

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

Praise the Lord for the Word. Look at what Jesus said about the Word in Matthew 4:4, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every Word that comes from the mouth of God." Your being in the Word is so important.

God bless you as you study God's wonderful Word this month.



Gladly in His Service,

DR. 4

Dr. Jason B. Brittain



Scripture Reading: Numbers 26-27 Mark 8:22-38

Praise the Lord! God is so good to us. When we were lost, He loved us and sent Jesus so we could be saved. John 3;16, "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." He did this while we were yet sinners.

Romans 5:6-8, "You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." God demonstrated His own love for us by sending Jesus to die for us *while we were still sinners*. That is amazing.

Now that we are saved, don't you know that God still loves us? Romans 8:31-32 say, "What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but gave Him up for us all—how will He not also, along with Him, graciously give us all things?"

God loved you before you were saved and He loves you now. He provided for your salvation before you were saved and now that you are saved He will still provide what you need because He loves you. Did you notice what Paul said about what God would give us? **"How will He not also, along with Him, graciously give us all things?** We need to believe that God loves us. It is the basis of our salvation and everything else that God has for us.

Prayer: Lord, thank You for loving me and for saving me. Your love is amazing! I also thank You for all the blessings You have manifested in my life now that I am saved. Your love is amazing! I know that I am saved and blessed because of Your love and Your grace. Help me to believe. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



Scripture Reading: Numbers 28-29 Mark 9:1-29

Praise the Lord! Yesterday, I showed you that the Word says God loved you and blessed you before you were saved and He loves you and blesses you now that you are saved. As you might expect, I have some more to say about God's love and His blessings for us.

Deuteronomy 28:2 says, "All these blessings will come on you and accompany you if you obey the Lord your God." God loves you and He has many blessings for you. As you live like He wants you will be blessed with what He has for you. Some people miss out on what God has for them because they don't believe and because they don't live like He wants. Don't misunderstand me. We don't earn the blessing by what we do. God already has the blessings for us.

Here are some blessings He has for us. Deuteronomy 28:3 says, "You will be blessed in the city and blessed in the country." This sounds to me like God want to bless us wherever we are. Verse 4 says, "The fruit of your womb will be blessed, and the crops of your land and the young of your livestock—the calves of your herds and the lambs of your flocks." Praise the Lord. Don't you know that promises like this work even if you aren't raising cattle and sheep? God wants to bless you wherever you are and whatever you are doing.

Verses 5-6 say, "Your basket and your kneading trough will be blessed. You will be blessed when you come in and blessed when you go out." This would be a good place for you to say, "These things are for me!" Believe it and speak what you believe.

Prayer: Lord, I am so thankful that I can read Your Word and learn from it. I believe that You said what You mean and I believe that You meant what You said. Help me to grasp Your love more. I know that You loved me before I was saved and I know that You love me right now. I believe. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



Scripture Reading: Numbers 30-31 Mark 9:30-50

Praise the Lord! Deuteronomy 28:7 says, "The Lord will grant that the enemies who rise up against you will be defeated before you. They will come at you from one direction but flee from you in seven." God has protection for you because He loves you. Haven't there been times when God protected you from things that you didn't even know were happening? Maybe you were almost in an accident but God protected you. Or maybe you were getting involved in something that was a bad deal and God protected you. Thank God for those things you recognized and thank God for all of His protection that you may not have even recognized.

Verse 8 says, "The Lord will send a blessing on your barns and on everything you put your hand to. The Lord your God will bless you in the land He is giving you." Can I talk to you about barns? Proverbs 3:9-10 say, "Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine."

I was meditating on what these verses say about God blessing our barns. You see, I don't have any barns in the natural but I was thinking about God's blessings being promised. I do have some areas that I consider barns. I have a check book, I have investments and some other things. As I meditated on God filling my barns I felt like the Lord told me to get some more barns. Here's what I did. I opened a savings account and God has blessed it. I can't say it is overflowing but it is growing with God's blessing.

Prayer: Lord, I thank You for promising to protect me. I believe You have done that and I believe You will always fulfill Your promise to protect me. I also thank You for promising to bless me financially. I believe. I know that my living fully for You positions me for these and many other blessings You have for me. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



Scripture Reading: Numbers 32-33 Mark 10:1-31

Praise the Lord! We are so blessed to be able to study God's Word. I have been writing to you about God blessing you and I have some more. Philippians 4:19 says, "And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus." That is a wonderful promise and I am sure God fulfills His promises.

