prayer is earthly license for heavenly interference.

d) Prayer is man exercising his legal authority in the earth to invoke heaven's influence on the planet.

e) Prayer is what happens when the creation comes in agreement with the creator, for the creator's will to be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

3. Prayer and works.

a) The prayer of agreement is the prayer you pray when you discern God's will. God reveals to you what He already planned (from the foundations of the world), you set your heart in agreement with His plans, and you release your faith for God's will to be done on earth, as it is in heaven. You are praying for the physical manifestation (in the earth) of the spiritual revelation you received (in your heart). So, in one sense, it's already done. In another sense, it still needs to be done, on earth, which is why you pray.

January 3 (Day 2): Our Responsibility to Pray

b) After you leave your prayer closet you must be led of the Holy Spirit, so you can discern what comes next. This is where many believers fall short. They pray. They believe. They declare “It’s already done!” But when it comes to doing their part in God’s provision, they sit around and wait on God to do things He is never going to do for them. God does not do the things He graced us to do.

So, when we leave our prayer closet, we must do so with an open heart to hear what comes next. Praying is one part. In prayer, we come in agreement, in faith. But faith is also an action word. Faith will require us to go “get” what God revealed is already ours.

c) Faith is something you say, do, or sow, based on what God revealed to you that is already yours.

d) When we follow a prayer of faith with actions of faith, we are not doing so to “make it happen.” We are doing so because we believe it’s already done! In this way, prayer and works go hand-in-hand.

The Declaration of Faith:

Father, this is the year of Harvest for me. You reveal to me what You already planned to do in my life. Basically, You reveal to me what is already done. I set my heart in agreement. I pray for Your will to be done on earth, as it is in heaven. I release my faith in prayer. I then release my faith in action. I live every day with an open heart. I am ready for You to lead me from the inside out. I am ready to do my part in Your provision. I will do what You lead me to do. I will say what You tell me to say. I will sow what You lead me to sow. Because I am determined to lay hold of what You have already done! I declare this by faith! In Jesus’ name, Amen.

January 3 (Day 2): Our Responsibility to Pray

The Closing Prayer:

Father, as You lead us in 2018, we thank You for making this a Year of Harvest for us! You planned this great harvest from the foundations of the world. You revealed the harvest to our leaders—at just the right time. They have openly declared what You decreed. We believe we receive all You have planned to do in, with and through us in this season. We set our faith in agreement that what You planned is already done. We pray for every member of VCMI; that we would be sensitive to Your Spirit, and quick to do whatever You lead us to do in this season, to see the manifestation of the harvest. This is our season. This is our time. We don't say, "Harvest time is coming!" We say, "Harvest time is now!" We pray this by faith, in Jesus' name, Amen!

January 4 (Day 3): Agreeing With Heaven

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The Scripture(s):

Truly I tell you, whatever you forbid and declare to be improper and unlawful on earth must be what is already forbidden in heaven, and whatever you permit and declare proper and lawful on earth must be what is already permitted in heaven.

(Mat 18:18 AMPC)

The Discussion:

While teaching on the Prayer of Agreement, Jesus said that we, as humans, have the authority to bind (or prevent) and to loose (or permit) things to happen in the earth. To be clear, this does not mean we command heaven. It actually means we must learn to live in synch with heaven. Heaven informs us and the revelation we receive from heaven is what we come in agreement with in prayer.

The Amplified translation of Matthew 18:18 says: “Truly I tell you, whatever you forbid and declare to be improper and unlawful on earth must be what is already forbidden in heaven, and whatever you permit and declare proper and lawful on earth must be what is already permitted in heaven.” Jesus was not putting pressure on heaven to respond to our will. Jesus was putting pressure on us to learn what heaven’s will already is and to pray that!

January 4 (Day 3): Agreeing With Heaven

We can't force God to do something against His will. As a matter of fact, we can't force God to do anything! We are required to learn God's ways, so we can ask for things that line up with His will. Jesus went on to say, "Again I tell you, if two of you on earth agree (harmonize together, make a symphony together) about whatever [anything and everything] they may ask, it will come to pass and be done for them by My Father in heaven. For wherever two or three are gathered (drawn together as My followers) in (into) My name, there I AM in the midst of them" (see verses 18-20 AMP). In context, when Jesus said that heaven will respond to whatever we ask, He meant, when we ask for things that are in line with God's Kingdom plans and purposes.

The Application:

1. Prayer welcomes heaven to the earth.

a) Prayer is not about you telling God what to do. In many respects, prayer is about binding what God has bound (in heaven) and loosing what God has loosed (in heaven). In this way, prayer facilitates the manifestation of heaven on earth.

b) When you understand the divine authority God has given you in the earth domain, you appreciate and respect the responsibility you have to bind (prevent) and loose (permit).

c) When things are happening in your life that don't line up with heaven, you must ask yourself the question, "Have I prayed about this?" "Have I invoked God's involvement?" You may think you are waiting on God, while He may be waiting on you to get Him involved. You have not, because you ask not!

January 4 (Day 3): Agreeing With Heaven

d) Stop accepting everything that happens as God's will. Don't concede to satan. Don't cower to his attacks. Get heaven involved in your life today through the power of prayer!

2. We must learn to pray from God's perspective.

a) Pray as if God already knows what you are facing. It's not news to God.

b) Pray as if God has already equipped you to face and overcome the challenge. He has already given you the grace for it.

c) Don't pray as if God is not in the fight with you. Don't ask Him to come... His Word promises His presence. He is already there. You are never in a fight alone. If you pray and ask God to come, you are acknowledging the fact that you believe He is not there. That is an insult to God. He is always with you. He will never leave you, forsake you or turn His back on you. So, acknowledge His presence, tap into His peace, and invoke His power.

d) Pray as if what you are facing will not destroy you. If you do, you are demonstrating to God that you have faith, trust and confidence in Him and in the plans He made for you before the world began. Remember, for God it's already done. For you, it's only a matter of time. You have to pray, believing God has done His part, in eternity, and that you will receive your breakthrough, in time.

e) When you pray from God's perspective, your prayers will be full of faith, hope, confidence and peace, regardless of the situation.

January 4 (Day 3): Agreeing With Heaven

f) When you pray from a position of grace you are praying from a position OF victory, not praying FOR victory. You know you already have the victory and it is only a matter of time before you see, in your hands, what you already saw, in your heart.

The Declaration of Faith:

Father, this is the year of Harvest for me. You harvest has already been prepared. The time has already come! You have already provided. I am not striving FOR the victory. I enter each day FROM a position OF victory. I thank You, Father, for always causing me to triumph. You give me the victory through my Lord, Your Son, Jesus the Christ. I enter this day with a full expectation to reap the harvest You have already stored up for me and for my church. To do so, I bind in the earth, what You have already bound in heaven. I loose in the earth, what You have already loosed in heaven. Living this way, I bring my world in harmony with Yours. And I am confident that 2018 shall be the best year of my life. Because it's harvest time for me! I declare this by faith! In Jesus' name, Amen.

January 4 (Day 3): Agreeing With Heaven

The Closing Prayer:

Father, I thank You for teaching me to pray, and for teaching me the importance of prayer. I set my faith in agreement now, with all the members of VCMI, that this is a year of Harvest for us. You have a harvest of souls stored up for our church. We call in the harvest now. You are sending people to VCMI, to all our locations around the world. And we believe there is an anointing on our ministry to meet every need. We believe burdens will be removed, yokes will be destroyed, lives will be changed, souls will be saved, backsliders will come home, broken relationships will be restored, the blind will see, the lame will walk, the deaf will hear, and the DEAD WILL RISE at VCMI! We pray this by faith, in Jesus' name, Amen!

January 5 (Day 4): Praying From A Position of Grace

January 5 (Day 4): Praying From A Position of Grace

The Scripture(s):

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. In Christ, God has given us every spiritual blessing in heaven. In Christ, he chose us before the world was made. He chose us in love to be his holy people—people who could stand before him without any fault. And before the world was made, God decided to make us his own children through Jesus Christ. This was what God wanted, and it pleased him to do it. And this brings praise to God because of his wonderful grace. God gave that grace to us freely. He gave us that grace in Christ, the one he loves.

(Ephesians 1:3-6 ERV).

The Discussion:

In the opening comments of his letter to the believers in Ephesus, the Apostle Paul made it clear that God has already (past tense) given us every spiritual blessing. He has blessed us in heavenly places, in Christ Jesus. So, when we pray, we must pray with an understanding of God's sovereignty and the plans He made for us before the world began.

January 5 (Day 4): Praying From A Position of Grace

Praying from a position of grace means you believe God has already given you everything you need. You are convinced that you are already equipped and “gifted with all it takes.” This is much different than praying from a position of need. When you are praying from a position of need, you are asking God to give you something you believe you don’t have. This is a slap in the face to God. This means you are not acknowledging what He has already done.

The Application:

1. God chose you, in Christ Jesus, before the world was made.

a) You are not a mistake. You were born WHEN you were born and WHERE you were born, because of WHY you were born!

b) You are not waiting on God to do what He planned to do in your life. God is actually waiting on you to believe and receive what He already planned to do through you, so that He can manifest it.

c) When you get a true revelation of whom Jesus is, you then get a revelation of whom you are. Once you know who you are, you can begin to do what you were called to do, from the foundations of the world.

2. Through Christ, you are able to stand before God without any fault.

a) Jesus was born in and lived from a position of righteousness. You were born in and lived from a position of sin. God sent His Son Jesus to trade places with you. When you accept Jesus as Lord, you take His position of righteousness and He takes your position of sin.

January 5 (Day 4): Praying From A Position of Grace

b) You are not righteous because of what you do, or what you fail to do. You are only righteous because of what Jesus did.

c) When you know you are righteous in Christ Jesus, you come to the Father in prayer, in the name of His Son, with boldness and confidence.

3. God has freely given you everything He was going to give you, by His grace, in His Son.

a) Paul said, “God gave his Son for all of us. So now with Jesus, God will surely give us all things.” (Romans 8:32). If God gave you His best when He gave you His Son Jesus, then do you really think He would withhold anything from you?

b) When you received Jesus, you also received access to everything God planned for you to have and access to the power you need to attain it.

c) You are already gifted with all it takes. You are already blessed. God’s grace is already upon you to do what you were called to do. So, when you pray, you are seeking to release your faith to receive what God has already given you.

4. It’s Harvest Time for us.

a) As members of VCMI, we must release our faith to receive what God has declared through our leaders. God said, “This is the year of Harvest!” Our role is not to create the harvest. Our God is the Lord of the Harvest. Our role is to simply believe and receive what He has already provided.

January 5 (Day 4): Praying From A Position of Grace

b) When we pray for The Harvest to come in this year, we are not praying for God to make it happen. We are praying because we believe God already made it happen. We are coming in agreement, in the earth, with what heaven has already provided.

c) This is our season! This is our time! Call in The Harvest by faith!

The Declaration of Faith:

Father, I declare that I am led of Your Spirit in all things. The Holy Spirit gives me revelation concerning what is already mine. I no longer pray from a position of need, as if I don't already have it. I pray from a position of grace, knowing it's already done. I am who You say I am. I have what You say I have. I can do what You have called me to do. And You have already given me all things that pertain to life and godliness. You give me all things richly to enjoy. So, I look at life through Your lens. I speak the language of faith. I call in The Harvest You have given VCMI for such a time as this. And I experience Your best in 2018. I declare this by faith. In Jesus' name, Amen.

January 5 (Day 4): Praying From A Position of Grace

The Closing Prayer:

Father, I thank You for teaching me to pray from Your perspective. No matter what things look like in the natural, I choose to see things in the Spirit. In Your realm things are already done. In the earth, it is just a matter of time. So, I set my faith in agreement with my brothers and sisters at VCMI. Collectively we pray for our church, for each family, and for The Harvest You have called us to reap in this season. We lift up the name of Jesus. We declare that Jesus is Lord over VCMI and over every household. We enter into Your rest. We rest from our own works. We believe we receive Your best in this season. We pray for unity, cohesion and oneness across all our campuses. We allow Your light to shine through us and we believe that light will draw the lost to Jesus, through VCMI. We pray this by faith, in Jesus' name, Amen!

January 6 (Day 5): Praying For Divine Insight

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The Scripture(s):

Paul's prayer: "I always pray to the great and glorious Father, the God of our Lord Jesus Christ. I pray that he will give you the Spirit, who will let you know truths about God and help you understand them, so that you will know him better. I pray that God will open your minds to see his truth. Then you will know the hope that he has chosen us to have. You will know that the blessings God has promised his holy people are rich and glorious. And you will know that God's power is very great for us who believe. It is the same as the mighty power he used to raise Christ from death and put him at his right side in the heavenly places."

(Ephesians 1:15-20 ERV).

The Discussion:

The Apostle Paul was a man who clearly understood the grace of God. He spent many years fighting against the cause of Christ. He had Christians imprisoned and killed. He fought the Jesus-movement with all his might. And then God called him to become a leader in the movement he was fighting against. Paul knew he did not earn his assignment. He knew the call did not come based on his own merit. Paul was unquestionably a 'grace-case.' So, his teachings are full of grace.

January 6 (Day 5): Praying For Divine Insight

In his letter to the believers in Galatia, Paul acknowledged the grace of God. He said, “Even before I was born, God chose me and called me by his marvelous grace” (Gal 1:15). Despite everything he had done, Paul knew he was a product of God’s goodness. So, if anyone knew how to pray from a position of grace, it was Paul. Today we will learn from Paul’s prayer for the believers in Ephesus.

The Application:

1. Paul prayed for divine insight from the Holy Spirit.

- a) Paul prayed for the believers in Ephesus to have the Spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of God.
- b) Paul asked God to open their minds so that they could see the truth; so they could know what God already provided.
- c) Paul was asking God to lead the believers, through His Holy Spirit, so they would know what to pray for and what to pursue. For us today, this means we should be led of the Holy Spirit concerning what to pray for and how to go after it.
- d) The Holy Spirit can tell you what to pray for. When He does, He is revealing to you what God has already provided. God did His part, by grace, from the foundations of the world. He now expects you to do your part by faith. So, when He reveals what is already yours, you are in a position to pray, in faith, to receive what God has already provided.

January 6 (Day 5): Praying For Divine Insight

2. Paul prayed that we would know the hope God has already chosen us to have.

a) Paul was not praying for God to give us whatever we hope for. Paul was praying that we would know the hope God has already provided.

b) You can come up with things to ask God for and then hope He gives them to you. Or you can ask God to reveal to you what is already yours, and then have FAITH to receive it.

c) If you don't know God's will concerning something, the best you can do is hope or wish, because you don't have a promise to claim. In this way, hope is open-ended. But faith is not. Faith is tied to something God said. Faith is connected to your understanding of God's will. Faith begins where the will of God is known. Once you know God's will concerning something, you can have faith. Faith believes and receives what God's grace has already provided.

3. Paul prayed that we would know that God's blessings are rich and glorious.

a) Paul wanted us to know how glorious God's promises truly are. While people are pursuing 'shiny objects' in this world, God wants us to focus our attention on His exceedingly great and precious promises. God's promises are rich and glorious and He has given us the faith to access them.

b) When you get a revelation/understanding of God, of what He has done for you, and of what He plans to do through your life, you won't be able to restrain your divine hope.

January 6 (Day 5): Praying For Divine Insight

4. Paul prayed that we would know God's power is available.

a) Paul wanted believers to know that God's power is freely available to us. The same power that raised Jesus from the dead is available to us today! It's IN us! As part of our journey with God, we must learn to access it.

b) When you get a revelation of the power God has made available to you, it changes the way you see challenges, and it changes the way you pray. There is nothing too hard for God and when you pray, you are believing God to access His immeasurable power!

5. Paul did not pray for God to give them whatever they wanted.

a) Paul was not validating selfishness, by telling believers to pray for whatever we want. No, Paul taught believers to develop a hunger and thirst for the things God has already provided. When you start to pray prayers that line up with what God has already provided, your prayer life will be amazing, because it will not be about you! It will be about God and He always responds to His plans and purposes!

b) When you pray you are not ordering God around and God is not serving you like a waiter. Effective prayers are birthed in a heart that is dead to sin, self and selfishness. When you yield your will to God and you open your heart to receive all He has already provided, you can then use your faith to access His grace, through prayer.

c) God has already made plans for you for 2018. Your job is to find out what those plans are, to submit/surrender to God's will, and to then pray, in faith, to access God's grace for His best to manifest in your life and in our church this year.

January 6 (Day 5): Praying For Divine Insight

The Declaration of Faith:

Father, I learn from the Apostle Paul. He did many things wrong, but he later acknowledged that You called him from his mother's womb. Like Paul, I am a product of Your grace. I only am who I am by Your grace. Your grace towards me shall not be in vain. I am determined to maximize the purpose and potential You placed IN me. To do so I will not pursue my will. I die to self, yield to the Holy Spirit, and allow Your Spirit, IN ME, to lead me to pray for what You have already given me. Praying this way, my prayers are effective, Your power is released in my life, You accomplish Your Kingdom plans and purposes for me, and I become the person I was born to be. I declare this by faith. In Jesus' name, Amen.

The Closing Prayer:

Father, I pray for my family, my church family, and me. I pray that the eyes of our understanding would be enlightened. That you would flood our spiritual eyes with light. That we would know You better. That we would enjoy the hope associated with Your calling. That we would walk in the exceeding greatness of Your power. And that we would experience the power of the resurrection in our lives continually. We are Your people. We are called by Your name. We look to You in all things. You Spirit teaches us to pray. And as we are led concerning what to pray for, we have confidence that we will receive what we petition before you. Living this way, our church and our families will experience Your best in 2018. We will draw the lost, call in The Harvest, and change the world! We pray this by faith, in Jesus' name, Amen!

January 7 (Day 6): Grace Based Prayers (Part 1)

January 7 (Day 6): Grace Based Prayers (Part 1)

The Scripture(s):

So I bow in prayer before the Father. Every family in heaven and on earth gets its true name from him. I ask the Father with his great glory to give you the power to be strong in your spirits. He will give you that strength through his Spirit. I pray that Christ will live in your hearts because of your faith. I pray that your life will be strong in love and be built on love. And I pray that you and all God's holy people will have the power to understand the greatness of Christ's love—how wide, how long, how high, and how deep that love is. Christ's love is greater than anyone can ever know, but I pray that you will be able to know that love.

Then you can be filled with everything God has for you. With God's power working in us, he can do much, much more than anything we can ask or think of. To him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus for all time, forever and ever. Amen.

(Ephesians 3:14-21 ERV).

The Discussion:

As we fast and pray, we are believing God to receive all He has already provided for this season. We believe God ordained 2018 to be a year of Great Harvest for us. As we pray, we are praying to experience what God already planned.

January 7 (Day 6): Grace Based Prayers (Part 1)

The Apostle Paul was a man who came into the knowledge of God's knowledge of him. He then prayed to receive what God had already provided. Paul did not pray from a position of need. Paul prayed from a position of grace. In today's, and tomorrow's, devotion we will take a look at prayers Paul prayed, so we too can learn to pray from a position of grace.

The Application:

1. Pray to the Father.

- a) Paul directed His prayer to the Father. We can learn from him. Because of Jesus, we have the grace to address the Father directly.
- b) We do not require a human priest (or anyone else) to stand between us and God. Jesus is our High Priest. We can pray to the Father directly, in the name of the Son, through the power of His Spirit.
- c) We also do not pray to a distant or despondent God. We pray to a loving, caring and sharing heavenly "Father". When Jesus was talking about God to others, He sometimes used the term "God". But when Jesus addressed God in directly in prayer, He always prayed to the "Father". We should learn from Jesus. When we pray, we must remember that we are not servants. We are not slaves. We are sons! As sons, we pray to Abba, Father, our Daddy in heaven.

2. Pray for the Father to give you strength in your spirit, through His Spirit.

- a) Paul prayed, "I ask the Father with his great glory to give you the power to be strong in your spirits. He will give you that strength through his Spirit."

January 7 (Day 6): Grace Based Prayers (Part 1)

b) God has limitless power and He makes His power available to us through His Spirit. God's Spirit literally empowers our spirit.

c) Through God's empowerment (or grace) we can operate in power that far exceeds human ability. Once we are filled with God's Spirit, the supernatural is supposed to be natural to us.

3. Pray for understanding concerning the depth and breadth of God's love.

a) Paul prayed that we would understand "the greatness of Christ's love—how wide, how long, how high, and how deep that love is."

Paul said, "Christ's love is greater than anyone can ever know, but I pray that you will be able to know that love."

b) When you get a revelation of the love of God, it will change you forever.

c) Once you know how much God loves you and all He planned to do in your life by grace, your perspective of Him and your future will change. You will have a confidence in God that cannot be shaken because you will be convinced that He loves you with an unconditional love!

4. Pray to be filled with everything God has for you.

a) Paul taught that once you get a revelation of God's love and all He planned to do in your life by grace, "Then you can be filled with everything God has for you."

January 7 (Day 6): Grace Based Prayers (Part 1)

b) Your life is not about you. Your life is about God's assignment; an assignment God issued before the world began. When you stop living your story and start living the story God wrote for you before you were born, you will get to experience and enjoy everything God already has stored up for you! It will be an amazing life, because it is the life God planned and not the one you came up with without Him.

5 . Pray for God to reveal and manifest His best in your life – which is far greater than anything you could ever ask for, think of, or even imagine.

a) God's plans for your life are far greater than your plans!

b) Paul said, "With God's power working in us" -- which keeps the emphasis on God and His grace -- "God can do much, much more than anything we can ask or think of."

c) God is the one with the power and He is the one who wants to flow His power through you by His grace, for His glory.

d) When God's power flows through you there is nothing you can't do. Because there is nothing He can't do! That is the power of dying to self and yielding to God's grace.

e) God's empowerment (His grace) does not flow to and through you as a matter of human effort. It's not a matter of TRYING. It's actually a matter of DYING. The more you die to self, the more you yield to God, and the more you align with His Kingdom plans and purposes, the more God's power will manifest in your life... for all the world to see!

January 7 (Day 6): Grace Based Prayers (Part 1)

The Declaration of Faith:

Father, I thank You for teaching me to pray from a position of grace. I declare that I have received supernatural power in my spirit, through Your Spirit. Your power flowing through me enables me to do what I could never do on my own. I am Your legs to walk, Your mouth to talk, and Your hands to touch. I die to self and as I do, You flow through me freely. You love me with an everlasting love. The more I get a revelation of Your love, the more open I am to ALL You have for me. My life is not about me. My life is about You and the plans You made for me before the world began. Your plans are greater than mine.

Through the power You have placed IN me, You are able to do far greater than anything I could ever ask for, think of, or even imagine.

So, I declare, by faith, that I am an instrument of the supernatural in this world. I am a member of a supernatural church and together we will leave a mark in this world that will not easily be erased. I declare this by faith. In Jesus' name, Amen.

The Closing Prayer:

Father, I stand in the gap for the global VCMI church. I ask You to renew the power You have placed in our spirits, by Your Spirit. I pray that our lives will be strong in love and built on love. That You would give to us the power to understand the greatness of Christ's love for us—how wide, how long, how high, and how deep that love is. While Christ's love is greater than any human can know, in the natural, I pray that we would know that love, by Your Spirit. That we would be filled with everything You have for us in this season. And that with Your power working in us, and through us, that we would experience Your best in this Year of Harvest. Collectively we give ourselves over to you, and we believe You will use VCMI to change the world in 2018 and beyond! We pray this by faith, in Jesus' name, Amen!

January 8 (Day 7): Grace Based Prayers (Part 2)

January 8 (Day 7): Grace Based Prayers (Part 2)

The Scripture(s):

This is what we pray: that God will make you completely sure of what he wants by giving you all the wisdom and spiritual understanding you need; that this will help you live in a way that brings honor to the Lord and pleases him in every way; that your life will produce good works of every kind and that you will grow in your knowledge of God; that God will strengthen you with his own great power, so that you will be patient and not give up when troubles come. Then you will be happy and give thanks to the Father. He has made you able to have what he has promised to give all his holy people, who live in the light.

(Colossians 1:9-12 ERV).

January 8 (Day 7): Grace Based Prayers (Part 2)

The Discussion:

In the opening comments of Paul's letter to the church in Colossae, the Apostle talked about how much he prayed for the believers there. He said: "In our prayers we always thank God for you... Throughout the world, the Good News is bringing blessings and is spreading. And that's what has been happening among you since the first time you heard it and understood the truth about God's grace. You heard it from Epaphras, our dear friend and co-worker. He is a faithful servant of Christ for us. He also told us about the love you have from the Spirit. Since the day we heard these things about you, we have continued praying for you." (Col 1:3-9 ERV). Paul was not shy about expressing the importance of prayer. He even went on to share the prayer he prayed for them.

Paul's graced based prayer: "This is what we pray: that God will make you completely sure of what he wants by giving you all the wisdom and spiritual understanding you need; that this will help you live in a way that brings honor to the Lord and pleases him in every way; that your life will produce good works of every kind and that you will grow in your knowledge of God; that God will strengthen you with his own great power, so that you will be patient and not give up when troubles come." (Colossians 1:3-11 ERV).

January 8 (Day 7): Grace Based Prayers (Part 2)

The Application:

1. Pray to clearly know what God wants to do with your life.

- a) Paul prayed, “That God will make you completely sure of what he wants.”
- b) When you understand God’s grace, you quickly realize that your life is not about you or your selfish desires. It’s about God and the plans He made for you before the world began.
- c) There is nothing more powerful than a man or woman who is completely clear about God’s assignment for their life, and who is accessing the grace for that assignment with their faith.

2. Pray to access God’s wisdom and spiritual understanding.

- a) Paul prayed that God would give you “all the wisdom and spiritual understanding you need.”
- b) God has already made His wisdom and spiritual understanding available to you, by His grace. When you pray in faith, you access His grace to know His plans.
- c) God can give you wisdom beyond your years and revelation beyond your education. He does this so you can live from the inside out. God wants you to live by discerning over learning, and by instinct over intellect.

January 8 (Day 7): Grace Based Prayers (Part 2)

3. Pray to access the grace to live a life that is pleasing in God's sight.

a) Paul explained that hearing from God will “help you live in a way that brings honor to the Lord and pleases him in every way.”

b) Your goal every day should be to do whatever God wants you to do that day.

c) The more you yield to God, His grace, and His will; the more you will live a life that is pleasing in His sight.

4. Pray to access the grace to produce good works of every kind.

a) Paul prayed, “That your life will produce good works of every kind.” While grace does not come BY work, it certainly comes FOR work. God has called you and graced you to WORK; not to simply work for money. God wants you to work so you can manifest your divine purpose!

b) The grace of God is on you to produce good works. God does not require you to come up with the power to perform the work. God has already made His power (or grace) available to you to do all He has called you to do.

c) As you walk with God and you are led of His Spirit, He will give you the words, and He will perform the work (John 14:10).

5. Pray for God to strengthen you with His supernatural power.

January 8 (Day 7): Grace Based Prayers (Part 2)

- a) Paul prayed, “That God will strengthen you with his own great power.”
- b) Whatever God expects you to do, He has already equipped you to do, by His grace.
- c) God’s power is freely made available to you to accomplish His Kingdom plans and purposes for your life.
- d) It would be out-of-character for your Heavenly Father to require something of you that He has not ALREADY equipped and empowered you to do. He now expects you to do what He has already equipped and empowered you to do.

6 . Pray to access to the grace to keep going when troubles come.

- a) Paul prayed, “That you will be patient and not give up when troubles come.”
- b) You will not accomplish great things for God without overcoming opposition.
- c) The greater the assignment from God, the greater the attack from satan.
- d) The same God who gave you the grace for the assignment has also given you the grace to keep going when the pressure is on you to give up, cave in and quit.

January 8 (Day 7): Grace Based Prayers (Part 2)

The Declaration of Faith:

Father, You made plans for me before the world began. You made those plans by Your unearned grace. I had nothing to do with it. My success in life is tied to those plans. You now freely reveal to me all You planned to do in, with and through my life. As I die to self and You reveal Your plans to me, I am able to live my life with complete confidence, knowing why I am here, and what I was born to do. You give me wisdom and spiritual understanding so I can live a life that is pleasing in Your sight. As I walk with You and You walk with me, You produce good works of every kind, in me and through me, all for Your glory. I don't do this with my power. I do it with Your great power, which is freely made available to me by Your grace. Your power flowing through me equips me, enables me, empowers me, and employs me as Your heavenly emissary on this planet. And that same power keeps me going when the pressure is on me to give up, cave in or quit! I will not lose, because I shall not quit! I declare this by faith. In Jesus' name, Amen.

January 8 (Day 7): Grace Based Prayers (Part 2)

The Closing Prayer:

Father, I pray for my family, my global church family, and me. I pray that You would make us completely sure of what You want us to do. That You would release [afresh], divine insight, wisdom, revelation, knowledge and understanding. That equipped with Your insight and faith, our lives will be pleasing to You in every way. That it would be You, Father, living in us... giving us the words and performing the work! And lastly Father, that we would be patient and not give up when troubles come. We are already gifted with all it takes. You have already enabled us to keep going. You have graced us to endure, when the pressure is on. I release my faith with my church family for us to do just that! Living this way we will experience a Year of Divine Harvest! We pray this by faith, in Jesus' name, Amen!

January 9 (Day 8): In Christ

January 9 (Day 8): In Christ

The Scripture(s):

And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him. Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.

(1 John 4:16, 17 KJV)

The Discussion:

The passage we will look at this week (1 Jn 4:16,17) is key and central to the vision of Victory Christian Ministries International. We are called to live “As Jesus is, in this world!” As we get a revelation of whom Jesus is, we will get a revelation of whom we are and of what we are called to do.

It is critically important for us, as believers, to acknowledge the fact that we are NOTHING in and of ourselves. Our sufficiency comes from Christ and Christ alone! Apart from Christ, we can do nothing, but IN Him, we can do all things! (Phil 4:13).

As we prepare to study this topic this week, we will begin with 10 “golden nuggets”. Read and discuss these points carefully and prayerfully. Many scripture references are provided. Read and meditate these scriptures today.

January 9 (Day 8): In Christ

The Application:

1. We could not redeem ourselves. As mere humans, we could never be good enough. The good news is that Jesus was good enough for us. Jesus became our redemption. With our redemption fully secured in Christ, the Father then offered us this redemption, by grace, as a free gift. We receive the gift when we receive Christ. When we are IN CHRIST, we are redeemed from sin, hell and the grave (Rom 3:24).
2. In Christ there is no condemnation. Jesus was completely perfect. When we are Born-Again, we are IN CHRIST. Therefore, in Christ, we are also seen as perfect. There is no condemnation for those who are IN Christ Jesus (Rom 8:1).
3. The expansive, unending, unyielding and unfailing love of God, which spans the height, depth, width and breadth of God Himself, is IN CHRIST. When we are IN Christ, we get to enjoy this amazing love. Not because we earned it, but because Jesus earned it for us (Rom 8:39).
4. Although the Body of Christ is comprised of many people, all over the world, we are all made to become ONE BODY in Christ Jesus (Rom 12:5). Outside of Christ, we struggle to be unified. But IN CHRIST we can operate as ONE! On a smaller scale, VCMI is one church in many locations. We have both domestic and international campuses. While we may be many, we are also ONE in Christ Jesus!
5. Jesus was made wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption (1 Cor 1:30). Once we are IN CHRIST, we get to receive and enjoy ALL that He is!
6. In Adam ALL DIE. In Christ ALL have been MADE ALIVE (1 Cor 15:22). Because of Adam, we were born one way, but because of Jesus we were Born-Again!

January 9 (Day 8): In Christ

7. The Bible tells us to give thanks unto God, who ALWAYS causes us to triumph IN CHRIST (2 Cor 2:14). Our victory is IN HIM! He already obtained the victory. We are not striving to achieve or obtain. Our role is to simply RECEIVE, by faith, that victory Jesus already obtained for us! In Christ we have the victory! We can enter every day with victory as our starting point, not our destination! This enables us to pray, not FOR the victory, but rather to pray FROM a position OF victory!

8. When you study all the Father did IN CHRIST JESUS and how He then placed you IN Jesus (and Jesus IN you), it changes everything. When you received Jesus as Lord, you received ALL that He is. So, you can rest from your own works. You are not striving for sufficiency; your sufficiency is IN HIM! You are not striving to become perfect; your perfection is IN HIM. You are not afraid of the Day of Judgment; you were already judged IN HIM. When you get this revelation, you can boldly declare, "As Jesus is, so am I, in this world!"

9. Jesus took your place on the cross so that you could take His place in this world! Meditate and meditate this truth.

10. In heaven, Jesus represents you before the Father. In the earth, you represent Him before the world! As Jesus is, so are you, in this world!

January 9 (Day 8): In Christ

The Declaration of Faith:

Father, this is the year of Harvest for me. I say this without reservation because I know I am IN CHRIST and CHRIST is IN ME! I get to enjoy all that Jesus is, because You freely offer me His best by your unearned grace. You hide me IN JESUS and You then reveal Jesus IN ME. You don't do this because I deserve it. You do this because You love me and because You love the world. So, Father, as I seek to maximize this season of Harvest, I do so knowing that Christ will be revealed IN ME and THROUGH ME. With this revelation firmly planted in my heart, I can boldly declare, "As Jesus is, so am I, in this world!" Everything Jesus is, is who I am! I am, because He is! I declare this by faith. In Jesus' name, Amen.

The Closing Prayer:

Father, I thank You for sending Jesus to die in our place. Jesus paid a price I could not pay. He settled a debt He did not owe. He did it for me and He did it for the world. As I pray in this moment, I lift up every member of VCMI. I pray that we would see ourselves as Jesus is. That we would acknowledge the fact that our sufficiency comes from Him and Him alone. That Your love would flow TO and THROUGH us daily. That the lost would come to you in droves, in VCMI campuses around the world. That our church would be known as a place where love can be felt, where Jesus is revealed, and where supernatural power flows freely. We pray this by faith, in Jesus' name, Amen!

January 10 (Day 9): Christ Is Our Substitution

January 10 (Day 9): Christ Is Our Substitution

The Scripture(s):

The Apostle John said:

And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him. Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.

(1 John 4:16, 17 KJV)

The Apostle Paul said:

The love of Christ controls us because we know that one person died for everyone. So all have died. He died for all so that those who live would not continue to live for themselves. He died for them and was raised from death so that they would live for him.

From this time on we don't think of anyone as the world thinks of people. It is true that in the past we thought of Christ as the world thinks. But we don't think that way now. When anyone is in Christ, it is a whole new world. The old things are gone; suddenly, everything is new! All this is from God. Through Christ, God made peace between himself and us. And God gave us the work of bringing people into peace with him.

(2 Cor 5:14-17 ERV)

January 10 (Day 9): Christ Is Our Substitution

The Discussion:

In yesterday's devotion, we looked at 1 John 4:16&17. Today we will add to it 2 Corinthians 5:14-17. Both authors, John and Paul, talk about the love of God, the reality of Jesus, and how when we embrace all God gave us in His Son, we are changed forever.

As we get into the application, please take the time to discuss these points as a family and to meditate/meditate what God says to you, based on what He already said in the Bible.

The Application:

1. When we are IN CHRIST, Jesus' death becomes our death.

a) The Apostle Paul said, "One person died for everyone. So all have died." That one person was Jesus. All of us who are IN HIM, get to participate in His death.

b) Paul said, "When we were baptized, we were buried with Christ and took part in his death" (Rom 6:4).

c) When we went down in the water, in baptism, it was an outward symbol of the inward change that took place when we were Born-Again. We died to self and the life we know live, we live for Him – alive to Christ!

January 10 (Day 9): Christ Is Our Substitution

d) Since Jesus died our death, and His death is a true substitution for our own, we delivered from the bondage of the fear of death (Heb 2:15). There are people who are afraid of getting on a plane or a cruise ship. They are not afraid of flying, they are afraid of dying. But they should not be, because Jesus took the sting out of death! Jesus robbed the grace of its victory.

2 . When we are IN CHRIST, Jesus' resurrection becomes our resurrection.

a) Our text says, "He died for all so that those who live would not continue to live for themselves. He died for them and was raised from death so that they would live for him."

b) Paul said, "In Adam all of us die. And in the same way, in Christ all of us are made alive again." (1 Cor 15:22).

c) Jesus was raised from the dead into the newness of eternal life. Jesus will never die again. When we are IN CHRIST, we are raised with Jesus. We are raised from death to eternal life. We have passed from death to life (John 5:24). We have done all the dying we are going to do. We now get to live in the newness of the life Christ died to give us.

d) The Greek word used for "born again" in John 3:3 is a Greek word that literally means: born from above. When we are born-again, we are born from above. We become citizens of heaven. We are in the world, but not of it.

January 10 (Day 9): Christ Is Our Substitution

3. When we are IN CHRIST, Jesus' life becomes our life.

a) Jesus was not just an example FOR us. He was an example OF us. If we are IN CHRIST, then His death is our death, and His resurrection is our resurrection. This also means that His life IS now our life!

b) When you are IN CHRIST everything changes. You are just like Jesus. When God looks at you, He sees you no less than He sees His own Son. He loves you no less than He loves Jesus. He expects of you, NO LESS, than He expected of Jesus Himself; and that is to complete your earthly assignment before you die. The only way to do this is to SEE yourself AS JESUS IS, in this world.

c) When you are IN Jesus, and He is IN YOU, all Jesus IS, is what you ARE! There is no separation between you and Jesus. Getting a revelation of this is critical to becoming true living witnesses on this planet. To win the lost and to draw the harvest of souls God has called VCMI to reap, we must live "As Jesus is, in this world!"

The Declaration of Faith:

Father, this is the year of Harvest for me. I don't say this based on my merit. I say this based on all that Jesus is. I am in Jesus, and Jesus is in me. His death was my death. So, I have no fear of dying. His resurrection was my resurrection. So, I walk in the newness of life. His life is now my life. I live down here, as Jesus IS, up there! Jesus took my place on the cross. I now take His place in the earth. As Jesus is, so am I, in this world! I declare this by faith. In Jesus' name, Amen.

January 10 (Day 9): Christ Is Our Substitution

The Closing Prayer:

Father, as I come to You in prayer, in the name of Your Son, my Savior, Jesus the Christ, I do so with fearless confidence. I know You love me with an everlasting and unconditional love. I am convinced of Your love. Which is why I am able to pray with such confidence. I set my faith in agreement with my brothers and sisters around the world. I pray that our church, VCMI, would be filled with men and women who see themselves “As Jesus is, in this world!” Living this way, we will see souls saved and communities changed, for Your glory. Not because we are so good. But because You are! And because You have called us for such a time as this! We pray this by faith, in Jesus' name, Amen!

January 11 (Day 10): Embracing The Love of God

January 11 (Day 10): Embracing The Love of God

The Scripture(s):

And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him. Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.

(1 John 4:16, 17 KJV)

The Discussion:

In his first of three letters, the Apostle John talked extensively about the love of God. He was in his 90s when he wrote these letters. After having meditated on God's love for decades, John revealed the true identity of God. John tells us that love is not something God has or something God does. Love is WHO God is!

Something worth noting is that John referred to himself as the "the one God loves" throughout his writings. Let's take a look at a few of these references:

"One of them, the disciple whom Jesus loved, was reclining next to him." (John 13:23).

"When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to her, "Woman, here is your son?" (John 19:26).

January 11 (Day 10): Embracing The Love of God

“So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don’t know where they have put him!” (John 20:2).

“Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, “It is the Lord,” he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water.” (John 21:7).

“Peter turned and saw that the disciple whom Jesus loved was following them. (This was the one who had leaned back against Jesus at the supper and had said, “Lord, who is going to betray you?”) (John 21:20).

John called himself “the disciple whom Jesus loved” in his early writings and in his latter writings (1st, 2nd and 3rd John), we find some of the richest teaching on God’s love in the Bible. It was Grandpa John, towards the end of his life, after the all the other disciples were dead and gone, who told us that God IS Love! It was Grandpa John, who spent decades seeing Himself as “the one God loves,” who used the word “beloved” over and over in his writings. The word “beloved” literally means: being loved. John did not just want us to know that God is love, but he wanted us to see ourselves as people who are actively BEING LOVED by God on a daily basis. It was Grandpa John who explained to us that we could not even love God, if He had not FIRST LOVED US! John put the emphasis on God’s love and He is an example of what happens when you fully embrace the love of God. When you see yourself as God’s favorite, as the one God loves, you are then in position to fully embrace all Jesus died for you to be.

January 11 (Day 10): Embracing The Love of God

The Application:

1. When you accept God's love, your life becomes all about Him!

a) God may be "like" many things, but there are only two things the Bible says God actually is. The Apostle John reveals both. John tells us that God is light. In Him there is no darkness at all. And John also tells us that God is love. In God, there is no selfishness at all.

b) When you finally open your heart to the true nature of God's love, and He begins to reveal all that He has called you to do – not because you deserve it, but only because He loves you – it is then and only then that you are in position to walk in God's best. **God's best has nothing to do with your performance.** You are not performing for it. You are not earning it. You are not working to deserve it. You are simply receiving it all as a gift. A gift given to you by a God who loves you unconditionally. The day you open your heart to this revelation will be the day your life becomes ALL ABOUT HIM!

2. Love frees you to embrace all that Jesus is.

a) Getting a revelation of God's love is critical because you will never fully embrace all that God made you to be, in Christ Jesus; until you are convinced He loves you!

January 11 (Day 10): Embracing The Love of God

b) John teaches us that we can stand boldly before God on the Day of Judgment. Our boldness does not come from our performance. Our boldness does not come from our merit. Our boldness does not come from anything we did. Our boldness comes solely from Jesus. We are IN Him and He is IN us. This is the only way we can stand before God on the Day of Judgment.

c) Fully embracing ALL that Jesus is, is not easy. It is counterintuitive. It is contrary to human logic. It is hard for our mind to accept the fact that everything Jesus is can simply be attributed to us. When we believe God, when we put our faith in Jesus, all that Jesus did is actually “imputed” to us. It’s not that we are righteous in and of ourselves. But being IN Christ means that all that He is, is actually imputed (or credited/assigned) to us. The human heart has a hard time accepting this gift, because it is so good. This is where the love of God comes in. When you fully embrace God’s love, you open your heart to receive all that Jesus is. Not because you are so good, but because God is.

d) God is so good that when you stand before Him, He sees His Son. You don’t deserve it, but God treats you the same way He treats Jesus. He loves you with the same love He gave His only begotten Son. When Jesus walked the earth, He was the only begotten of the Father. But once He died, He became a seed that was sown into the earth. This seed has produced a harvest. You are part of that harvest. Jesus is no longer the only Son. Now He is the firstborn of many, many brethren! He is now one of many and every member of the Body of Christ is in that number. Why did God do this? Why is God so good to us? The answer is simple: because He loves us.