Now, let me tell you some things about the people this promise was made to. The believers in Philippi were in relationship with Paul and they supported him and his ministry. Philippians 4:15-16 say, "Moreover, as you Philippians know, in the early days of your acquaintance with the gospel, when I set out from Macedonia, not one church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you only; for even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me aid more than once when I was in need." They were givers and that positioned them to receive the blessings that Paul wrote about in verse 19.

Look at what Paul said in verse 17, "Not that I desire your gifts; what I desire is that more be credited to your account." Have you ever thought about having an account in heaven? Look at what Jesus said in Luke 6:38, "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you." When you give, God will make sure you are blessed. So, thank God for the promise in Philippians 4:19 and know that God will bless you for your giving just like He blessed them for their giving. Believe.

Prayer: Lord, thank You for blessing me so I can give and bless others. I want to be a consistent and faithful giver. I also ask You to bless all my brothers and sisters who are doing these devotions this month. Help us all to grow in our knowledge of Your ways and help us to be doers of Your Word. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



Scripture Reading: Numbers 34-36 Mark 10:32-52

Praise the Lord! In 2 Corinthians 3, Paul was writing about about people who don't know Jesus. He said those people have a veil over their hearts. Before I was saved I didn't understand the ways of God. I had an aunt who would send me and my brothers Bibles for Christmas. I tried to read it and it didn't make any sense to me. It was like there was a veil over me.

When I gave my life to Jesus everything changed. I loved the Word and I could understand it. Now, of course you know that it was God who helped me. Now, look at 2 Corinthians 3:16, "But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away." My testimony sure lines right up with this. Giving my life to Jesus changed everything. Actually, I probably should say that giving my life to Jesus changed me. Now, I love the Word.

2 Corinthians 3:17 says, "Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom." When we gave our lives to Jesus we were born-again and the Holy Spirit came into our lives. I didn't know that happened, but it did. The Holy Spirit helps us, He teaches us and He brings us freedom. My testimony is that the Holy Spirit had to work in my life as a process to set me free but He did it and He still does it in my life. Aren't you glad to know that God started an ongoing work in your life? Here's some more good news: He started His good work in your life and He isn't going to quit.

2 Corinthians 3:18 says, "And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate: the Lord's glory, are being transformed into His image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, Who is the Spirit." More on this tomorrow.

Prayer: Lord, thank You for drawing me to You and thank You for revealing Your salvation to me. I know that You loved me even before I was saved and I know that You love me now. Help me to keep growing in You and the freedom You have for me. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



Scripture Reading: Deuteronomy 1-2 Mark 11:1-19

Praise the Lord! Yesterday I ended with 2 Corinthians 3:18, "And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into His image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, Who is the Spirit." Thank God we are saved.

2 Corinthians 5:17 says, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" Praise the Lord for making it possible for us to be born-again. In Christ, we are new creations and the old is gone and the new has come. That is the truth. We sometimes need to grow in order to live some of these things out, but we are new in Christ. Every good change that has happened in any of our lives is evidence that these things are true. The more we learn and the more we submit to Jesus the more this process will continue and progress. Let me assure you, God's ways and His plan for your life is always right and submitting to Him is always the best way to live.

2 Corinthians 3:18 also says that we **are being transformed into His image.** Isn't that amazing? When a born-again believer knows what God wants them to do and they do it, they are becoming more like Jesus. Let's see if I can give you an example of what I am saying. Suppose someone does you wrong and you feel like God wants you to forgive them. Maybe you don't want to forgive them but you know that God wants you to, so you do forgive them. Do you know who else would forgive them? Jesus would forgive them. So, you were doing what Jesus would do and you were becoming more and more like Him. We are all in the process of **being transformed into His image.** More on this tomorrow.

Prayer: Lord, thank You for saving me and thank You for working in my life. I know that Your will for my life is always right. Jesus, I thank You for forgiving me and I know that You want me to forgive others too. I choose to submit to You and Your will. I also ask You to help everyone reading this to keep growing in You and Your will for them. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



Scripture Reading: Deuteronomy 3-4 Mark 11:20-33

Praise the Lord! 2 Corinthians 3:18 **says that we are being transformed into His image.** If this was the only place this was spoken about we should believe it, but there are many confirmations of this truth in the Word.