January 11 (Day 10): Embracing The Love of God

The Declaration of Faith:

Father, this is the year of Harvest for me. I can say this boldness and confidence, because my confidence is NOT in me. My confidence is in YOU. My faith is rooted and grounded in the unconditional and unending love You have for me. You love me without measure. You love me the same as You love Your own Son, Jesus. When You look at me, You see Jesus. When I stand before You, I am hidden in Christ. When I enter each day in this world, Christ is revealed in me. My life is all about You! I am convinced that You will complete what You started in my life. You will use me for Your glory. You will change the world through me. Not because I am so good, but because You are. So, I enter this day as a world-changer, challenge-overcomer and a problem-solver: not in my strength, but only in Yours! As Jesus is, so am I, in this world! I declare this by faith. In Jesus' name, Amen.

The Closing Prayer:

Father, I thank You for giving me a revelation of Your unconditional love for me. I pray that every member of VCMI would open his/her heart to Your love. I pray that we would see ourselves the way You see us. That the Holy Spirit would pour out Your love afresh, in our hearts. That we would fully embrace Your love, to the point where we see ourselves, like the Apostle John did, as the ones You love. That we would see ourselves as Your favorite. That our confidence would be rooted and grounded in Your love for us. Father, make VCMI the place where You love changes everyone who comes through our doors. And make every member a walking/talking conduit of Your love daily. We pray this by faith, in Jesus' name, Amen!

January 12 (Day 11): Religion vs. Grace

Head January 12 (Day 11): Religion vs. Grace ing

The Scripture(s):

The Apostle John said:

And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him. Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.

(1 John 4:16, 17 KJV)

The Discussion:

Many of the conflicts that are raging in the world today originated under the banner of religion. Religion is often about rituals, rites and routines. Religion is cold. Religion is formal. Religion is human. Religion is man's attempt to make sense of divinity. Jesus did not come so we could have a religion. Jesus came for us to have a warm, embracing, evolving, supernatural relationship with a living God. Jesus often butted-heads with the religious leaders of His day. Religion has caused more harm than good. And what was true back then is true today.

In this devotion, we will compare and contrast religion and grace.

January 12 (Day 11): Religion vs. Grace

The Application:

1. Religion vs. Grace.

a) Religion teaches you to strive to be good enough and that you will only be blessed if you are good. The gospel of grace makes it clear that you could never be good enough and that God blesses you ONLY because He is good!

b) Religion puts the spotlight on you and it makes your life about what you can do for God. The gospel of grace puts the spotlight on God and it makes our lives about what God has already done for us. Furthermore, grace emphasizes what God is committed to do in, with and through us!

c) Religion says, “You have to be worthy to be pleasing to God!” Grace says, “Jesus was worthy for me. My heavenly Father sees me, just like Jesus, in this world. And the only reason I can live holy, is because Jesus is IN me and He is holy!”

d) Religious people never tap into the supernatural power of God because they attempt to do everything in their own power, ability and strength. The power of God does not flow through a human when the human is the one attempting to perform the work. The power of God only flows through a human when the human dies to self and gets out of God’s way! Grace opens the door to the supernatural because grace understands that we are merely the human conduits of the divine.

January 12 (Day 11): Religion vs. Grace

e) If you are religious, you will never see yourself “As Jesus is, in this world!” Because you will never see yourself as “good enough.” It is the grace of God that enables us to see ourselves as equal with Jesus, despite our inadequacies.

2. Grace keeps the emphasis on God and NOT on us.

a) The goal is to see yourself AS JESUS IS, in this world, and to then live your life with an emphasis on Him and NOT on you!

b) When you live your life with an emphasis on God, it releases you from the pressure to perform. At this point you can enter God’s rest. This is the only way you will believe, receive, experience and enjoy God’s finished work in your life. When you live this way, you are not striving to obtain victory; you are living from the position of victory that Jesus already obtained for you. And you enter every day cognizant of the fact that you are IN Him, He is IN you, and the Father sees you just like He saw Jesus: ONE WITH HIM! (See John 17:20,21).

c) The gospel of grace takes the emphasis off of you, your performance and your ability. Your performance could never be flawless enough. Your ability could never be strong enough. But God’s grace is always enough.

d) God can use anyone because the power comes from God and not man. Paul said, “We have this treasure from God, but we are only like clay jars that hold the treasure. This is to show that the amazing power we have is from God, not from us” (2 Cor 4:7). We are the containers, but God is the content. We may house the glory, but we cannot take any credit for the glory God allows us to transport around. God put His “super” inside of our “natural.” This is the only way we can operate in the supernatural. It’s all about Him!

January 12 (Day 11): Religion vs. Grace

e) When you understand grace you enter into God's rest. You know the assignment came from God, the giftings you will need come from God, the favor it will take to get it done will come from God, and the empowering presence to do what you can't do on your own will also come from God. Even when you are facing extraordinary challenges, you can have peace, because you know it's not about you!

f) Seeing yourself "As Jesus is, in this world," reminds you that He can do, through you, what you could never do on your own!

The Declaration of Faith:

Father, this is the year of Harvest for me, because I know my life is all about You! I provide the container: You provide the content. I am a carrier of God in the earth. I am a conduit of Your glory. The power comes from You. I willingly die, and You willingly LIVE in, with, and through me. I keep the emphasis of my life on You. It is Your power, Your ability, Your strength, and Your favor that have made me a success. You give me all things richly to enjoy, by Your unearned and amazing grace. And You also reassure me that You see me the same way You saw Jesus in this world. You love me the same way You loved Your own Son. Therefore, I boldly declare, as Jesus is, so am I, in this world! I declare this by faith. In Jesus' name, Amen.

January 12 (Day 11): Religion vs. Grace

The Closing Prayer:

Father, I thank You for your overwhelming goodness and Your amazing grace. I pray for VCMI. I set my faith in agreement with my co-laborers in Christ Jesus. I pray that You would deliver us from the pressure to perform. I pray that we would enter into Your rest. That we would rest from our own works. That we would rely on You and You alone. That we would live as human conduits of the divine daily. That Your power would flow through us freely. And that the lost would be drawn because of it. You are Lord over VCMI. You are Lord over my household. And as Lord, I believe You will be seen in all that we do. I pray this by faith, in Jesus' name, Amen!

January 13 (Day 12): One With The Father

January 13 (Day 12): One With The Father

The Scripture(s):

The Apostle John said:

And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him. Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.

(1 John 4:16, 17 KJV)

Jesus said the following, in response to a question from Philip:

Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father. That is all we need.”

Jesus answered, “Philip, I have been with you for a long time. So you should know me. Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father too. So why do you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Don’t you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The things I have told you don’t come from me. The Father lives in me, and he is doing his own work. Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me. Or believe because of the miracles I have done.

January 13 (Day 12): One With The Father

I can assure you that whoever believes in me will do the same things I have done. And they will do even greater things than I have done, because I am going to the Father. And if you ask for anything in my name, I will do it for you. Then the Father's glory will be shown through the Son.

(John 14:8-13 ERV)

The Discussion:

In John 14 Jesus was preparing His disciples for His impending departure. Philip did not want to see Jesus leave. But he asked Jesus to show them the Father before He left. Jesus was clearly upset with Philip's request. Jesus told Philip that he had seen Him and that should have been good enough. Jesus saw Himself as ONE with the Father. Jesus came as a human for a reason. He came to show the world that a human can literally be IN God and have God IN him/her. Jesus said, "I am in the Father and the Father is in me." This is the mindset we are supposed to live our lives with.

When we fully embrace our ONENESS with God, we die to every human limit. Godly humility is not about seeing yourself as "less than" anyone else. Godly humility is about seeing yourself as ONE with God.

The greatest level of humility in Christ is getting to the point where you die to your limits, you see yourself as ONE with God, and you live your life pursuing His agenda. You literally have to humble yourself to be able to grasp the enormity of the image God sees when He looks at you; and also the enormity of the task He has called you to.

January 13 (Day 12): One With The Father

The Application:

1. Jesus made it clear that it was the Father doing the work through Him.

a) Jesus took no credit for the supernatural. He claimed it was the Father, living IN Him, who gave Him the words and who performed the work.

b) Jesus was the only perfect human to ever walk the planet, but He did not perform any of the miracles out of the perfection of His humanity. Jesus allowed the Father to perform through Him. He did this to serve as an example for us. If Jesus had operated out of His perfect humanity, then He could NOT be an example for us, because we are not perfect. But since He was simply a human conduit of the divine, He becomes our example. Every Born-Again believer is a human conduit of the divine. In this way, we can live JUST LIKE JESUS, in this world!

2. Jesus used the supernatural as proof that what He was doing was not human.

a) Jesus said to Philip, “Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me. Or believe because of the miracles I have done.” He was basically saying, “Philip, I am telling you that I am in the Father and the Father is in me. If you have seen me, you have seen the Father. It is the Father living in me, giving me the words and performing the work. Now, if you don’t believe me when I speak these words, then at least believe me because of the miracles. You know the miracles are beyond-human. This is proof that God lives in me!”

January 13 (Day 12): One With The Father

b) No human could do what Jesus did. The only way a human can usurp or supersede natural laws is if God possesses that human.

c) Jesus was saying, “No human can do what I have been doing. This should be proof enough that God Himself lives IN me!” Guess what? We are supposed to live with the same mindset and the same proof. The supernatural is supposed to be natural to us!

3 . Jesus expected us to do what He did – the supernatural should be proof that what we are doing is not human.

a) Jesus said that you would do what He did. Are you? Are you making a demand on the supernatural power you have been endowed with?

b) Your life should be proof that there is a God. If it is not, then there is too much of YOU in the way. The more you die to self, the more God can live through you, for all the world to see!

c) You will never attempt to see the invisible or perform the impossible until you see yourself “As Jesus is, in this world!”

January 13 (Day 12): One With The Father

The Declaration of Faith:

Father, this is the year of Harvest for me. I refuse to live my post-salvation life with a pre-salvation mindset. I am Born-Again. This means I am born from above! You live in me. The God of NO LIMITS is inside of me. Therefore, I refuse to live my life as a mere human. I was born a man, but I was Born-Again a God-man! I am in God and God is in me! Father, my life is proof of Yours! My life is evidence that You exist. The supernatural is natural to me. By Your Spirit I am able to see the invisible and perform the impossible, because I see myself as ONE with You! As Jesus is, so am I, in this world! I declare this by faith. In Jesus' name, Amen.

The Closing Prayer:

Father, I thank You for making me ONE with You through Your own Son, my Savior, Jesus the Christ. As I pray for my church and the global VCMI family, I pray that we would be ONE with You, as Jesus was ONE with You! We are in You! You are in us! May we be one with each other as well. May our ONENESS with You result in a church where Your love abounds, where Your supernatural power is evident, and where miracles, signs and wonders confirm every Word preached. We are Your people. Our relationship with You births a confidence in us that is on full display daily. Living this way, VCMI draws The Harvest in this season. You will add to our church daily, as many as would be saved. We pray this by faith, in Jesus' name, Amen!

January 14 (Day 13): You Are The Proof

January 14 (Day 13): You Are The Proof

The Scripture(s):

The Apostle John said:

And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him. Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.

(1 John 4:16, 17 KJV)

Jesus prayed: (The True “Lord’s Prayer”)

“I pray not only for these followers but also for those who will believe in me because of their teaching. Father, I pray that all who believe in me can be one. You are in me and I am in you. I pray that they can also be one in us. Then the world will believe that you sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me. I gave them this glory so that they can be one, just as you and I are one. I will be in them, and you will be in me. So they will be completely one. Then the world will know that you sent me and that you loved them just as you loved me.”

(John 17:20-23)

January 14 (Day 13): You Are The Proof

The Discussion:

In John 17 we find the true “Lord’s Prayer.” In Matthew 6, in response to the disciples’ request to teach them to pray, Jesus prayed the “Our Father” prayer as a sample or model prayer. But in John 17, Jesus prayed for all those present and for all the believers who would come to Him through the annals of time. In this chapter, Jesus prayed for us. In today’s devotion, we will look at Jesus’ prayer and how it applies to us.

The Application:

1. Open your heart to all Jesus prayed for you to experience.

a) Jesus prayed for us to be ONE with the Father, just like He was ONE with the Father. He expects us to live (in this world), just like He lived (in this world).

b) Jesus expects us to live a supernatural life, in this world, because God lives inside of us, just like He lived inside of Him.

2. Realize that your life is supposed to be living proof of Jesus’ life.

a) Jesus said that when we get to the point where we are ONE with the Father, like He was ONE with the Father, people would believe that He was sent of God.

b) Our lives are supposed to be proof that Jesus is the Son of God.

c) Our lives are supposed to testify of God’s supernatural power and existence.

January 14 (Day 13): You Are The Proof

d) Our lives should be proof that heaven is real. This is why it is critically important that we see ourselves as ONE with God; and as Jesus is, in this world!

3. Open your heart to God's love.

a) Jesus prayed for us to know that the Father loves us the same way He loved Jesus. Receiving this truth changes you from the inside out.

b) The Father loves us with the very same love that He loved His own Son with. Open your heart to this reality. Once you do, you will never be the same!

c) God loves you NO less than He loved Jesus. Embracing this love is critical because knowing God loves you is the key that opens the door to the supernatural.

4. You are the proof.

a) Jesus came to the earth to succeed where Adam failed. He came to establish God's Kingdom in this world. He did it. Mission accomplished. But as Jesus was leaving He knew that His disciples, and all who would follow (which includes us), would have to continue what He started. Our job, as we are led of the Holy Spirit, is to live as He lived, to demonstrate what He demonstrated, and to manifest God's Kingdom in this world. Jesus drove this message home then and we must drive it home now.

January 14 (Day 13): You Are The Proof

b) Jesus spent three and a half years with His disciples, and even then, Jesus had to drive home the message that the responsibility was going to be in THEIR hands. If people were going to believe that Jesus was the Son of God, they were going to have to do it through them!

Over 2,000 years later, the same holds true. If people are going to believe that Jesus is real, that He is the Messiah, that He did what the Bible says, it is going to be because of US! We are the proof. We either RE-Present Jesus well or we don't!

c) The responsibility to RE-Present Jesus in this world is an awesome one. Don't take it lightly. You are the proof that Jesus is real. Your life is supposed to testify of His.

d) If the world is going to believe on the Lord Jesus, they are going to do so because of YOU! You are supposed to show the world what Jesus is like.

e) For your life to testify of Jesus' life, the Bible teaches that you must operate in both God's love and His power. God's love will show people that He lives IN you. His power will show people that you have grown to the point where allow Him to flow through you! Both are necessary.

January 14 (Day 13): You Are The Proof

5. Ask yourself this question: Can the world SEE Jesus IN me?

a) Imagine Jesus held a huddle with you today and said, “Son (or daughter), I love you. I have prepared you for this day. I won’t allow you to go out into it alone. I will be with you every step of the way. Remember, I am IN you, but you have to let me out.

People in this world can’t see me. But they can see you. You are my proof. You are the proof that I exist. Now go live like it!”

Would that pep talk change the way you live this day? If it would, then it’s time to make some changes. This is the way you are supposed to live every day.

b) As you enter each day, remind yourself that the world is supposed to SEE Jesus IN you. That’s why it is so critically important that you live with this mentality: **As Jesus is, so am I, in this world!**

The Declaration of Faith:

Father, this is the year of Harvest for me. The God of the Universe lives IN me. My Savior, Jesus the Christ, is counting on me to RE-Present Him in this world. I declare that I do. I operate in love and power. Love shows the world that my God, who is love Himself, is IN me. Power shows the world that I am in synch with God and He is in synch with me, to the point where God is free to demonstrate His power through me daily. The world sees Jesus IN me every day. Because I live this mentality: **As Jesus is, so am I, in this world!** I declare this by faith. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

January 14 (Day 13): You Are The Proof

The Closing Prayer:

Father, I lift up my church, VCMI, to you today. I pray that as members of VCMI, we embrace the vision You gave our founders, Apostles Tony and Cynthia Brazelton. Part of the vision of our church is actually the mandate Jesus gave us, and that is to be ONE with You and with Him. Father, I pray that every member of VCMI would see themselves “As Jesus is, in this world!” This is how we are going to bring in the amazing harvest You have called us to reap in this season. This is our season! This is our time! The fields are white for harvest. Souls are coming to You and to us NOW! We pray this by faith, in Jesus' name, Amen!

January 15 (Day 14): The Mind of Christ

January 15 (Day 14): The Mind of Christ

The Scripture(s):

And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him. Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.

(1 John 4:16, 17 KJV)

The Apostle Paul said:

“In your life together, think the way Christ Jesus thought. He was like God in every way, but he did not think that his being equal with God was something to use for his own benefit. Instead, he gave up everything, even his place with God. He accepted the role of a servant, appearing in human form.

During his life as a man, he humbled himself by being fully obedient to God, even when that caused his death—death on a cross. So God raised him up to the most important place and gave him the name that is greater than any other name.”

(Philippians 2:5-9 ERV)

January 15 (Day 14): The Mind of Christ

The Discussion:

The statement, “Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,” was made in the middle of a passage about remaining humble and being a blessing one-to-another. Seeing yourself “As Jesus is,” is not about seeing yourself as better than anyone else. It is about humbling yourself to point where you can accept all Jesus called you to be so that you can BE a blessing to others.

Putting on the mind of Christ and seeing yourself “As Jesus is, in this world,” is actually not about any selfish desire to profit or gain. It is simply about becoming the man/woman God called you to be so that you can leave the mark in this world you were born to make. And so the harvest of souls God desires to bring into His church can be drawn in.

The Application:

1. Jesus is our example.

a) Jesus is not just an example FOR us. Jesus is an example OF us. There is no separation between Jesus and us. We are ONE with Him! As Jesus is, so are we, in this world!

b) Jesus was with the Father from the beginning. He made all things. Nothing that was made, was made without Him (John 1:3). He was in heaven and He chose to humble Himself to the point where He stripped Himself of His divinity so that He could live inside of a human body.

January 15 (Day 14): The Mind of Christ

c) Jesus humbled Himself to His assignment. He could have remained in heaven, but since He had an assignment, He humbled Himself to the point where He accepted it, embraced it, and completed it.

d) Like Jesus, you too have an assignment. The Bible says, “God has made us what we are. In Christ Jesus, God made us new people so that we would spend our lives doing the good things he had already planned for us to do.” (Eph 2:10 ERV). When you are Born-Again, and the Holy Spirit begins to reveal the plans God made for you before the world began, you are then posed with a challenge. You have to choose between God’s plans (which He made from the foundations of the world), and your plans (which were birthed in your own heart). Having the mind of Christ means you place God’s plans above your own.

2. Selfishness is natural to this world.

a) Before being Born-Again you were living for yourself. You knew it and God knew it. It was understandable because you were natural to this world. In this world, people pursue their own desires.

b) In this world people are told that they can be whatever they want to be and do whatever they want to do.

January 15 (Day 14): The Mind of Christ

c) The world has been programmed, for millennia, to focus on human desires. But today it is going to an extreme. The focus on self-expression, self-liberty, and living however you want to live — regardless of morality, standards, or the Bible — is at a fever pitch. Anyone who questions an individual's personal expression is labeled a "bigot". The problem with all of this is that it is completely contrary to the way Jesus lived. Selfishness is NOT the mind of Christ. Selfishness is counter to all Jesus represented.

3. Selflessness and humility are natural to God's Kingdom.

a) The Bible teaches us that when we embrace Jesus' death, we must also embrace your own.

b) As a Born-Again believer, you don't own yourself. Your life is not your own. You were bought with a price. That price was the Blood of Jesus. You are now the temple of God. Your body houses the Holy Spirit. Your pursuits are supposed to be Godly pursuits. Your desires are supposed to line up with the plans God made for you before the world began (see 2 Cor 6:19,20).

c) Don't be afraid of giving up control, of changing the direction of your life, or of giving up personal desires. If you willingly give up your life and you truly give yourself completely over to God, you will get to experience an amazing life; it will be the life God planned for you before the world began. It will be greater than anything you ever imagined.

January 15 (Day 14): The Mind of Christ

The Declaration of Faith:

Father, this is the year of Harvest for me. My life is not my own. You purchased me with a price. You redeemed me with the Blood of Your own Son, Jesus the Christ, my Lord. My life is therefore no longer about me, or my selfish desires. My life is about You and the plans You made for me before the world began. I die to me. I fully embrace You. I am who You say I am. I can do what You say I can do. I am all You called me to be, because I am in Christ and Christ is in me! This is why I boldly declare: **As Jesus is, so am I, in this world!** I declare this by faith. In Jesus' name, Amen.

The Closing Prayer:

Father, I thank You for sending Your Son to be an example OF us. I develop the mind of Christ. I live the way Jesus lived. His thoughts are my thoughts. His way are my ways. His example is my example. And I am part of a church, VCMI, where I am surrounded with people of like precious faith. We all believe the same thing. We all have the mind of Christ. We all live as Jesus lived, in this world. So, Father, I set my faith in agreement with my fellow church members, and we collectively lift each other up. We pray for our minds to be renewed, for our thoughts to be aligned with Yours, and for our ways to be pure. The world will see Jesus IN us! We pray this by faith, in Jesus' name, Amen!

January 16 (Day 15): It's Already Done

January 16 (Day 15): It's Already Done

The Scripture(s):

“...But God’s work was finished from the time he made the world.”

(Hebrews 4:4 ERV)

God has made us what we are. In Christ Jesus, God made us new people so that we would spend our lives doing the good things he had already planned for us to do.

(Ephesians 2:10 ERV)

The Discussion:

God wants us to rest in His finished work. We will use a recent VCMI Missions trip as an example of this. A team from our church traveled to Mozambique, Africa in November 2017. God used them for His glory. They came back with many testimonies. Here are two quick ones.

January 16 (Day 15): It's Already Done

First, they encountered a little girl who was crying uncontrollably. The mother said the baby was colicky and she had been crying for hours.

Our team prayed for the baby, she stopped crying, she started smiling, and that opened the door for the team to minister to the family. Second, our team met with a couple who were leaders of their village/tribe. Basically, they were the King and Queen of their people.

They did not know Jesus, they were up in age, and the Queen had been blind for years. Our team ministered to them. They preached Christ. The Queen received Jesus as Lord and through the power of Jesus, the woman's sight was restored. One of our team members had purple hair. When the Queen touched her hair and mentioned how beautiful the purple was, everyone erupted in praise and tears.

The grace and power of God visited this Queen and her people that day. Thankfully, our team was able to be a part of it. This is the essence of ministry. Ministry takes place when divine resources, meet human needs, through loving channels, to the glory of God.

As we get into the application portion of today's devotion, we will see how these testimonies apply to our scriptures, and how they drive home the point that God's work is already done. Our part is to acknowledge and tap into God's finished work.

The Application:

1. Once you know who you are in Christ, your next step is to seek to DO what you were born to do. You are not DOING to get God to move. You are DOING because God already moved. God's part is done, and the revelation of His finished work is what enables you to walk and live by faith.

January 16 (Day 15): It's Already Done

2. When our team was praying for the lady who had been blind for years, they did not actually need to ask God to provide healing. God provided healing 2,000 years ago. Healing has already been provided by grace. It is freely available to all people. What they did was release their faith to access God's grace. Their faith tapped into what God had already provided and the woman's sight was restored. For you, today, it may not be sight you are looking for. Whatever it is, God has already provided. His work is already done. Your role now is to release your faith to access His grace; His finished work.

3. In this season we are believing God for a great harvest. Let's say someone comes up to you today and says, "I want to be saved. I want to give my life to Jesus. I want Jesus to save me from my sins." At this point God does not need to do anything. God did what He needed to do over 2,000 years ago. Jesus already died. Salvation has already been made available. So, in essence, God does not need to DO anything for this person to be saved. The person simply need to receive what God has already provided. They do this by faith. We are saved by grace, through faith (Ephesians 2:8,9). What is true for salvation is true for every area of our lives. God has already provided!

January 16 (Day 15): It's Already Done

4. If you come to God from the position of lack, like you need something and you are asking God to DO something for you, then you are acknowledging the fact that you DON'T BELIEVE it's already done. And if you believe this way, your faith is going to be OFF. Because you are asking God to DO something He already did. Let's put it this way. Let's say a father buys a dozen donuts for his children and then places the donuts on the kitchen counter. He says, "Hey guys, I bought these donuts for you. They are here if you want them." And then later, one of the children comes up to the father and says, "Dad, can you go buy us some donuts? I would really like a donut right now." The father would be disappointed because the child did not acknowledge the fact that he already provided what was being asked for. All the child needed to do was LAY HOLD of what the father already provided. The same holds true today, for us, in so many ways.
5. Sometimes Christians believe there is something else that needs to take place. They are waiting on God to do this or that. But God has already done all He needs to do for us to live the life we were born to live. Waiting on God's timing is one thing. But waiting on God's performance is something else. If you believe God needs to DO something before you can move, you will be waiting a long time. It's already done.
6. You must get to the point where you realize 'you lack nothing.' All you need has already been provided. It's already done.
7. Jesus is not coming back until the Judgment. He did all He needed to do while He was here. It's now your turn. You are supposed to do what He did. You are supposed to live like He lived. The ball is in your court. The onus is on you. What are you doing to do with the grace God has already provided?

January 16 (Day 15): It's Already Done

8. You are called to live by faith. Because faith is how you access what God has already provided. God's part is done. Are you determined to do your part?

The Declaration of Faith:

Father, this is the year of Harvest for me. I am learning so much about You. You reveal to me what You have already provided. You show me what You have already done. I don't have to strive to get You to move.

You have already moved. Your part is already done. Your grace is already there. The provision has already been made. I must get to the point where I realize the fact that I lack nothing! I declare that I do! I walk and live by faith. By faith I access what You have already provided. By faith I LAY HOLD of the life I was born to live! By faith, I live as Jesus is, in this world. I declare this by faith! In Jesus' name, Amen.

The Closing Prayer:

Father, I thank You for giving me a greater understanding of what You have already provided. Your part is done. Your work is complete. You now expect me, and every member of VCMI, to tap into what you have already done. I release my faith for us to do so. As a body of believers, as a church without walls, VMCI is equipped to live supernaturally and to manifest Your power daily. Father, may You anoint our eyes afresh to see, our ears afresh to hear, and our hearts afresh to understand, all You have already given us; especially as it relates to the Great Harvest. We believe we receive a Great Harvest in this season. We pray this by faith, in Jesus' name, Amen.

January 17 (Day 16): Grace and Works

January 17 (Day 16): Grace and Works

The Scripture(s):

And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to *His* purpose. For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to be* conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

(Romans 8:28-30 NKJV)

God has made us what we are. In Christ Jesus, God made us new people so that we would spend our lives doing the good things he had already planned for us to do.

(Ephesians 2:10 ERV)

January 17 (Day 16): Grace and Works

The Discussion:

Some mistake the message of grace to mean that we don't need to do anything. Their point is, that if God already planned everything, then what we do does not matter. People who think this way are misconstruing the message of grace. Just like Grace is not a license to sin, grace is not a license for laziness. While grace does not come BY work, the grace of God certainly comes FOR work. God empowers us, by His grace, to do what He planned, beforehand, for us to do. When you fully embrace the grace of God on your life, you can work harder than you have every worked before, but you do so without getting burned out, without getting stressed out, and without your body breaking down. Because at that point, you are not the one performing the work. It is the Father, living in you. He gives you the words and he performs the work (see John 14:10).

The Application:

1. Don't take grace to an extreme, thinking you don't have to do anything.

a) Taking anything to an extreme leads to error. If you take your part to an extreme, you leave God out. If you take God's part to an extreme, you obviate yourself from your responsibility in the process.

b) You must grow to the point where you understand the balance between God's sovereignty and your responsibility.

2. God predestined you according to His foreknowledge of your decisions.

January 17 (Day 16): Grace and Works

a) God does not have to wait until you make a decision to know what you were going to decide. However, God still honors your decision when you make it. He does not overrule your decision, just because it was against His will. God allows what you allow. God permits what you permit.

b) The Bible says, “For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.” (Romans 8:29). Paul teaches us that God “predestined” you. This means He already planned out your life. He made plans for you before you were born. You are not a mistake. You were born when you were born and where you were born, because of WHY you were born.

c) God planned out your life with the foreknowledge of your decisions. So, your decisions matter, because God took them into account when He made the plan. This means you have a part in His provision. You have a role in the plan! Your decisions matter and you will have to live with the consequences of what you decide.

3. You still need to pray, believe and fight the fight of faith.

a) When Christian leaders preach, “It’s already done” or “God has already provided”, invariably someone will say: “Well, since God already did everything, then I don’t need to do anything,” or, “If everything is already planned out, then it does not matter what I do.” No! These people missed the point altogether. God’s grace (the fact that God has already provided) is not a license to DO NOTHING! It’s actually an empowerment to DO ALL THINGS!

January 17 (Day 16): Grace and Works

b) The fact that God predestined you does not mean you don't have to pray; it may mean you will have to pray more than you ever have before. It just means that God knew what you were going to have face along the way. God knew what you would have prayed for, and He still requires you to pray.

d) Jesus said, "The Father knows exactly what you need even before you ask him!" (Matthew 6:8). After making this statement, Jesus went on to teach the disciples how to pray. He was basically saying, "The Father knows what you need before you ask, but He still requires you to ask." Why? Because He wants His performance in your life to be an act of your will and not just His.

e) You are not a puppet and God is not a puppet-master. He is not pulling your strings. He is not forcing you to do anything. He made you a free moral agent. He gave you the right to choose. He told you what you should choose and He is pleased when you choose what is right.

f) Don't mistake the message of grace to mean that you don't need to pray, believe, release your faith, confess your scriptures, or stand on the Word. Once you understand God's grace, you may have to do all these things more than you ever have. Because to whom much is given, of him much will be required (Luke 12:48). Once God knows you can handle more (because you are relying more on His grace), He will allow you to do more. This also means you will have to face more. But don't get frustrated, God will never allow you to face what you cannot handle. If you are facing it today, it is because God trusts you with it. So, get excited! The size of your mountain is a validation of your growth in Christ. God can allow you to face (an overcome) things today that would have crushed you years ago. The more you grow, the more God will trust you with.

January 17 (Day 16): Grace and Works

The Declaration of Faith:

Father, this is the year of Harvest for me. I know it's already done. You have already provided. You already mapped out my life. You already made the plan. You included my decisions and actions in Your plan. So, I make decisions that line up with Your Word. I pray the prayer of faith. I fight the fight of faith. I believe I receive when I pray. I declare what You have already decreed. I stand on Your Word and I shall never be moved. I have the grace to face what I am facing and I know You have already prepared me to come out on top! Because You are ON me, IN me, WITH me and FOR me! I always win! I declare this by faith! In Jesus' name, Amen.

The Closing Prayer:

Father, I thank You for teaching us to properly discern the relationship between Your sovereignty and our responsibility. Your grace is on us to win. You already empowered us. And now we, as members of VCMI, set out faith in agreement with one another to experience Your best in 2018. We will do what You called us to do. We will perform what You have graced us to perform. We will operate as human conduits of the divine. We will lift up the name of Jesus, that will draw the Harvest in. We are Your people. We are Your church. We are a church without walls and we pray Father, that You would use us to change the world! We pray this by faith, in Jesus' name, Amen.

January 18 (Day 17): Keeping God Relevant

January 18 (Day 17): Keeping God Relevant

The Scripture(s):

That which is has already been, and that which will be has already been, for God seeks what has passed by [so that history repeats itself].

(Ecclesiastes 3:15 AMP)

The Discussion:

Solomon teaches us that everything that “is” today – everything you can see around you, everything going on in your life – has ALREADY BEEN. That’s already a lot to wrap your mind around. But if that were not enough, Solomon then tells us that everything that “will be” in our future – those things that have not happened yet – have also ALREADY BEEN! The text says that God is seeking that which has passed by (in eternity, in His realm, in His plans, in His mind), so that history (or HIS-story) can repeat itself. The plans God made for you have already played themselves out in God’s mind, in eternity, and when He looks at your life today, He is looking for history of eternity to repeat itself, in time, in the earth.

January 18 (Day 17): Keeping God Relevant

Apostle Cynthia, when teaching from Ecc 3:15, said, “God mapped out your entire life before you were born. He then rewound the tape and pressed play the day you were born.” When God looks at you today, He is looking for what He planned. Faith then is not about you coming up with a laundry list of things you want and laying them out before God like He is Santa Claus. No, faith is about discovering what God already planned for your life, what He already prepared for you by His unearned grace, and then making decisions that align with God’s plans. This is why Spiritual perception is so critical. If you can’t SEE it, you don’t know what to ask for. If you can’t SEE it, you don’t know how to pray. If you can’t SEE it, you run the risk of pursuing something that is not yours. And frustration sets in when you repeatedly make a demand on God for something that is not yours to have. You cannot make God do what He did not already plan to do in your life.

The Application:

1. God already made plans for you. God literally mapped out your life before you were born. It’s like He saw your entire life play out before Him within the halls of eternity. He finished you before He started you. And at just the right time, God pressed “play” on the cinema of your life. Your goal now is to live out what God planned. Your aim should be to FIND, FOLLOW and FINISH your divine assignment before you die!
2. Faith peers into God’s realm (eternity), from our realm (time), and then comes back and makes decisions based on what was revealed. That’s how we keep Jesus relevant in our lives. Because living this way keeps God involved in all that we do.

January 18 (Day 17): Keeping God Relevant

3. Faith is not about you pursuing whatever you come up with in your own mind. Faith is not about you telling God what to do. Now, you CAN do whatever you want. You CAN make whatever decisions you want and live with the consequences of them. But don't call that faith. God has no part in things He was never part of.

4. When you live life as the captain of your own ship, charting your own course and pursuing your own plans, you have left God out. God is not part of the picture. Unfortunately, many Christians live this way without acknowledging the fact that they have made God irrelevant in their lives. If you came up with the idea without God, and then pursue it by your own power, and work hard (by the sweat of your brow) to make it happen, then you are living a completely human life. You have made Jesus irrelevant to you. He is not part of your life at all.

5. The reason why God wants you to acknowledge the fact that He already made plans and He wants you to do all you can to live by spiritual discernment, instinct and the revelation of the plans, is because He wants to be relevant in your life. When people read your life's story, God wants to be the STAR on every page. You were created to bring Him glory! But if you never involve God in your life, people will have a hard time finding Him in your biography, because you basically made Him irrelevant.

January 18 (Day 17): Keeping God Relevant

6. If you can “do life” without God, then you have made God irrelevant. God wants you to “do life” with Him. If you do, if you pursue the plans He made for you from the foundations of the world, God will be very relevant in your life. Because His plans are so big that they require His involvement. God will call you to start projects you can’t fund, to lead projects you don’t have the experience for, to stand in rooms you are unqualified to be in, to walk into opportunities that are bigger than your wildest dreams, and to do things (to have great exploits in this world) that bring glory to His name! When you choose to “do life” with God, your life will be greater than anything you ever imagined.

7. Everything we have studied today, to this point, sounds great. But remember, this does not mean you will not face opposition. The devil will do all he can to get you to quit. The devil knows he cannot stop you. When God is ON you, IN you, WITH you and FOR you, the devil can’t do a thing to you. **But YOU CAN STOP YOU!** What the devil does is attempt to get you frustrated. If you get frustrated to the point that you quit, then satan did not stop you: you stopped yourself. The only way you can lose is if you quit!

January 18 (Day 17): Keeping God Relevant

The Declaration of Faith:

Father, this is the year of The Harvest for me. I develop the ability to SEE in the Spirit. You made plans for me before the world began. Your Spirit reveals those plans to me. I am born from above! Your Spirit lives IN me. I am no longer limited to operating as a mere man. I am a God-man. You gave me Your Spirit so I could know the plans You made for me. Your Spirit speaks to me daily, and throughout the day. I am able to peer into heaven, from the earth, so Your will can be done on earth, as it is in heaven. I am able to peer into eternity, from time, and then come back to pursue what You revealed. When You look at me, You are looking for what You already planned. I declare, by faith, that You will find it. Every time You look at my life, You will see (in the earth) what You saw (before the world began): because I keep You relevant. I involve You in all that I do. My life is a manifestation of Your plans! I declare this by faith. In Jesus' name, Amen.

The Closing Prayer:

Father, I ask You to give every member of VCMI eyes to see, ears to hear and a heart to understand Your divine revelation. You made plans for us already. I pray Father, that we would receive divine insight concerning those plans. That we would live by revelation over education; by instinct over intellect; by discerning over learning. Father, flood our eyes with light so we would know what You have called us to do. And as we walk in Your ways and seek to manifest your will in the earth, use us Father for Your glory. Our desire is to keep You relevant in our church and in our personal lives. So, we pray for Your will to be done, on earth, as it is in heaven, through us! May the world see and encounter Jesus through every member of VCMI in 2018. And may The Harvest come in because of it! We pray this by faith, in Jesus' name, Amen.

January 19 (Day 18): God Has Already Provided

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The Scripture(s):

Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ: Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

(2 Peter 1:1-4)

The Discussion:

The Apostle Peter taught us that God has already given us all things that pertain to life and godliness. It's not that God is going to do it. He has already done it. It's not that God is going to provide. He has already provided. God has already gifted you with all it takes to win in life. God has already graced you with everything you will ever need to fulfill your divine assignment.

January 19 (Day 18): God Has Already Provided

All things have been given to you. Everything you will ever need externally (for life) and everything you will ever need internally (for godliness) has already been provided. And you come into the knowledge of what has provided when you come into His knowledge of you. Once again, the key to becoming aware of everything God has already provided you is coming into the knowledge of God's knowledge of you!

For the next few days, we will study this passage. Open your heart to receive all God will say to you through it.

The Application:

1. When you open your heart and mind God's divine revelation concerning the plans He made for you before you were born, it changes the way you 'do life.' Once you are at peace with the fact that God planned for your arrival and that He already setup everything you will need to be successful, your life becomes less about your striving and more about making an earthly alignment with your heavenly assignment.

2. Peter tells us that God's grace and peace can literally be multiplied to us. But this multiplication does not come as a result of our performance. It comes as a result of revealed knowledge. The more God reveals to us about the plans He already made for us, the more we know what grace and peace we can access. It's not that God is responding to us. We are actually responding to revealed knowledge. The more God reveals, the more we get to walk in, by faith. The life of faith then, is a life of believing, receiving and pursuing what God reveals to us – things He has already done.

January 19 (Day 18): God Has Already Provided

3. We are not waiting on God to do. God has already done. God is waiting on us to receive the revelation of what He has done, so we can know what to do and how to do it. At that point, we are not doing to get God to move. We are doing because God has already moved. Our doing is based on the fact that it is already done.

4. You don't have to come up with your own plans. You don't have to invent your own life. True life is in discovering what God has already done. When Jesus was speaking to a crowd of potential followers Jesus said, "Any of you who want to be my follower must stop thinking about yourself and what you want. You must be willing to carry the cross that is given to you for following me. Any of you who try to save the life you have will lose it. But you who give up your life for me and for the Good News will save it." (Mark 8:34,35 ERV). Jesus knew His plans for their lives were much greater than anything they could come up with on their own. He knew the people He was looking at were already destined. They were already called to greatness. Their path to victory was already mapped out. But Jesus also knew that in order for them to RECEIVE the victory God had already prepared they were going to have to DIE. They had to give their lives as a sacrifice to receive true life – the life God planned for them to live. The same holds true today.

5. When you are truly convinced of God's plans for your life, you enter into God's rest.

a) The Father does not want you working hard to become someone in Him. You are already someone in Him. He just wants you to believe what He believes about you!

January 19 (Day 18): God Has Already Provided

b) When God looks at you He sees you the way He called you. And He knows He already stored up all you will ever need to accomplish Your assignment. Now, He wants you to get the point where you see it too!

c) The Father does not want you to live your life striving to MAKE things happen. He wants you to simply discern what He has already done. Once you do, you then get to walk in His finished work.

6. God prepared for you, and He then prepared you to walk in what He prepared. When this becomes your mindset, you will look at every challenge and/or opportunity through the lens of faith.

7. Stop thinking that God has to provide. Start discerning that God has already provided. God has provided all things that pertain to life and all things that pertain to godliness.

8. You don't have to wait on God to do anything. You don't have to "look for another," as if God is not already the answer. God has already provided. His work is already done. The more you come into the knowledge of God's knowledge of you, the more you are equipped to live as the man/women God called, destined, designed and desires for you to be!

January 19 (Day 18): God Has Already Provided

The Declaration of Faith:

Father, this is the year of Harvest for me. I am determined to experience Your best in 2018. 2018 will be the best year of my life! Not because of my DOING. But because I know You have already done. I open my heart to receive the revelation of all You have already planned for this season. I am determined to release my faith to bring to pass what You reveal. I live every day in pursuit of the plans You already made. My life is a life of DOING! But I don't DO to get You to move. I DO because You have already moved. I DO because it's already DONE! My faith receives what Your grace has already provided. I declare this by faith. In Jesus' name, Amen.

The Closing Prayer:

Father, I thank You for making plans for me and for my church before the world began. As an individual, I know You have already given me all things that pertain to life and godliness. And as a church, I know the same holds true. So, Father, I release my faith, with my fellow church members, to be the individuals You have called us to be. And the collective body You have called us to be. We are not looking for anything or anyone else. You are the answer. We are convinced of this. And we live our lives in such a way that everyone can SEE JESUS in what we do. We pray this by faith, in Jesus' name, Amen.

January 20 (Day 19): Your Future is God's Past

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The Scripture(s):

Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ: Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

(2 Peter 1:1-4)

The Discussion:

If you truly believe God made plans for you before you were born, then it is prudent to check with Him before you make any major decisions. Because if you choose something that is not part of His plan, even if the “thing” is considered to be a “good thing,” the decision will still be contrary to God's best and the results will be frustrating.

January 20 (Day 19): Your Future is God's Past

Before you make a major purchase, before you decide on the next career move, before you marry the person you “think” you’re in love with, before this or that, it is paramount that you seek the counsel of God. Something that was a blessing for someone else can wind up being a curse for you. Just because it worked out for someone you know, it does not mean it is God’s best for your life. God gave you His Spirit so you could know the plans He tailor-made for your life.

When you understand that God has already provided all things that pertain to life and godliness for you, your life becomes an amazing journey of discovery. You live your life discovering what God already planned, and you get to walk out the destiny that is already IN you!

The Application:

1. The things of God are not earned by human performance. God already gave you all things that pertain to life and godliness. You are not living to earn God’s blessing. You are living to discover God’s will and to deploy into your destiny!

2. Your future is God’s past. God has already been there. He has already seen it. So now, when God looks at you, He is looking for what He saw. He is looking for history (or HIS-story) to repeat itself in your life (see Ecc 3:15).

3. Your decisions and actions matter. Your life is a grand-sum total of your decisions. It is true that God mapped out your destiny before you were born. But whether you fulfill it, is up to you. God will not force you to become the man/woman He destined you to be. He leaves that decision in your hands. You get to choose or reject God and His best.

January 20 (Day 19): Your Future is God's Past

4. God sets the end from the beginning. God never begins anything at the beginning. He sets the end first, and then backs up and starts the process. This means all you need to succeed in life – to become the man/woman you are called/destined/designed to be – is already planned and prepared. Your journey is a journey of discovery and deployment. You discover what God reveals and you deploy into your destiny when the timing is right, knowing you already have the grace to do what you are called to do.

5. The future is the end, trapped in the beginning. Your future is not ahead of you: it is trapped within you. The oak tree is **IN** the acorn. The chicken is **IN** the egg. The 7ft. wingspan of a bald eagle is trapped within the 2.5-inch egg. God's future for you is already trapped **WITHIN** you! You are already gifted with all it will take to manifest your destiny. God has already blessed you with all you need. It's already inside of you and **AS YOU GO**, what is in you will be developed and demonstrated. Living this way, your life becomes an **OUTWORKING** of the **INTERNAL!**

6. God finished you before He ever started you. He mapped out your entire life before you were born. Everything you need internally has already been provided (although it will need to be developed). Everything you need externally has already been prepared (although it will not show up until the **right time**). When you understand this, you stop worrying and stressing, and you live your life by faith in what God has already provided.

January 20 (Day 19): Your Future is God's Past

7. If you are stressing over an internal need, it is because you believe you don't already have it. If you are stressing over an external need, it is because you believe God did not already set up the conditions for you to receive it. Both of these conditions are an affront to God. They demonstrate the fact that you don't believe God. God did not send you into the earth to fail. You were not born to lose. You were born with everything you need internally "planted" inside of you and everything you need externally "prepared" for you before you were born. If you truly believe this, you will have no need to stress, worry or fear. Because you know your internal and external needs have already been provided!

The Declaration of Faith:

Father, this is the year of Harvest for me. Everything I need has already been provided. If it is an internal matter, I believe You have already gifted me with it. It's already inside of me. If it is an external matter, I believe You already setup the conditions for me to receive it, at just the right time. It's already stored up for me. So, I have no need to stress, worry or fear. I believe God. I trust You Father! I know I am already gifted, I am already blessed, and I am already prepared to fulfill my destiny! My future is not ahead of me. My future is WITHIN me and I declare that it shall be manifested, in the fullness of Your timing! I declare this by faith. In Jesus' name, Amen.

January 20 (Day 19): Your Future is God's Past

The Closing Prayer:

Father, I believe You have already gifted VCMI to be the church You called us to be. You destined us to receive an amazing harvest of souls this year. I pray for every VCMI campus. I set my faith in agreement with my brothers and sisters. We believe we receive when we pray. We know this is our season to experience Your best. We know you will add to the church daily. We know You will develop us to be living epistles, read of men. We know we are called to be just like Jesus, in this world. So Father, we open our hearts to believe and receive all You planned to do through VCMI this year. We will never be the same. Our campuses will never be the same. Our communities will never be the same. We pray this by faith, in Jesus' name, Amen.

January 21 (Day 20): You Lack Nothing!

January 21 (Day 20): You Lack Nothing!

The Scripture(s):

Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ: Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

(2 Peter 1:1-4)

The Discussion:

At VCMI we believe we already have the victory through our Lord, Jesus the Christ. We do not pray from a position of lack or need. We pray from a position of grace, knowing God has already provided. Our perspective enables us to enter into God's rest, to see challenges through the lens of faith, and to resist every inkling to fear the enemy or doubt our God.

January 21 (Day 20): You Lack Nothing!

We truly believe we lack nothing! This is what we will study today. As you look at each scripture reference, look up the scriptures, read them carefully, and allow the Holy Spirit to speak to you concerning them. When you get to the point where you are truly convinced that you lack nothing, your faith will be fueled by your confidence in God's provision. God has already provided all things that pertain to life, and all things that pertain to godliness.

The Application:

1. You lack nothing.

a) The Bible teaches us that God has already blessed us with every spiritual blessing we will ever need. God has provided these blessings in heavenly places, in Christ Jesus (Eph 1:3).

b) The Bible teaches us that we were chosen in God, having been predestined according to God's plan (Eph 1:11).

c) The Bible teaches us that we are literally God's handiwork. We were created in God's image and likeness (Gen 1:26), and we were recreated in Christ Jesus to perform specific good works. These are works God prepared in advance for us to do (Eph 2:10).

d) If you believe what the Bible says about God's preparation for your arrival, you have to conclude that everything you need has already been provided. God did not send you to the earth to fail. He sent you to the earth to fulfill His purpose. And the only way God can truly expect you to complete it, is if He already provided everything you need to do so! God has done His part by grace. He now expects you to do your part by faith.

January 21 (Day 20): You Lack Nothing!

e) In God's mind, we lack nothing. If in your mind you see lack, it is because you are NOT getting your perspective from God.

2. All things that pertain to life.

a) God has already provided everything you will ever need in life. He prepared for your arrival. He then works with you to prepare you for what He prepared.

b) Everything you need in life – earthly resources, startup capital, open doors, divine connections, key relationships, etc. – has already been prepared for you, by God, because He wants His plans to succeed.

c) Everything God desires for your life has already been stored up. This is why it is critically important that you make your life about God and not you! The things you need for your selfish desires have **NOT** been stored up. But everything you need for God's desires have! If you pursue your own desires you will want things God did not store up for you!

d) While it is true that every earthly thing you need to complete your divine assignment has already been prepared, it will not manifest before its time. This is why you must develop both patience and discernment. **You need the discernment to know when it is God's timing and the patience to wait until it is.**

January 21 (Day 20): You Lack Nothing!

3. All things that pertain to godliness.

a) While you will have to wait on God's timing for the external resources to manifest, the internal issues are not a matter timing, but rather a matter of development. God has already blessed you with every spiritual gift required to become the man/woman you are called to be, but these gifts must be developed.

b) You must develop the character required to be able to carry the weight of the anointing associated with your assignment.

c) God has already blessed you with every spiritual blessing. Now it's just a matter of development. The more you die to self and grow in Christ, the more God's spiritual gifts will be made manifest in your life.

The Declaration of Faith:

Father, this is the year of Harvest for me. I will reap a harvest on every seed sown. I am believing You for the restoration and the restitution of all things. 2018 is the best year of my life! I will make the most of this season. I will experience Your best in 2018, and I will live the remainder of my days determined to DO what I was born to do. I will leave a mark in this world that will not easily be erased. Because You have already given me ALL THINGS that pertain to life and godliness. There are no excuses! I will change the world... by Your grace and for Your glory! I declare this by faith. In Jesus' name, Amen.

January 21 (Day 20): You Lack Nothing!

The Closing Prayer:

Father, I thank You for the revelation that we lack nothing. As individuals, as families, and as a global church family, we believe we have everything we need to fulfill our assignment. We release our faith for Your best to manifest in this season. Everything we need has already been provided. We call in land, equipment, buildings, relationships, money, and labor. We believe there are people looking for us, to be a blessing to us. We release our faith for Your favor. We believe You are raising up people, right now, who will use their power, their ability, their influence and their money, to help us in ways we could not help ourselves. This year VCMI will grow, our communities will be changed for the better, and our people will walk as human conduits of the Divine. We pray this by faith, in Jesus' name, Amen.

January 22 (Day 21): A Predestined Harvest

January 22 (Day 21): A Predestined Harvest

The Scripture(s):

Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ: Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

(2 Peter 1:1-4)

In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will.

(Eph 1:11)

January 22 (Day 21): A Predestined Harvest

The Discussion:

You are not a member of VCMI by mistake. It's not like you just "happened" to join our church by happenstance. God knew you from the foundations of the world. He made plans for you before you were born. God knew our church from the foundations of the world and He planned for the global impact we would make as a collective body as well.

In God's plan, He already knew who would join VCMI, where they would fit in, what their assignment would be, and what grace they would need. God then equipped each member with what we would need to fulfill our individual, and the collective, purpose.

In 2018, as we experience a harvest of souls and a harvest on every seed we have sown. We are in position to be the church God has called us to be. And whatever we make happen at the church, God will make happen in our homes. This year will be the best year of our lives!

The Application:

1. Your ultimate destination in life is already set.

a) The Bible says, "God predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will" (Eph 1:5).

January 22 (Day 21): A Predestined Harvest

b) Predestination means a destination was set beforehand. Your ultimate destination in life is already set. It was set by God before the world began. It was set by His grace and not your performance. Therefore, you don't earn your divine assignment; you simply believe and receive it.

2. Along with a pre-set destination, you were born with a pre-set plan to get there.

a) The Bible says, “In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will” (Eph 1:11). The Bible is teaching us that along with a pre-set destination, God also pre-established a plan that will get us there.

b) God has a pre-established plan for your life, and as you walk with Him, He reveals it to you. The Bible says, “I make known the end from the beginning” (Isaiah 46:10).

c) God sets the end from the beginning and He then “makes known” what He set. Revelation is God letting you in on the plans He made for you before the world began.

January 22 (Day 21): A Predestined Harvest

3. All things that pertain to life and godliness have already been prepared for you, in advance, in accordance with God's pre-set destination and plan for your life.

a) You have a pre-set destination; one set by God before you were born. You have a pre-set plan; one developed by God, designed to get you to His pre-set destination. God already thought of everything you will ever need to accomplish His plan for you. Nothing is a surprise to God. He made provisions for everything you will ever need before He released you into your purpose.

b) Everything you will ever need externally (for life, in this world), and everything you will ever need internally (to develop the character required to carry the weight of the anointing associated with your assignment), has already been provided. It's already done! It's not that God is GOING to provide. The truth is, God has already provided.

Your life then, should be lived-out as an amazing journey of discovering what God already planned. As you live the life of faith you will receive what God has already provided!

4. God has a preset harvest for our church.

a) Just like God's harvest is already set for us as individuals, the collective harvest is already planned and prepared as well. God has allowed our leaders (our Apostles and Campus Pastors) to SEE into the future. They have come back to DECLARE what they saw. Our role is to believe what God is saying through them, to open our hearts to the harvest that is already set for this season, and to do all God leads us to do to bring to pass His perfect will.

January 22 (Day 21): A Predestined Harvest

b) VCMI is a body of believers, operating as the church of our Lord Jesus Christ, a church without walls. When we connect with the vision of the church and we make it our own, we connect to a larger purpose and the seeds we sow at VCMI will grow into a harvest we reap in every area of our lives! Said another way, when we participate in helping our church receive the harvest God has planned for this season, we will also receive a harvest at home. So, release your faith for what God is doing at VCMI. The higher God takes our church, the higher He will also take us!

The Declaration of Faith:

Father, this is the year of Harvest for me as an individual and for VCMI as a collective body. I am learning to live by discerning. You made plans for me before I was born. You set my destination before I ever took one breath. You developed a plan to get me there. You made provisions for the plan in advance. I now live by faith daily! You make known to me what You planned and I have the faith to believe, receive, and lay hold of what You have already provided! And the same way I live as an individual, we live as a collective body of believers. This year shall be the best year of our lives! I declare this by faith. In Jesus' name, Amen.

January 22 (Day 21): A Predestined Harvest

The Closing Prayer:

Father, I thank you for teaching me Your ways. You are revealing to me the fact that You planned for my arrival and You are committed to preparing me for what you planned. Likewise, You did the same with our church. You made plans for VCMI before the world began. So, I set my faith in agreement with VCMI members all over the world. We are committed to becoming who You called us to be. Help us Father to walk in love, to fulfill our purpose, to draw the lost to Jesus, to represent You well daily, and to influence the people of this world and the systems of this world, for Your glory! This is how we shall reap an amazing harvest in 2018. We pray this by faith, in Jesus' name, Amen.

January 23 (Day 22): The “Go” In the Gospel

January 23 (Day 22): The “Go” In the Gospel

The Scripture(s):

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age.” Amen.

(Matthew 28:18-20 NKJV)

The Discussion:

Matthew 28:18-20 is a passage commonly referred to as the “Great Commission.” As Jesus culminated His earthly ministry He restored authority to man. The first Adam relinquished his authority to satan. He caused a separation between God and Man. The last Adam (Jesus) came to restore both the authority and the relationship. Jesus did this through the shedding of His own blood and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

Adam’s transgression caused sin and death to enter the world. Further, because of Adam, we were all born in sin and many live under the bondage of the fear of death (Heb 2:15). Thankfully, Jesus came to get us OUT OF everything Adam got us INTO. Jesus restored man to our rightful position on the planet and in the spirit. After doing so, Jesus instructed His followers to “Go!”

January 23 (Day 22): The “Go” In the Gospel

When Jesus said, “Go,” it was not a suggestion, it was a commandment. Every Born-Again believer is mandated to GO. We are not saved to sit. We are saved to serve. We are called to serve as walking/talking examples of what Jesus was like in the earth.

The commandment of verses 19 and 20 comes after the statement of verse 18. In verse 18 Jesus acknowledged the fact the **all power** has been given to Him. It is based on this power that Jesus commanded us to go. We are not powerless. He has equipped us to do what He expects us to do!

As members of the Body of Christ (in general), and VCMI (in particular), we are called to continue what Jesus started. We are called to make a divine impact on this planet. We are called to destroy the works of the devil. We are to live “As Jesus is, in this world!”

The Application:

1. The Mission: *Go, therefore.*

a) Whenever you see the word “therefore” in the Bible, you should ask yourself, “What is it there for?” In this case, it is a reference to the authority that was given to Jesus. Jesus took the keys of the Kingdom back from satan. He robbed hell of its victory. He took the sting out of death. All authority in heaven, in the earth, and under the earth, has been given to Jesus. Based on this authority, Jesus commands us to GO!

January 23 (Day 22): The “Go” In the Gospel

b) God did not redeem you into His kingdom to be idle. God has a purpose for each and every believer. The mere fact that you are still breathing and that blood is still flowing through your veins is evidence that God is not done with you. He wants to use you to share His goodness with others. The gospel came TO you. Now the Father wants it to flow THROUGH you!

c) VCMI is a church without walls. We come together weekly to be disciplined. But we also know that the ultimate purpose of discipleship is evangelism. We are thankful that God ordained you to be a member of VCMI. We appreciate the fact that you choose to willingly come and connect with our church. But the validation of your COMING is in your GOING! It is what you do once you leave the walls of VCMI that validates what you received while you were with us. We COME to receive, but we GO to change the world!

2. The Method: *make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

a) Jesus instructed His followers to teach, make disciples, and baptize. As members of VCMI, we are committed to sharing the Gospel message with the lost. We are not ashamed of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It's the Good News that saved us from hell, and we will continue to preach the Gospel until Jesus returns.

b) Our church is also committed to discipling believers. We are a teaching church. We teach believers to live the victorious life Jesus died for us to live.

c) Our church baptizes new converts as an outward expression of an inward change. Every believer should be openly baptized after receiving Jesus as Lord.

January 23 (Day 22): The “Go” In the Gospel

3. The Motivation: *lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.*

a) Jesus would not leave us a task we could not perform. He commanded His followers to GO, He gave them the power and authority to do so, and He reassured them that He would be with them every step of the way. What was true for the disciples back then is true for us today. God sends us out, and He promises to be with us as we GO!

b) God wants us to ‘Go,’ but we must not ‘Go’ by ourselves. We are to ‘Go’ with his presence, being led of His Spirit, and doing all He leads us to do. This is how we change the world for Jesus. This is how we live as the church without walls!

4. The Mandate of VCMI: *Each one, reach one.*

a) At VCMI we expect every member of our church to share the love and power of God with the lost. No one is exempt. You don’t need a title to tell people about Jesus. You don’t need an invitation from our “fishers of men” ministry. All you must do is be led of the Spirit. The Holy Spirit will lead you concerning whom to speak to and what to say.

b) Make a determination, right now, that 2018 will be the year that evangelism becomes the norm for you. Tell people about Jesus on a regular basis. Share your testimony. Tell your story. Share the good news that changed your life. The Good News of the Gospel is too good to keep to yourself.

January 23 (Day 22): The “Go” In the Gospel

c) We expect every member of VCMI to live as Jesus lived in this world. Jesus made Kingdom impact everywhere He went. We believe every member of VCMI is anointed to do the same. As Jesus is, so are we, in this world!

The Declaration of Faith:

Father, I thank You for sending Jesus to restore authority to mankind. Jesus took the keys back from satan. Jesus took the sting out of death. He robbed the hell and the grave of their victory. All power was given to Jesus... in heaven, in the earth and under the earth. Jesus then delegated that power to me. He commanded me to GO and I declare that I will. I GO in the name of Jesus. I Go to continue what He started. I GO to share the Gospel with the lost. I GO, and as I do, souls are saved, The Harvest is brought in, and You are pleased. I am a member of a church without walls. I thank You for the teaching I receive at VCMI. And I declare that what I receive when I COME to VCMI is validated when I GO out into the world! I declare this by faith. In Jesus' name, Amen.

The Closing Prayer:

Father, I thank You for teaching me Your Word and for helping me develop an evangelism mindset. I set my faith in agreement with the fellow members of VCMI, that 2018 is the Year of Harvest for us! We shall see the greatest harvest of souls we have ever seen in the history of our church. We call in The Harvest now! We pray for a hunger and thirst for souls in every member of our church. We pray for courage and boldness to share the Gospel. We pray for the manifestation of Your power as we go out into the world to make Kingdom Impact. We pray for EACH ONE to REACH ONE daily, in Your name for Your glory! We pray this by faith, in Jesus' name, Amen.

January 24 (Day 23): The Continuation of The Incarnation

January 24 (Day 23): The Continuation of The Incarnation

The Scripture(s):

Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works. Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves. “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.

(John 14:10-12 NKJV)

The Discussion:

Jesus was God in the flesh. He was the incarnation of God Himself. He was a walking/talking representation of what it looks like to extend heaven to the earth. Jesus was not just an example FOR us, He was an example OF us. He is the picture of what it looks like for a human to become a channel of divine power in this world. As Born-Again believers, we are supposed to live just like Jesus did. As part of the vision of VCMI, we boldly declare that “As Jesus is, so are we, in this world!”

We are called and commanded to live like Jesus lived, to hear from the Father like He heard from the Father, and to become a conduit of the Father’s supernatural power like He was. In essence, we are the continuation of the incarnation.

January 24 (Day 23): The Continuation of The Incarnation

In John 14 Jesus was preparing His disciples for His impending departure. He had been with them for over three years. They relied on Him for everything. Jesus knew the men closest to Him were not going to take His departure lightly, but He wanted them focused on the bigger picture. Jesus came to the planet for a reason and a season, and He was close to fulfilling His ultimate purpose.

Jesus said to His disciples: “Don’t you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The things I have told you don’t come from me. The Father lives in me, and he is doing his own work. Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me. Or believe because of the miracles I have done.” Jesus drove home the fact that He was ONE with the Father. He was in the Father, and the Father was in Him. It was the Father, living in Him, who was giving Him the words and performing the work. The supernatural power did not come from Jesus’ humanity; it came from His divinity. That being the context, Jesus went on to say, “I can assure you that whoever believes in me will do the same things I have done. And they will do even greater things than I have done, because I am going to the Father.” (see John 14:10-12).

The Application:

1. You are called and commanded to live like Jesus lived on this planet.

a) When reading the things Jesus did in the earth, it is easy to say, “Well, I’m not Jesus. I’m not expected to live like He lived or to do what He did.” Statements like this are simply a *cop-out*.

January 24 (Day 23): The Continuation of The Incarnation

b) If you convince yourself that you don't have to live like Jesus, then you will make excuses for yourself to justify the lack of the supernatural in your life. But if you read the Bible with an open heart, you will see that the Father expects you to live like Jesus lived, in every way. You are commanded to expect the Father to do **IN**, **WITH** and **THROUGH** you, things He did **IN**, **WITH** and **THROUGH** Jesus; things that exceed human ability.

2. God will add His *super* to your *natural*.

a) God does not expect you to do what Jesus did on your own. He gave you His Spirit so you can be connected to Him Spirit-to-spirit.

b). When you operate in the supernatural, the Holy Spirit is actually the one working through you. As Jesus said in our passage, He will give you the words and He will perform the work.

c). Later on in John 14 Jesus said, "If you love me, you will do what I command. I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper to be with you forever." This helper is the Holy Spirit. Jesus went on to say, "The Helper is the Spirit of truth. The people of the world cannot accept him, because they don't see him or know him. But you know him. He lives with you, and he will be in you." The Holy Spirit was walking **WITH** them, as they accompanied Jesus. But Jesus made it clear that there would come a day when the Holy Spirit would be **IN** them (see John 14:15-17). That day has come! If you are Born-Again, God's Spirit lives **IN** you!

January 24 (Day 23): The Continuation of The Incarnation

c) The supernatural power does not come from you. It comes from the one living IN you! Just like Jesus carried God on the inside of Him, you are doing the same. You are a God-carrier. You literally take God with you everywhere you go. You are taking God into every meeting, conversation and activity you engage in daily. And if you allow God to do it, He will give you words to say that did not originate in your own mind, and He will perform the work through you that exceeds anything you could ever do on your own.

3. Jesus was God in the flesh. You are the continuation of His incarnation in this world.

a) You are a human conduit of the divine. You are a carrier of God in this world. There is nothing God cannot do through you. The impossible is possible for you. But if you make excuses for why the supernatural is not happening in your life, or if you place too much emphasis on your humanity and not enough on God's divinity, you will live a life that is completely human. That would be a waste. Jesus did not die so you could live a life that you could have lived without Him. He died so you could be JUST LIKE HIM in this world.

b) At VCMI we believe the supernatural is natural to us. We believe we are called to live as Jesus lived in this world. We believe the Father has no less expectation of us, than He did of Jesus. Which is why we expect every member of our church to operate as Jesus is, in this world! Part of living this way is reaching the lost. Each one is commanded to reach one!

January 24 (Day 23): The Continuation of The Incarnation

c) It is one thing to see the supernatural manifested through an Apostle, Pastor or other fivefold ministry gift. But it is something else to have an entire church of believers who are filled with the Holy Spirit and committed to living a supernatural life. This is what we expect at VCMI. This is how we are going to win the lost for Jesus. This is how The Harvest is going to come in. We expect the world to see miracles, signs and wonders through every member of our church. You don't need a title to lay hands on the sick and watch them recover. You don't need to be ordained to cast our demons or raise the dead. Jesus was God in the flesh. Every member of VCMI is a continuation of His incarnation. Living this way, we are going to change the world!

The Declaration of Faith:

Father, this is the year of Harvest for me. In 2018, I believe I will see Supernatural Manifestation like never before. Not because I have supernatural power, ability or strength. In and of myself, I am just like the people of this world. Without You I am limited to human activity. However, You live IN me! You have taken up residence inside of me! There is nothing You cannot do through me. I am called to live JUST LIKE JESUS in this world. I am the continuation of His incarnation! I am a carrier of God! The supernatural is natural to me. I am born from above! This year I will experience the supernatural daily. The world will see Jesus in me and in every member of VCMI. When people come in contact with us, they will come in contact with Jesus! I declare this by faith. In Jesus' name, Amen!

January 24 (Day 23): The Continuation of The Incarnation

The Closing Prayer:

Father, I come to You in the name of Your Son, with complete confidence that You hear me when I pray. I set my faith in agreement with the fellow members of VCMI for this year to be a year like no other. May You use us to perform miracles, signs and wonders. May the supernatural truly become natural to us. May every member of VCMI develop a hunger and thirst for Your power to be manifested in their lives. May we see blind eyes and deaf ears opened. May we see the lame walk and the dead rise. We are like Jesus in every way. Jesus was God in the flesh and we are the continuation of His incarnation. We carry You around Father and we release You and Your power into every situation. Living this way, we believe this year will be the Year of Harvest for us! We pray this by faith, in Jesus' name, Amen.

January 25 (Day 24): Called To Be A Living Witness

January 25 (Day 24): Called To Be A Living Witness

The Scripture(s):

Why are we beginning again to tell you all these good things about ourselves? Do we need letters of introduction to you or from you, like some other people? No, you yourselves are our letter, written on our hearts. It is known and read by all people. You show that you are a letter from Christ that he sent through us. This letter is not written with ink but with the Spirit of the living God. It is not written on stone tablets but on human hearts.

(2 Corinthians 3:1-3 ERV)

The Lord is not being slow in doing what he promised—the way some people understand slowness. But God is being patient with you. He doesn't want anyone to be lost. He wants everyone to change their ways and stop sinning.

(2 Peter 3:9 ERV)

The Discussion:

As children of God, we know God wants the world saved. However, many believers don't acknowledge their part in the salvation of the lost. Think about this for a minute... how many people did it take for you to get saved? How many people had to tell you about Jesus before you accepted Him as Lord?

January 25 (Day 24): Called To Be A Living Witness

In most cases, it takes many, many attempts to get someone to the point where they are open to the message of God's saving grace. That being the case, as believers, we should be open to being part of the salvation process for as many people as God would put before us. As you are led of the Holy Spirit, God will setup **divine appointments** for you to share His goodness with the lost. He will connect you with the right people, at the right time, and then give you the words to say in that moment. Your role is to simply be sensitive to the leading of God's Spirit.

In addition to giving you specific words to say during divine appointments, God expects your life to be a **living witness**; a letter to be read of men. While the New Testament is partly comprised of a compilation of letters, in many ways God expects you to be a letter as well. He sends you out into the world and expects your life to serve as a witness of His goodness.

The Application:

1. **You have a God-given story, and the Father wants you to tell it.** You don't have to be able to quote scripture to witness. You can simply tell your story. You have a story, and the Father expects you to tell it without compromise. Don't water it down. Don't allow yourself to be intimidated by anyone or any situation. Don't allow your lack of Bible knowledge to keep you from opening your mouth. Just tell your story, as you know it, and God will breathe on it. When you tell your story, God will get the [G4] glory, because your story is actually His story! You are God's story. He sends you out into the world, to be on full display, for all the world to see. You are His letter, and He puts you on display so you can be read of men.

January 25 (Day 24): Called To Be A Living Witness

2. Don't be ashamed to tell of God's goodness in your life. Jesus said, "Whoever denies and disowns Me before men, I also will deny and disown him before My Father Who is in heaven" (Mat 10:33). Have more fear of God than of man when you tell your story. Tell it publicly. Tell it clearly. Tell it courageously. Tell it fearlessly.

3. When the spotlight is on you, deflect the glory back to God. God is a jealous God and He wants all the glory. He will allow you to enjoy the benefits (He will bless you richly), but He wants the glory. All the glory belongs to God. Never take credit for things God has done for you by grace. If it was unearned, unmerited and undeserved, say that. Be honest. Tell people how good God has been to you. Make God the star of your story. Don't give a testimony and then make the testimony 'all about you'. Acknowledge the fact that God has been far better to you than you deserve. This message of God's goodness is what will draw the lost to Him.

4. You are a living letter intended to be read of men. Most of the New Testament is comprised of letters. When you read the New Testament, you are reading letters from Paul, Peter, John, etc. But God has also made you a LIVING LETTER. Our text says, "You yourselves are our letter, written on our hearts. It is known and read by all people. You show that you are a letter from Christ that he sent through us. This letter is not written with ink but with the Spirit of the living God. It is not written on stone tablets but on human hearts." Your life is a LIVING LETTER. What does your letter say?

January 25 (Day 24): Called To Be A Living Witness

5. God wants to be the Star of your story.

a) When people look at you and they read the letter of your life, do they see Jesus as the star of your story or have you made yourself your own star? If you are the star of your own story, then your story won't end well. But if Jesus is the star of your life's story, then it will be a story of triumph, victory and success, and it will have a storybook ending.

b) The story of your life has already been written. It was written before the world began. As you live your life in the earth, God is looking to see what He planned. If you get to the point where your life is in sync with God's plans, then when people read your life's story, God will be the STAR on every page. If you ever get to this point, your life will be amazing. Because it will be the life God planned for you to live from the foundations of the world.

c) In God's story for your life, you discover your purpose, you develop into the man/woman God called you to be, and leave a mark in this world that will not easily be erased. So, instead of trying to come up with your own story for life, try discovering God's story and submitting to that. If you do, you will become a LIVING LETTER. People will read your letter and lives will be changed because of it!

January 25 (Day 24): Called To Be A Living Witness

The Declaration of Faith:

Father, this is the year of The Harvest for me. You made great plans for me. You have blessed me richly. You have already set up my success. But one thing You require of me is boldness. Faith requires courage and I must have the courage to tell my story. I declare that I do. I will tell of Your goodness everywhere I go. I am not ashamed of the Gospel, and I am not ashamed of You. You have been FAR too good to me for me to keep it to myself. I will tell everyone everywhere about You and what You are doing in my life. I am a Godly success. I am not a self-made man/woman. I am a God-made man/woman, and I will tell it everywhere I go! You have given me an amazing story. I will tell my story, for Your glory, and the more that I do, the more You will be glorified, people will be edified, and satan will be terrified! I am a LIVING LETTER, and daily I am read of men. I declare this by faith. In Jesus' name, Amen.

The Closing Prayer:

Father, thank You for making plans for me before the world began. Your story for my life is already written. I pray that You would open my eyes and the eyes of my brothers and sisters at VCMI to Your story. That we would know our purpose. That we would submit to Your divine assignment. That we would become the men/women You called us to be. That we would make the impact we were sent to this planet to make. That we would be LIVING LETTERS, read of men. And that as the lost read our letters, that our church would experience a Great Harvest! We pray this by faith, in Jesus' name, Amen.

January 26 (Day 25): A Living Witness With Your Work

January 26 (Day 25): A Living Witness With Your Work

The Scripture(s):

So if you eat, or if you drink, or if you do anything, do it for the glory of God.

(1 Corinthians 10:31 ERV)

“Everyone who is called by My name, whom I have created for My glory; I have formed him, yes, I have made him.”

(Isaiah 43:7 NKJV)

The Discussion:

Most people spend at least one-third of their time, during their adult years, in some form of a workplace. It would be foolish not to make the most of that time to show the world what Jesus is like. While we certainly want to honor the intent of what we are getting paid to do, we can honor our work agreements and honor Jesus at the same time. One of the best ways to represent Jesus in the workplace is by simply being the best at what you do. Our God is an excellent God. When we do what we do for Him, we should do so with an excellent spirit; doing our absolute best at work.

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In the first Psalm, David said that a blessed man has the assurance that God will make whatever he does to prosper. Many believers claim this promise. However, it also implies that you must DO something. You have to DO the work for God to bless it. You have to put forth the effort. And if you do, if you put your hands to work, God will bless the work of your hands. This is how you become a Godly witness in the workplace.

We were created to glorify God. Therefore, in all that we do (which includes our work), we should do it for the glory of God. In today's devotion, we will look at two examples of believers who did their best and God blessed the work of their hands.

The Application:

1 . Daniel was exceptional at work and he operated with an excellent spirit. The Bible says:

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Darius reorganized his kingdom. He appointed one hundred twenty governors to administer all the parts of his realm. Over them were three vice-regents, one of whom was Daniel. The governors reported to the vice-regents, who made sure that everything was in order for the king. But Daniel, brimming with spirit and intelligence, so completely outclassed the other vice-regents and governors that the king decided to put him in charge of the whole kingdom. The vice-regents and governors got together to find some old scandal or skeleton in Daniel's life that they could use against him, but they couldn't dig up anything. He was totally exemplary and trustworthy. They could find no evidence of negligence or misconduct. So they finally gave up and said, "We're never going to find anything against this Daniel unless we can cook up something religious." (Daniel 6:1-5 MSG)

a) Daniel stood out in the workplace. He was exceptional at what he did. So much so, that when he was supposed to be a slave, he ended up being one of three vice-regents over King Darius' kingdom. He was smart, faithful, trustworthy, and hard-working. King Darius took notice. The king decided to place Daniel over the other vice-regents. This is what happens when you operate with a spirit of excellence and seek to glorify God with your work.

b) Even those who envied and/or hated Daniel could not find any fault with him. He walked upright before God and man. This is the type of testimony we should have at work. This is the type of glory we should bring to God.

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2 . Joseph maintained a great attitude, even through trying times.

a) God blessed Joseph's WORK: The Bible says:

Potiphar saw that the Lord was with Joseph and that the Lord helped Joseph be successful in everything he did. So Potiphar was very happy with Joseph. He allowed Joseph to work for him and to help him rule the house. Joseph was the ruler over everything Potiphar owned. After Joseph was made the ruler over the house, the Lord blessed the house and everything that Potiphar owned. The Lord also blessed everything that grew in Potiphar's fields. The Lord did this because of Joseph. So Potiphar allowed Joseph to take responsibility for everything in the house. Potiphar didn't have to worry about anything except deciding what to eat.

(Genesis 39:3-7 ERV)

a) Joseph was betrayed by his brothers and sold as a slave. He could have been bitter about the situation. However, he maintained a good attitude, he WORKED hard for Potiphar and God blessed the WORK of his hands.

b) God's blessing was available to Joseph, but Joseph needed to give God something to bless. Joseph did. Joseph worked hard for Potiphar and God blessed Joseph's Work. If Joseph had not been dedicated to working, then God would have nothing to bless. It is important that we remember to give God something to bless. We work and He blesses the work of our hands!

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c) Even though Joseph was a slave, he was promoted to second-in-command in Potiphar's house. Potiphar concerned himself with nothing but what he was going to eat. Joseph was in charge of everything else because he worked with the right spirit and attitude.

d) Joseph maintained his spirit and attitude when he was in prison. So, God promoted him to the #2 position in the entire prison. Later Joseph got an audience with the king (Pharaoh), and in one day Joseph was promoted from prisoner to Prime Minister. This is what God can do with you when you work to bring glory to His name!

e) Joseph went from a pit to Potiphar's house, to prison, and eventually to the palace. He maintained the right attitude at every level, stage and season of his life. Because of it, God kept blessing the work of his hands. Let this be said of you!

3. Represent God and VCMI well in your workplace.

a) This is the Year of Harvest for us. We will see a tremendous harvest of souls in 2018. To be part of it, we must be committed to representing God well in all that we do. This includes our workplace. When you are committed to doing all you do for the glory of God, God will be committed to blessing all you put your hands to do.

b) When you operate with an excellent spirit, you won't have to tell people about your church. They will ask you! They will come to you and ask you where you *go to church*, because your **WORK** will testify of God's goodness. This is our expectation of every member of VCMI. We expect every member to represent God and our church family well.

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c) Jesus paid the ultimate price for our salvation. Post-salvation, we must live our lives in honor of His death; and this includes in the workplace!

The Declaration of Faith:

Father, this is the year of Harvest for me. I will be part of the harvest of souls and I will also experience supernatural harvest in my personal life. You are committed to blessing the work of my hands and I am committed to giving You something to bless. I declare that I experience Your blessing, favor, increase, advancement, acceleration and promotion this year. I say this confidently, because I am committed to doing my part. I am faithful, diligent, honest, trustworthy and hardworking. I represent You well daily. My life and work ethic are an example of heaven on earth. Living this way, people are drawn to me and the spirit of excellence I walk in. And as they are, they are able to see Jesus in me! As Jesus I, so am I, in this world! I declare this by faith. In Jesus' name, Amen.

The Closing Prayer:

Father, I thank You connecting me with VCMI. The teaching I receive at this church is impacting every area of my life. I set my faith in agreement now, with the fellow members of VCMI, for all of us to represent You well in all that we do. May we work diligently and faithfully. May we operate with a spirit of excellence. May we enter the workplace with a spring in our step, a song in our heart, and a smile on our face. May we accomplish every task in a way that represents You well. And may we be ready to reap the harvest of souls that will come in to Your Kingdom this year, simply because we work in a way that represents heaven on earth. We pray this by faith, in Jesus' name, Amen.

January 27 (Day 26): A Living Witness With Your Wealth/Wages

January 27 (Day 26): A Living Witness With Your Wealth/Wages

The Scripture(s):

“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. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves...”

(1 Tim 6:17-19 NIV).

The Discussion:

When people go to work they are trading time for money. In this way, they are giving a portion of their life in return for financial compensation. It would make sense, then, that we consider wisely what we do with the money we receive. The Bible has a great deal to say about money. The Bible says more about money than it does about heaven or hell. In last year's devotional guide, we looked at many aspects of money and how we, as believers, can use money to honor God. God does not have a problem with us having money. God has a problem with money having us. **Money makes an excellent servant, but a poor master.**

This year's devotions are focused on the harvest we are believing God for. That being the case, today we will look at how we can use our money to serve as a witness for God in this world.

January 27 (Day 26): A Living Witness With Your Wealth/Wages

The Application:

1. The purpose of God's blessing is so you can BE a blessing to others.

a) Some Christians say, "Oh, I only want enough for me and my family; for me, my four and no more!" or "All I need is enough to get by." While statements like these seem 'holy' or 'spiritual' on the surface, they are actually selfish. You should want everything God wants to give you to do what He birthed you to do. You cannot feed the poor if you don't have enough food for yourself. You cannot help pay someone else's bills if you can't pay your own. You cannot help put a roof over someone's head if you don't have a place to stay. Our God is a God of overflow, because He wants us to bless others out of our overflow. God is not opposed to you having 'more than enough,' because He wants you to be in a position to help others. But financial prosperity comes with earthly responsibility. The more you have, the more you have to manage and the more demands there will be from others. The good news is that the same God who gave you the grace to increase will give you the grace to manage the overflow.

b) Paul commanded the rich in this world to "do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share." He did not tell them to get rid of their money. He did not tell them it was bad. He did not tell them money was evil. No, Paul was teaching them to use their money to be a blessing to others. That counsel still stands today.

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c) Jesus told a story of a rich man and a beggar named Lazarus (see Luke 16:20-23). In this story, the beggar repeatedly asked the rich man to help him. The rich man ignored the beggar's requests. In the end, both men died. The beggar wound up in Abraham's bosom and the rich man wound up in hell. Their eternal fate had nothing to do with their financial statements. But the point of mentioning this story here, is that Jesus clearly expected the rich man to help the beggar. **The purpose of prosperity is so you can BE a blessing to others.** God gives you overflow and He then expects you to minister to others out of that overflow. If you don't, you will not be pleasing in God's sight.

2. The purpose of prosperity is evangelism.

a) The Bible does not say you cannot have money. God will actually go out of His way to put money in your hands, because it takes money to fund God's Kingdom projects around the world. VCMI is one church, in many locations, with more locations to come. Launching campuses and then using our campuses to build up the people and communities around them requires money. Which is why God has no shortage of ways to put money in our hands. God has millions of ways to get us millions of dollars, so we can do what God has called us to do.

January 27 (Day 26): A Living Witness With Your Wealth/Wages

b) In Deuteronomy 8:10-20 the Lord had Moses to be very clear with the nation of Israel. God wanted His people to never forget who it was that made them rich. It was the Lord who got them out of slavery. It was the Lord who saw to it that the Egyptians gave the Israelites all their gold, silver and precious stones before they left. It was the Lord who made them rich. So, the Lord had Moses to say, “Remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today.” If the Lord were against wealth, why would He give you the power to produce it? God is clearly not against wealth. He gives you the power to produce wealth, so you can use it to expand His Kingdom in the earth.

c) God can give you money with a mission and power with a purpose. God wants you to use what He places in your hands to bring glory to His name and to reach the world for Jesus.

d) Joseph, Daniel, Nehemiah and Esther are just a few examples of people whom God favored and elevated to positions of earthly influence, and who in turn were able to tell foreigners about their God. God used their earthly prosperity as a tool for evangelism.

January 27 (Day 26): A Living Witness With Your Wealth/Wages

3. The people you are attempting to reach are NOT spiritual.

a) A Key point we must remember is that the lost do not have the Holy Spirit. They don't read the Bible, and if they do, they don't understand it. The lost cannot see in the spirit. They look at life through a natural lens. Therefore, they want to see how your God is working for you! If you say you serve a God they cannot see, they want to see how this God actually does things for you in a way they can see. They will observe how you treat your spouse. They will pay attention to how you operate in the workplace. And they will want to see if this God can actually bless you the way you claim He does. Simply put, in a money hungry world, people want to know if your God can bless you in a tangible way. The good news is that He can, and He does, so we can use our earthly prosperity to serve as a witness for Him.

b) If all people ever see in you is lack, frustration, defeat and despair, they will never come to your God, because they already have all of that. But if they see someone who is happy, healthy and doing well financially, they will be drawn by your natural blessings. At that point, God can reach them in a spiritual way.

c) People will come to you because of what they see in the natural, and when they do, you can tell them about Jesus!

***** Accept everything God wants to give you to fulfill His plans for your life, embrace the grace to manage the overflow, and seek TO BE a blessing in the earth as you are led of the Holy Spirit!**

January 27 (Day 26): A Living Witness With Your Wealth/Wages

The Declaration of Faith:

Father, this is the year of Harvest for me. You cause me to experience supernatural harvest in every area of my life. You give me the power to get wealth. You favor the work of my hands. You grace me to succeed in every area of my life. You cause me to increase supernaturally and naturally. And as You give me excess and overflow, I bless others out of my overflow. I declare that I have an overflow of love, peace, mercy, patience and money. I am blessed to BE a blessing. I tithe, I give offerings, I finance ministry projects, and I give to the poor, as I am led of Your Spirit. Therefore, Your Word teaches me that I am laying up treasure in heaven and that I will have an abundance of grace NOW! I am able to meet the needs of every financial situation. I have no need of external support. And I use what You place in my hands as a tool to evangelize the world! I declare this by faith! In Jesus' name, Amen.

January 27 (Day 26): A Living Witness With Your Wealth/Wages

The Closing Prayer:

Father, thank You for helping me to have the proper mindset when it comes to money. I thank You for providing for my family, and me and for also for increasing us to the point where we can BE a blessing to others out of our overflow. I set my faith in agreement now, with the members of our church, for us all to be a community of believers who are submitted to You in all things. You can cause us to increase financially because we are committed to using what You place in our hands to fund Kingdom projects and to bless the less fortunate. Help us, Father, to be a church known for making Kingdom impact in every community You plant us in and around the world. May we build a better community, locally and internationally, with the resources You freely give us access to. And may 2018 be a year where we see a Harvest greater than we ever have in all the years of our ministry. We pray this by faith, in Jesus' name, Amen.

January 28 (Day 27): A Living Witness With Your Worth

January 28 (Day 27): A Living Witness With Your Worth

The Scripture(s):

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

(Ephesians 1:7 KJV)

The Discussion:

A few years ago Mel Gibson starred in a movie entitled “Ransom.” The movie was a thriller in which a rich man’s son was kidnapped and kept by his captors until a large sum of money was paid. The tagline to the movie was ‘ *Someone is going to pay!*’ In the movie, however, Mel Gibson was able to get his son back without actually paying the captors. The character played by Gibson opted to offer a reward to anyone who provided information that would lead to the return of his son. In our real-life drama, we were all born captive, slaves to the power of sin and the fear of death, and we needed someone to pay our ransom. It is not that we had freedom and our freedom was taken away at some point. No, we were all quite literally born bound and we needed someone to pay the debt to secure our freedom.

January 28 (Day 27): A Living Witness With Your Worth

The problem with our situation is that our captor was not willing to accept money. The only suitable payment for our life would be another life. Someone would actually have to trade their life for ours before we could escape the clutches of sin. Our text speaks of “redemption through his blood.” Webster defines redemption as the repurchase of captured goods or prisoners; the act of procuring the deliverance of persons or things from the possession and power of captors by the payment of an equivalent ransom. The key words are “*equivalent ransom.*”

In Acts 20:28 Luke tells us that Jesus purchased (redeemed) us with His own blood. In the Old Testament, the blood of animals could only serve as a temporary covering for sin, because the blood of animals was not an equivalent ransom for the sin of man. The only proper payment for the deliverance of a human from the power of sin would have to be the blood of another human. Not just any human, but a perfect human, the perfect sacrifice, the Son of God! God offered His own Son as the payment for Adam’s sin. Jesus came to get us out of everything Adam got us into and he did it by purchasing our redemption with His untainted blood. Jesus paid the ultimate price so we could live the ultimate life!

When you get a revelation of what Jesus did for you, you better understand your value (in God’s eyes), and you live your life in honor of Jesus’ death.

January 28 (Day 27): A Living Witness With Your Worth

The Application:

1. Jesus redeemed you with His own blood.

a) To redeem means to purchase with an equivalent value. Jesus looked at your value and decided to put up His own blood in exchange for you!

b) All the gold in the world could not pay for **ONE DROP** of Jesus' blood, but He considered you worth it! He paid for you in blood. He died so you could live!

c) When you fully internalize what Jesus did for you, you enter every day with your head held high, because you understand your **value**.

2. **A culture of honor.** The Kingdom of God functions on a system of honor. While faith is the currency (how you make an exchange), honor the culture (the value system). When you understand the sacrifice Jesus made for all people, you learn to honor others and also to honor yourself.

a) Honoring others.

i) When you honor someone you are choosing to acknowledge the value God placed on them and in them! God valued them enough to send His own Son to die in their place, so you should not devalue what God has clearly valued.

ii) Apostle Tony said, "When you honor God, you honor His people. When you honor His people, you see them the way God sees them, and you relate to them that way, without tripping over their humanity."

January 28 (Day 27): A Living Witness With Your Worth

iii) God knows you are flawed. But when He looks at you, He is not allowing the flaws of your humanity to influence the way He sees you. He honors the sacrifice His Son made for you. He honors the investment He made in you. He honors what He called you to do, even when it does not look like you are following His plan. While God does this for you, He expects you to do this for others. He expects you to honor them the way He does. Honor is the mark of a citizen of heaven.

iv) When we choose to honor others and value the investment God made in them (despite their faults, flaws, and failures), we become examples of God in the earth, and this is one of the greatest ways we can draw the lost to Jesus!

b) Honoring yourself.

i) Not only is honoring others important, but you must also learn to honor yourself and the investment God made in you. When you honor yourself, you acknowledge the sacrifice Jesus made for you, and you embrace the anointing and grace on your own life.

ii) Without developing a heart of honor for yourself, not only will fail to honor what God did FOR you (through Jesus), but you will also fail to embrace all He is committed to doing IN you and THROUGH you now (through the Holy Spirit).

January 28 (Day 27): A Living Witness With Your Worth

iii) God considered you valuable enough to send His own Son to die in your place. He then filled you with His Spirit and called you according to His purpose. When you get a clear revelation of this, you will be able to look in the mirror and SEE JESUS! You will then leave the mirror and say, “As Jesus is, so am I, in this world!” When you start living this way, the value you have for others and for yourself will serve as a great witness in a selfish and self-serving world!

*** The culture of honor we operate in at VCMI will play a great role in The Harvest of souls we will reap in 2018. As new people come into our church – people who may not look like you, dress like you, talk like you or act like you – you must be committed to honoring whom God called them to be. Welcome them, embrace them, help them integrate into the global VCMI family. Honor them the way God honors you. As you do, you will see lives changes, souls saved, burdens removed, yokes destroyed, and communities reformed, by the love and power of God.

January 28 (Day 27): A Living Witness With Your Worth

The Declaration of Faith:

Father, this is the year of Harvest for me. I will experience supernatural harvest in my personal life and as part of the global VCMI church. You honored me enough to send Your own Son as a sacrifice. Jesus honored me enough to die in my place. The Holy Spirit now honors me with His presence daily. You clearly honor me. I now choose to honor You, honor others, and honor myself. I see myself the way You see me. I honor the grace and anointing on my own life. As I do, I declare that I will also honor, value and esteem others. You will add to our church daily. And as new members come in, I choose to honor them for whom You called them to be. I speak blessings and not cursings over them. I build them up and never tear them down. I embrace them as my co-laborers in the Body of Christ; laboring for The Harvest. And together, all of us, will see both people and communities changed around the world, for Your glory. I declare this by faith. In Jesus' name, Amen.

January 28 (Day 27): A Living Witness With Your Worth

The Closing Prayer:

Father, thank You for establishing a Kingdom culture of honor. I now set my faith in agreement with the global VCMI church, for Your culture of honor to be evident and tangible at VCMI and within every family. May the way we value and esteem each other serve as a witness in a selfish and self-serving world. May our church be a place where people feel welcome, where they experience Your love, and where they discover their purpose. You valued us enough to send Jesus to die for us. Jesus willingly redeemed us with His own blood. We now value each other enough to look past the flaws our humanity, long enough to see the immeasurable worth you have placed in each person on the planet. And we then foster an environment where people flourish into the men and women You called them to be. We are a church without walls. Our reach extends around the world. And this year Father, we believe we will see a Harvest of Souls like never before! We pray this by faith, in Jesus' name, Amen.

January 29 (Day 28): Calling In The Harvest

January 29 (Day 28): Calling In The Harvest (A Witness With Your Words)

The Scripture(s):

Jesus said, “My food is to do what the one who sent me wants me to do. My food is to finish the work that he gave me to do. When you plant, you always say, ‘Four more months to wait before we gather the grain.’ But I tell you, open your eyes, and look at the fields. They are ready for harvesting now. Even now, the people who harvest the crop are being paid. They are gathering crops for eternal life. So now the people who plant can be happy together with those who harvest. It is true when we say, ‘One person plants, but another person harvests the crop.’ I sent you to harvest a crop that you did not work for. Others did the work, and you get the profit from their work.”

(John 4:34-38 ERV)

The Discussion:

In John 4 Jesus had an encounter with a Samaritan woman at a well. This woman was rejected by the Jews because of her race and rejected by her neighbors because of a string of marriages and promiscuous ways. But Jesus looked past all of that and called her into her purpose. She was the first person Jesus openly revealed His identity as the Messiah to. As a result, this clearly unqualified woman, embraced the grace of God on her life, and became the first evangelist. She started a revival in her hometown.

January 29 (Day 28): Calling In The Harvest

While the woman was preaching, Jesus spent time with His disciples and took the opportunity to teach them about the language of faith. A harvest of souls was already coming in around them and many more were still on the way, so Jesus taught the men closest to Him about the importance of aligning their words with heaven. Jesus explained that down here, in the earth, people are accustomed to sowing seed and then saying, “It will take four months before the harvest comes.” But this statement is made from merely a human point of view. Jesus explained that from His perspective (heaven’s perspective), the fields were already white for harvest. So instead of saying, “It will be harvest time in four months,” Jesus wanted them to say, “It is harvest time NOW!”

In the text, Jesus explained that there are people who are sowing seeds now that will produce a harvest in the future. However, there are also people today who are reaping a harvest on the seeds that were sown in the past. In this way, the one who plants walks right alongside the one who reaps. Jesus then said, “I sent you to harvest a crop that you did not work for. Others did the work, and you get the profit from their work.” In like fashion, God has ordained 2018 to be a year of Harvest for us. God is sending us out into the fields to reap. Others may have sown into the hearts of the people who will come into VCMI in 2018. We will profit from their sowing. We will reap a harvest of souls. The time is NOW! So DO NOT SAY, “In four months it will be harvest time.” Say, “It’s harvest time NOW! This is our season! This is our time! No more delay! We call in the Harvest, in Jesus’ name!”

Towards the end of 2017, the Lord had Apostle Tony preach a message entitled, “No More Delay!” During this season, Apostle Tony referenced Ezekiel 12. The Bible says:

January 29 (Day 28): Calling In The Harvest

“Son of man, what is this proverb that you people have about the land of Israel, which says, ‘The days are prolonged, and every vision fails’? Tell them therefore, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD: “I will lay this proverb to rest, and they shall no more use it as a proverb in Israel.” ’ But say to them, ‘ “The days are at hand, and the fulfillment of every vision. For no more shall there be any false vision or flattering divination within the house of Israel. For I am the LORD. I speak, and the word which I speak will come to pass; it will no more be postponed; for in your days, O rebellious house, I will say the word and perform it,” says the Lord GOD.’ ” Again the word of the LORD came to me, saying, “Son of man, look, the house of Israel is saying, ‘The vision that he sees is for many days from now, and he prophesies of times far off.’ Therefore say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD: “None of My words will be postponed any more, but the word which I speak will be done,” says the Lord GOD.’ ”

(Ezekiel 12:22-28 NKJV)

The Application:

1. You must align your words with what you see in the spirit and NOT the natural.

a) God has spoken to our Apostles and Campus Pastors concerning this season. They have declared what God has decreed, and that is our season for Harvest is NOW! We must believe it, receive it and declare it. Regardless of what things look like the natural, we must declare what heaven has decreed. No more delay! Our time is NOW!

January 29 (Day 28): Calling In The Harvest

b) The opposite of faith is not doubt. The opposite of faith is natural sight. That's why the Bible teaches us to walk by faith and not by sight (2 Cor 5:7). We can either choose to live by what we see with our natural eyes, or by what we see in the spirit. In the spirit, God has revealed that 2018 is the year of Harvest for us. We must choose to live by that reality, over anything we see in this world.

c) In John 4 Jesus explained how people who only live by natural sight say, "In four months it will be harvest time." But Jesus was not living by natural sight. So, Jesus said, "DO NOT SAY, in four months it will be harvest time. Say, it's harvest time NOW! The fields are white for harvest NOW!" In Ezekiel 12 the Israelites were saying, "The prophecies will be fulfilled, but they are still afar off." To which the Lord said, "DO NOT SAY the prophecies are afar off. My words will not be postponed anymore. NO MORE DELAY! The time is NOW!

d) Once you are Born-Again, you are a spiritual being, living in a natural world. You get to see things with your natural eyes, but you also get to see things in the spirit. God expects you to live by what you see in the Spirit OVER what you see in the natural. God will open your eyes so you can SEE and He then expects you to SAY what you SEE (IN THE SPIRIT) and NOT what you SEE in this world! Further, once you do this, God wants you to keep saying it until you see it happen in the natural! Never allow what you SEE [in the natural] to cause you to change what you said!

January 29 (Day 28): Calling In The Harvest

2. Your words of prayer must be reinforced with words of faith.

a) This is Day 28 of a 30-Day fast. During this season, you have been praying in the morning and throughout the day. But never underestimate the power of your words. If you prayed one thing during your prayer session, but then spoke something else [contrary] throughout the day, **you are literally canceling out your prayer.** You cannot follow the words of faith you had when you prayed, with words of fear, doubt, and unbelief throughout the day. Your words of prayer must be followed with continual words of faith!

b) Apostle Tony said, **“NO MORE DELAY!!!! It will be like things happened overnight. It will be like an overnight success. People will be amazed!!!”** This is what we must believe and DECLARE! Our words are seeds. When we sow words of faith, words that align with heaven, we get to experience God’s best in the earth!

3. Open your mouth and call in the Harvest!

a) We got saved by speaking words of faith from a believing heart. Now that we are saved, we must continue to live this way. **See and say!** The supernatural does not come by human effort. It comes by faith. Speak the language of faith daily!

b) Don’t be moved by attacks. It’s harvest time for us! All the attacks are showing us that we are in our harvest season! Your greatest harvest will come when you are **“troubled on every side.”** Remember, the 100-fold harvest comes with persecution (Mark 10:30). So, don’t allow yourself to be moved by what you see [in the natural]. Only allow yourself to be moved by what God said. Speak the Word only!

January 29 (Day 28): Calling In The Harvest

c) We are called to take an unseen world and a seen world and bring them together. We do this by confessing with our mouth and believing in our heart. The earth is supposed to be in partnership with the supernatural... on earth, as it is in heaven. But this will only happen through us. When we release words of faith. When we openly declare what God has revealed!

*** God has already declared His story over you. His Word over you will not return to Him void. You are a manifestation of His Word. You cannot fail! The only way you can fail is if you write your own story. So, determine, right now, that you will accept God's story for your life and for our church. God started us after He already finished us. We are not trying to win a battle. It is already won. We are not trying to create a harvest. The fields are already white for harvest! Stop talking future! Start talking NOW! NO MORE DELAY!

The Declaration of Faith:

Father, this is the year of Harvest for me. You have spoken. My leaders have seen. They have cast vision, and now I run with it! I believe and receive what You have declared. No more delay! I will NOT say, "The harvest is coming in the future." I will NOT say, "Prophecies are afar off." The Harvest is NOW! The prophecies are fulfilled NOW! This is our season! This is our time! We will reap a harvest on every seed we have ever sown. And we will also reap where we have not sown. We call in the harvest. We call in lost souls from the North, South, East, and West. We declare that every seat is filled in every service. All our VCMI locations are increasing in number and favor. Families are being. Communities are being impacted. We are the light of the world. We can no longer be hidden. 2018 is a year of supernatural increase for us. We experience harvest in every area of our lives and ministry! I declare this by faith. In Jesus' name, Amen.

January 29 (Day 28): Calling In The Harvest

The Closing Prayer:

Father, I thank You for making plans for my church and me from the foundations of the world. Your plans are manifested in the earth in times and seasons, and they are walked out in levels and stages. You have spoken to our Apostles and Campus Pastors. They have communicated to us the season we are in. I set my faith in agreement with my VCMI family. We believe we receive what has been declared. Together, we call in the harvest of souls you have ordained for such a time as this. Help us Father, to receive all those You will send us, in love. May Your love abound in us as individuals and as campuses. May Your power flow through us freely. May miracles, signs and wonders help draw the lost. And may we, as members of VCMI, submit ourselves to the process of being disciplined, so we can maximize the purpose and potential You placed in us, before the world began. We pray these things by faith, with a supernatural expectation of manifestation! In Jesus' name, Amen.

January 30 (Day 29): The Year Of Harvest

January 30 (Day 29): The Year Of Harvest

The Scripture(s):

Many of the Samaritan people in that town believed in Jesus. They believed because of what the woman had told them about him. She had told them, “He told me everything I have ever done.” The Samaritans went to Jesus. They begged him to stay with them. So he stayed there two days. Many more people became believers because of the things he said. The people said to the woman, “First we believed in Jesus because of what you told us. But now we believe because we heard him ourselves. We know now that he really is the one who will save the world.”

(John 4:39-32 ERV)

January 30 (Day 29): The Year Of Harvest

The Discussion:

John 4 opens with a debate about the number of baptisms people were performing. The legalistic and graceless Pharisees kept count and posted the score. According to their count, Jesus was ahead of John, as if the number of baptisms was a competition. In that climate, Jesus decided to leave the Judean countryside and head back to Galilee. This time, however, he would take an interesting route and pass through Samaria. This land was taboo for Jews because the racial divide between Jews and Samaritans was deep. But Jesus went that way nonetheless. He was led of the Father. He had a divine appointment waiting on Him. Jesus' team stopped in Sychar, a little town near the historic plot of land Jacob gave to his son, Joseph. "Jacob's Well" was there. Jesus, tired from the journey, sat down beside the well. It was about noon. His disciples went into town to buy lunch. A Samaritan woman arrived to draw water. Jesus asked her for some water. The Samaritan woman, taken aback, asked, "Why are you, a Jew, asking me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?" The racial tension between the groups was so bad that a Jew would not be caught dead talking to a Samaritan, much less a Jewish man talking to a Samaritan woman in public. But Jesus was no ordinary man, and He refused to confine Himself to the ways of the world.

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Jesus went on to have a lengthy conversation with the woman about the natural water (that she could offer Him) and the living water (that He could offer her). The woman wanted this living water, but when she asked for it Jesus said, “Go call your husband and then come back.” The woman, without hesitating, said, “I have no husband.” Jesus then said, in what some might consider to be a rude approach, “That’s nicely put: ‘I have no husband.’ You’ve had five husbands, and the man you’re living with now isn’t even your husband.” Most women would have been offended. This was no ordinary woman. She responded, “Oh, so you’re a prophet! Well, tell me this: Our ancestors worshiped God at this mountain, but you Jews insist that Jerusalem is the only place for worship, right?”

January 30 (Day 29): The Year Of Harvest

The conversation touched on ancestry and it was clear that this Samaritan woman saw herself as a descendant of Jacob, with every right to worship Jehovah, waiting on the Messiah to come. She said, **“When the Messiah comes, we’ll get the whole story.”** Jesus had not yet revealed His true identity to anyone. But this was the day. Jesus said, **“I am He, you don’t have to wait any longer or look any further.”** Just then His disciples came back and they were shocked at what they saw. They couldn’t believe Jesus was talking to a Samaritan woman, especially in public. The woman quickly decided to leave. But she was already impacted. She had encountered the Messiah and she would never be the same. She went back to town and told everyone about her encounter. She told people that she had met the Messiah. As a result, the Bible says, **“Many of the Samaritan people in that town believed in Jesus. They believed because of what the woman had told them about him... The Samaritans went to Jesus. They begged him to stay with them. So he stayed there two days. Many more people became believers because of the things he said. The people said to the woman, “First we believed in Jesus because of what you told us. But now we believe because we heard him ourselves. We know now that he really is the one who will save the world.”**

January 30 (Day 29): The Year Of Harvest

The Application:

1. Jesus is too good to keep Him yourself.

a) The woman at the well had a brief encounter with Jesus. This encounter left her changed. Every encounter with Jesus leaves us changed. The important thing is what we do with the change. When she left the well, she sought out the people she had been purposefully avoiding, and she told them about Jesus. We would do well in learning from this woman. Once we encounter Jesus, we must be willing to take our encounter public!

b) If something is truly good to you, you can't wait to tell others about it. Because you want them to partake in what has brought you joy. In this season, as we are actively believing God for the harvest of souls He has destined us to reap, we must be willing to tell others about Jesus. Jesus has been good to you. Don't keep His goodness to yourself. Like the Samaritan woman, actively pursue people and tell them about the goodness of God. Put God's goodness towards you on full display every day!

b) Never be ashamed of your relationship with Jesus. Jesus said, "If you stand before others and are willing to say you believe in me, then I will tell my Father in heaven that you belong to me. But if you stand before others and say you do not believe in me, then I will tell my Father in heaven that you do not belong to me." (Matthew 10:32,33 ERV).

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2. You are qualified by Grace.

a) God does not call the qualified; He qualifies the called. You may feel unqualified to tell others about Jesus. But take a cue from the woman at the well. She was rejected by the Jews because of her race. She was rejected by her neighbors because of her string of marriages and promiscuous ways. She was ostracized in her own hometown. But once she encountered Jesus, she embraced the grace to be the woman she was called to be. In essence, this woman became the first New Testament evangelist. **She was clearly unqualified, but God called her anyway.** Like the woman, you may feel unqualified, but God called you anyway.

b) You may not feel qualified to do what God is calling you to do. But Jesus qualified for you. You may not feel worthy. Jesus was worthy for you. You feel far from perfect. Jesus was perfect for you! Embrace God's grace and share the good news about Jesus!

c) The Bible tells us that God saved you and called you to a holy calling. He did not do this based on your own works or merit. **God did this solely based on His purpose and grace.** This grace was given to you, in Christ Jesus, before the world began (see 2 Tim 1:9). So, you are worthy, because Jesus made you worthy. And you cannot disqualify yourself from your calling, because you never qualified in the first place. Jesus qualified you! Once you are In Christ, you are everything Jesus is. That's why we boldly declare, **"As Jesus is, so are we, in this world!"**

January 30 (Day 29): The Year Of Harvest

3. The revival starts with you.

a) The woman at the well started a revival in her hometown. We are believing God for revival in and around all our campuses. We are believing God for supernatural harvest. Guess what? **It starts with you!** Don't wait on anyone to get started. God saved you and called you. He gave you His Spirit. He gave You His Word. He has ordained this season to be a season of harvest. The time is NOW! Determine in your heart, in this moment, that YOU will be the agent of change! You will tell others about Jesus. **The revival starts with you!**

b) If every member of VCMI determines to reach others with the saving grace and power of Jesus Christ in 2018, we will experience the harvest God has called us to experience. Don't wait on anyone else. Don't expect your Pastors to do what God has graced YOU to do. This is YOUR season. This is YOUR time. It starts with YOU!

January 30 (Day 29): The Year Of Harvest

The Declaration of Faith:

Father, this is the year of Harvest for me. You saved me and called me to a holy calling. You did not do this based on my own works or merit. You did this solely based on Your purpose and grace, which You gave me IN CHRIST JESUS before the world began. I accept the assignment. You have been too good to me, for me to keep Your goodness to myself. I tell others about Jesus daily. I testify of Your goodness towards me everywhere I go. I take our relationship PUBLIC! I openly declare that I am a child of the Most High God! I am all Jesus is. I am because He is! Jesus made me worthy. Jesus qualified me. Jesus justified me. Therefore, I am determined to make the most of my calling. Father, Your grace towards me shall not be in vain. In 2018, we shall reap a great harvest. I won't wait on anyone else to get started. Revival starts with me! I declare this by faith! In Jesus' name, Amen.

The Closing Prayer:

Father, thank You for declaring this season to be a Year of Harvest. I set my faith in agreement now, with my fellow church members, to experience Your best in this season. May every member of VCMI be determined to walk in the mandate of this house; which is: "Each One, Reach One!" May we all purpose in our hearts, in this moment, to testify of Your goodness daily. May we all be PUBLIC displays of Your goodness and grace. May the world see Jesus in us this year. And may we see a Harvest greater than anything we have ever experienced in the 25(+) years of ministry at VCMI. May 2018 be our greatest year. Not because we are so good, but because You are. May it be ALL ABOUT YOU! May the Harvest come in, by Your grace and for Your glory! We pray this by faith, in Jesus' name, Amen.

January 31 (Day 30): What Do You Believe About 2018?

January 31 (Day 30): What Do You Believe About 2018?

The Scripture(s):

Jesus said, "Everything is possible for one who believes."

(Mark 9:23 NIV)

The Discussion:

You are only limited by your capacity to believe God. Let's use Abraham and Canaan as an example. God originally told Abraham that he could have as much land as he could "see" (Gen 13:15). This was not physical sight, it was spiritual. God was giving Abraham all the land he could believe Him for. 440 years later the Lord described the land to Joshua. He said, "All the land from the desert to Lebanon all the way to the great river (that is, the Euphrates River) and all the land of the Hittites will be yours. And all the land from here to the Mediterranean Sea in the west (that is, the place where the sun sets) will be within your borders" (see Joshua 1). When Joshua finally took possession of the land, he was laying hold of all Abraham was able to SEE. In essence, Abraham's descendants received what he was able to believe God for. The more he was able to see, the more he was able to believe, the more they could receive.

January 31 (Day 30): What Do You Believe About 2018?

What was true for Abraham back then is true for us today. Our God is a God of NO limits. But His operation in our lives is **actually limited to our capacity to believe**. Our leaders have opened their hearts to SEE what God has given us in this season. God revealed to them that 2018 is a year of Harvest for us. The more Harvest they are able to SEE, the more Harvest we are able to receive. In this case, however, the believing is not just reserved for the leaders. God is looking for us ALL to believe Him. When we come together and release our faith, as a collective body of believers, the windows of heaven are open to us. Therefore, in this season, it is critical that every member of VCMI believe God!

After 400 years of slavery and 40 years in the wilderness, Joshua was tasked to lead a new generation of believers to take possession of the land promised to Abraham. While Abraham had seen the land 440 years earlier, this was new land to Joshua and his people. This was uncharted territory. The death of Moses marked a new season, and Joshua was charged with leading untested people into battles against tested giants in land familiar to the giants and unfamiliar to them. The point here is that God will lead you to do seemingly impossible things. He will say things like, "I am giving this to you," "It's already yours," "The Harvest is NOW," even though taking possession of it will require a fight. Joshua had to be strong and very courageous. He had to keep his mind fixed and focused on God. He had to keep his faith switch in the "ON" position. Guess what? In this season, we will have to do the same. The Harvest is not going to come without a fight. We may have to endure situations where we are "troubled on every side," but come what may, this is the Year of Harvest for us! Our role is to simply BELIEVE GOD!

January 31 (Day 30): What Do You Believe About 2018?

The Application:

1. You are only limited by your capacity to believe God.

a) Our God is a God of no limits. If you have limits on God, then you placed them there, and your task should be to quickly remove every artificial limit you have ever placed on our limitless God. Once you do, the impossible will become possible to you!

b) Meditating on the Word of God will cause you to expand your capacity to believe. The more Word you get down in your heart, the more you will have to believe. The more you believe, the more you open your heart to receive. Keeping God's Word before your eyes and in your heart is key in this season.

2. God's promises don't come without a fight.

a) God gave the nation of Israel Canaan. God said it was already theirs. However, the land was inhabited and if God's people were going to take possession of the promise, they were going to have to fight for it. The same holds true today. God has declared 2018 to be a Year of Harvest for us. The Harvest is ours. God has already given it to us. But that does not mean it will not require a fight on our behalf. We must be willing to fight. And the fight we fight is the fight of faith (1 Tim 6:12).

b) God has given us The Harvest by His grace. It is unearned and unmerited. However, this does not exonerate us from releasing our faith. We still have to believe God. We still need to pray. We still need to do our confessions. We still need to witness. We will need to go 'treasure hunting.' God has done His part (Grace). He is now looking for us to do our part (faith). Our faith must access God's grace.

January 31 (Day 30): What Do You Believe About 2018?

3. What you believe God for in 2018 is critical.

a) Jesus said, “Everything is possible for one who believes” (Mark 9:23) and “Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them” (Mark 11:24). Good or bad, you are going to experience what you believe and you will have what you say. So, what are you believing God for in this season? What are you saying? What is coming out of your mouth? What is down in your heart?

b) While the leadership of VCMI appreciates your faith for the corporate blessing, we also expect you to release your faith for your family/household. The anointing that rests upon Apostles Tony and Cynthia Brazelton, Pastors Tyrone and Cynthia Marshall, Pastors Demond and Portia Taylor, and Pastors Sam and Sarah Masamba, also rests upon every family of our global church. If 2018 is a year of Great Harvest for our church, then it will also be a year of Great Harvest in our homes. What you make happen for God at church, He will make happen for you at home. So, believe God. Open your heart to all God wants to do in your family in 2018. You will receive what you believe. You will have what you say!

January 31 (Day 30): What Do You Believe About 2018?

The Declaration of Faith:

Father, this is the year of Harvest for me. You have declared certain things over our church. As a member of VCMI, I believe and receive what You have said. I open my heart to see a supernatural harvest of souls in 2018. And while I am believing You for a corporate blessing, I also open my heart to experience AT HOME, what we will experience IN CHURCH. I declare that this is a season of supernatural harvest in my home. This is a season of the restoration and the restitution of all things. I have been sowing for years. I have seed in the ground. I declare that in this season I will receive a harvest on every seed sown.

While I continue to sow, the reaping will overtake me and bless me beyond measure. I have no fear of running out. I have faith in running over. You make all grace abound towards me, to the point where I always have. I am able to meet the needs of every situation. I have no need of external support. I am able to sow into every good work. I continue to sow, because I am a continual reaper. My harvest time is NOW! Father, be it unto me, according to Your Word and my declaration of faith. In Jesus' name. Amen.

January 31 (Day 30): What Do You Believe About 2018?

The Closing Prayer:

Father, as we close out this time of prayer and fasting, I pray that we may maintain this sense of expectation and manifestation for the entire year. May every day of 2018 be a year of Harvest for us. May we enter each day with our heart and mind fixed and focused on You. May our leaders continue to SEE and cast vision. May our members continue to run with the vision that is cast. May our campuses impact the communities around them by Your grace and for Your glory. And may the reach of VCMI extend around the world. We release our faith for our church to influence the people of this world and the systems of this world, for Your glory. We are a church without walls. We live “As Jesus is,” daily. We are the church You have called us to be. So, in closing Father, may the next 11 months be the best of our lives! We pray this by faith, in Jesus' name, Amen.

Declaration: Walking in The Blessing

Declaration: Walking in The Blessing

I am alive in Christ and the life that I now live I live for Him. I have been delivered from death. Death has no power over me and the fear of death has no control over me. I operate in the same spirit of faith that Jesus operated in. I make this declaration of faith, according as it is written, I believe, therefore have I spoken. I now speak the Word over my life. (Gal 2:20, Heb 2:15, 2 Cor 4:13)

I am the body of the Jesus the Christ, the Anointed One and His anointing. Satan has no power over me for I overcome evil with good. I am of God and have overcome satan. Greater is He that is in me than he that is in the world. I fear no evil, for You are with me Lord. (John 16:33, 1 Jn 4:4, Ps 23:4)

Your Word and Your Spirit, they comfort me. No weapon formed against me shall prosper for my righteousness is of the Lord. Everything I do prospers. For I am like a tree planted by the rivers of water. I bring forth my fruit in my season. My leaves do not wither. I am blessed and favored in every area of my life. I am delivered from the evils of this present world, for it is the will of God concerning me. No evil shall befall me; neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling. For the Lord gives, and I give, His angels charge over me and they keep me in all my ways. In my pathway is life and there is no death. I am a doer of the Word of God and I am blessed in my deeds. (Isa 54:17, Ps 1:3, Gal 1:4, Ps 91)

Declaration: Walking in The Blessing

I take the shield of faith and quench every fiery dart the wicked one brings against me. Faith enables me to overcome every hindrance, obstacle, and attack. Christ has redeemed me from the curse of the law; therefore, I forbid any sickness or disease to come upon my body.

Every diseased germ and every virus that touches my body dies instantly in the Name of Jesus. Every organ and every system of my body functions to the perfection to which God created it to function. I forbid any malfunction in my body in the Name of Jesus. (Eph 6:16, 1 Jn 5:4, Gal 3:13)

I am an overcomer and I overcome by the blood of the Lamb and the word of my testimony. I am submitted to God and the devil flees from me, because I resist him in the Name of Jesus. The Word of God is forever settled in heaven therefore I establish His Word upon this earth. Great is the peace of my children, for they are taught of Lord.

Christ has redeemed me from poverty, Christ has redeemed me from sickness, and Christ has redeemed me from spiritual death. For poverty He has given me wealth, for sickness He has given me health, for death He has given me eternal life. (Rev 12:11, Jas 4:7, Ps 119:89, Isa 54:13, Gal 3:13)

Declaration: Walking in The Blessing

I delight myself in the Lord and He gives me the desires of my heart. I have given and it is given unto to me, good measure, pressed down and shaken together and running over, men give into my bosom. With the same measure I meet it is measured unto to me. I sow bountifully, therefore I reap bountifully. I give cheerfully and my God has made all grace abound toward me that I, having all sufficiency for all things do abound to all good work; having no need of external support. There is no lack in my home. I am sower and I partner with divine projects and God richly supplies all my need according to His riches in glory by the anointed Jesus. (Ps 37:4, Luke 6:38, 2 Cor 9:6-8, Phil 4:19)

The Lord is my Shepherd and I do not want. Jesus was made poor that I through His poverty might be made rich. He came that I might have life and have it more abundantly and I having received the abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness do reign as a king and priest in life by Jesus, the Anointed One and His anointing. The Lord takes pleasure in the prosperity of His servant. It pleases the Lord to bless me richly. Abraham's blessings are mine. (Ps 23:1, 2 Cor 8:9, John 10:10, Rom 5:17, Ps 35:27)

The Spirit of truth abides in me and teaches me all things. The Holy Spirit guides me into all truth. Therefore I confess, I have perfect knowledge of every situation and every circumstance I come up against. For I have the wisdom of God. I trust in the Lord with all my heart and I lean not to my own understanding in all my ways I acknowledge Him and He directs my path. I let the word of the Anointed One dwell in me richly in all wisdom. (John 14:17, Prov 3:5-6, Col 3:6)

Declaration: Walking in The Blessing

I follow the good Shepherd. I know His voice. The voice of a stranger I will not follow. I am the righteousness of God faith in Christ Jesus. I am a new creation in Christ I am His workmanship created in the anointed Jesus. I have put off the old man and put on the new man which is renewed in knowledge after the image of Him that created me. (John 10:3-6, 2 Cor 5:21, Eph 2:10, Eph 4:24)

I have received the Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation in the knowledge of Him. The eyes of my understanding have been enlightened – flooded with light. I am not conformed to this world but I am transformed by the renewing of my mind. My mind is renewed by the Word of God. I am strengthened with all might according to God's glorious power. (Eph 1:17, Rom 12:1-2, Col 1:11)

I am delivered from the power of darkness and I am translated into the kingdom of His Dear Son. I am born of God and I have world overcoming faith residing on the inside of me. I can and will do in all things through Christ (the Anointed One and His anointing) who strengthens me. The joy of the Lord is my strength. The Lord is the strength of my life. (Col 1:13, 1 Jn 5:4, Phil 4:13, Neh 8:10)

The peace of God which passes all understanding keeps my heart and my mind through the anointed Jesus. I meditate and meditate on things which are good, pure, perfect, lovely, of good report and praise. I allow no corrupt communication proceed out of my mouth but that which is good to edifying that it may minister grace to the hearers. I grieve not the Holy Spirit of God in love and I grow up into the Lord Jesus Christ in all things. I let the peace of God rule in my heart and I refuse to worry about anything. I will not let the Word of God depart from before my eyes for it is life to me. I have found it and it is health and healing to all my flesh. (Phil 4:7-8, Eph 4:29-30, Col 3:15, Prov 4:21-22).

Declaration: Walking in The Blessing

God is on my side. God is in me now. Who can be against me? He has given unto me all things that pertain unto life and godliness. Therefore I am a partaker of His divine nature. I am a believer and these signs do follow me. In the Name of Jesus I cast out demons, I speak with new tongues, I lay hands on the sick and they do recover. Jesus gave me the authority to use His Name. Therefore, in the name of Jesus, I bind on earth those things that are already bound in heaven. I loose on earth those things that are already loosed in heaven. Living this way, I get to experience heaven on earth daily! Your will Father, shall be done, on earth, as it is in heaven, through me, for Your glory! I declare all this by faith. In Jesus' name, amen! (Rom 8:31, 2 Pet 1:3-4, Mark 16:17, Mat 18:18, Mat 6:10)

Thank you Father, be it unto me according to thy Word and my declaration in the Name of Jesus, Amen.

Declaration: For Divine Prosperity

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Father, You set before me life and death, blessing and cursing. You told me to choose life, promising that both I and my seed would live, that we would love You, and that we would be blessed if we obey Your voice. I made my choice and I chose life and blessing, not death and cursing. I cleave unto You and You alone. You are the Lord of my life and the Lord over my household. You are my life and the length of my days. My household is blessed because we submit to You daily. We call upon no other name, nor do we recognize any other deity. You alone are our God! (Deut 30:19,20; Ex 20:3)

I will never cease to give You thanks Father for making me and my household partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light. You have delivered us from the power of darkness, and have translated us into the kingdom of Your dear Son – Jesus the Christ (Col 1:12,13)

You Father, are able to make all grace (every favor and earthly blessing) abound toward us in abundance, so that we will always, under all circumstances, have more than enough to meet our needs and to give in abundance towards every charitable work (2 Cor 9:8 AMP)

While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest will not cease. I have seed in the ground. I have sown seeds of love, peace, harmony, forgiveness, compassion, and money; and declare that I reap what I sow. As the Lord of Harvest I trust that You will see to it that I receive a correspondent return on every seed sown. I give to the poor and You repay me. I sow into the kingdom, for the gospel's sake, and You bless me with a manifold harvest. I tithe, and I walk under an open heaven (Gen 8:22, Gal 6:7, Mat 9:38, Prov 19:17, Mark 10:30, Mal 3:10)

Declaration: For Divine Prosperity

I seek You first, Your Kingdom, and Your righteousness and because my priorities and my heart are in order, food, clothes, shelter, and everything I need are added to me. I don't pursue things, I pursue You. But since I pursue You, things pursue me. Thank You Father for supplying all my need and for ensuring that there will never be a shortage of food in the cupboard, clothes in the closet, health in our bodies, peace in our home, or money in the bank (Mat 6:33, Phil 4:19)

As the rain comes down from the sky and does not return until it has watered the ground and caused the earth to bring forth and bud, so is Your Word. Your Word never goes forth without accomplishing everything it says it will and prospering everywhere it is sown. The grass withers, the flower fades, but Your Word shall stand forever. Father, this morning I am standing on Your Word. I believe Your Word teaches me that I should be blessed to be a blessing. I receive both Your blessing and responsibility to BE a blessing by faith. I submit to being a channel, a conduit, and an instrument of Your blessing, for Your glory, daily (Is 55:10,11; Is 40:8. Gen 12:1-3)

I thank You Father for blessing me indeed, for enlarging my territory, for keeping Your hand upon me that no evil would befall me, and for using me to expand Your Kingdom plans and purposes in the earth (1 Chron 4:10).

I embrace Your blessing this day. I declare this by faith. In Jesus' name. Amen!

Declaration: A Prosperous Marriage

Declaration: A Prosperous Marriage

Father, I declare that my spouse and I endure long in our marriage. We are patient and kind. We are never envious. We do not boil over with jealousy. We are not boastful or vainglorious. We do not display ourselves haughtily. We are not conceited, arrogant or inflated with pride. We do not insist on our own rights or our own way, for we are not self-seeking or touchy or fretful or resentful. We do not keep good records of bad things. We are quick to forgive and move forward. We pay no attention to a suffered wrong. We give no space to the enemy. We overcome evil with good.

We bear up under anything and everything that comes. We are overcomers in every way. We are ever ready to believe the best of each other. Our hearts and minds are pure towards You, Father, and towards one another. Our hopes are fadeless under all circumstances. We endure everything without weakening. Our love never fails - it never fades out, it never becomes obsolete, and it will never come to an end. We purposely and consciously walk in Your love, agape, with one another.

We are confessing that our lives and our family's lives lovingly express truth in all things. We speak truly, deal truly, and live truly. We are engulfed in Your love for us and our love for each other. We mature in love in every way and in all things. We esteem and delight in one another, forgiving one another readily and freely as You have forgiven us. We are imitators of God. As well-loved children, we imitate You, our Father, in every way.

We thank You in advance, Father, for the endurance and prosperity of our marriage. We declare that our marriage grows stronger each day because it is founded on Your Word and on Your kind of love. We give You the praise for it all. We declare this by faith. In Jesus' name. Amen!

See:

1 Corinthians 13:4-8 (AMP)

1 Corinthians 14:1

Ephesians 4:15,32

Ephesians 5:1,2

Declaration: For Divine Favor

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Father, I thank You for bestowing Your divine favor over me and my household. Through Christ Jesus You made me the righteousness of God. Therefore, I am entitled to covenant kindness and covenant favor. The favor of God is among the righteous. The favor of God surrounds the righteous. Therefore, I declare that it surrounds me everywhere I go and in everything I do. Your favor goes before me like a shield to protect me and help me. I expect the favor of God to be in full manifestation in my life.

I declare that You are raising up people who will use their power, their ability, their influence, and their money, to help me in ways I cannot help myself. You open doors for me that no man can close. You close doors for me that no man can open. You give this to me freely, because You love me and because You are dedicated to the plans You made for me before the world began.

I will never be without the favor of God for the rest of my life. Your favor rests richly upon me. It profusely abounds in me. I am a part of the generation that is experiencing God's favor immeasurably, limitlessly, and surpassingly. Therefore, favor produces supernatural increase, promotion, restoration, honor, increased assets, greater victories, recognition, prominence, preferential treatment, petitions granted, policies and rules changed, and battles won in which I do not have to fight. I rest in Your finished work. I get to enjoy Your blessing richly because of Your favor.

Your favor is on me, in me, with me, for me, and goes before me! Therefore, my life will never be the same. This is my time for favor! I declare this by faith. In Jesus' name, Amen!

See:

2 Corinthians 9:8

Exodus 12:35-36

Genesis 39:21

Luke 2:52

Deuteronomy 33:23

Esther 8:5

Esther 5:8

Psalms 44:3

Psalms 102:13

Thank You!

Victory Christian Ministries International (VCMI) would like to thank all our members for participating in our 30 Days of Consecration. We trust this time of prayer and fasting was amazing for you and your household, as it was for our church. We are looking forward to experiencing an amazing Harvest in 2018. **It's Harvest Time!**

If you read this devotional guide and you are not a member of VCMI, please visit us online to learn more about VCMI (www.vcmi.org) and Tony & Cynthia Brazelton Ministries (www.tonyandcynthiabrazelton.org).

Thank you for connecting with our ministry. May you and your family experience God's best in 2018 -- **The Year of The Harvest!**

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