Look at Romans 8:28-29, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose. For those God foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters." There is sure a lot for us to see in these verses. First of all, God is working in our lives and He can and will use everything we go through for good. This takes faith to believe and that is exactly how we should approach this. We believe it in faith. God has called us and we have responded by giving our lives to Him. He chose us to be saved and He chose us to be conformed to the image of Jesus. Our being saved is a miraculous event and our being confirmed to Jesus' image is also miraculous. Don't forget that God is allpowerful and He is going to get His good work done in your life.

Philippians 1:6 says, "Being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." Want some more truth that we all need to believe and accept by faith? God has started His good work in our lives and He is going to finish it. I believe and I have faith for those things in my life and in your life. How about you? Do you believe and have faith for these things? John 8:12 says, "When Jesus spoke again to the people, He said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows Me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

Prayer: Lord, thank You for saving me and thank You for working in my life. Help me to follow You and help me to live in the light. I don't ever want to walk in the darkness. I remember what that was like before I was saved and I am not going back. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



Scripture Reading: Deuteronomy 5-7 Mark 12:1-27

Praise the Lord! Look at what Paul wrote in Colossians 1:9, "For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of His will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives." This is powerful.

When Paul heard about these believers, he started praying for them and he kept praying for them. How often do you pray for other believers? Paul prayed for other believers a lot. I wanted to start with this because we really do believe that God hears our prayers and He answers our prayers. Knowing these things should motivate us to pray for others more. When we pray for each other in the prayers at the end of these devotions, God hears our prayers and He answers our prayers.

Paul also told of some of the things He prayed. He prayed that God would fill those he was praying for with the knowledge of God's will and with wisdom and understanding. This is certainly a good model for us to learn from AND these are certainly good things for us to pray for.

Do you know some people who need prayer? Do you know some people who need more knowledge of God's will and wisdom and understanding? I am sure you do and I want to encourage you to pray for them. If you can't think of anyone who needs these things then pray for me. Just one more thing and then we are going to pray. Look at this part of what Paul said: **We have not stopped praying for you.**

Prayer: Lord, help us to believe You answer our prayers and help us to pray like we really believe. I ask You to bring some people to my mind right now that I should be praying for. Help them to have knowledge, wisdom and understanding of You and Your ways. I also ask You to remind me to pray for them more often. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



Scripture Reading: Deuteronomy 8-10 Mark 12:28-44

Praise the Lord! Colossians 1:9-10 say, "For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of His will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please Him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God."

Paul prayed the things we talked about yesterday **so that...** Paul wasn't just praying because it is a good thing to do or just because someone wrote a devotion and told them to pray. Paul prayed: **So that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please Him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God.** Paul prayed *so that* they would live better lives, *so that* God would be pleased with them, *so that* they would bear fruit and *so that* they would grow in the knowledge of God.

As you pray for others, God will hear your prayers and He will answer your prayers. All that happens *so that* those you are praying for will do better in every way and *so that* God's work will progress in every way. With all these wonderful results being promised, we should surely pray more. I want you to know that as I have been writing these things to you I have been reminded to pray for you more and I hope that as you read these things you are minded to pray for others too.

It is ok to pray for yourself. Jesus told us to pray for our needs to be met and things like that, but pray for others as well.

Prayer: Lord, thank You for giving me the responsibility and the privilege to pray. When I see people or when I think of people, help me to know that You may be speaking to me about praying for them. Help me to respond to Your prompting to pray. I also ask You to help me to pray more and to worry less. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



Scripture Reading: Deuteronomy 11-13 Mark 13:1-13

Praise the Lord! I have some more to say about what Paul wrote in Colossians 1 and I am going to get back to that but I have something else to add. Look at what Paul said in Philippians 1:3, "I **thank my God every time I remember you.**" Have you ever been driving along or doing something and then you thought about someone or remembered them in some way? Well, that might have been God speaking to you about praying for them. That is what Paul was talking about. When he remembered someone, he would give thanks to God for them and I am sure that part of that was praying for them. As I have tried to develop this habit in my life, I often take times when I used to think that my mind was wandering and I now believe God is directing my thoughts to pray more.

Ok, back to what Paul prayed for the believers in Colossians 1. Verse 11 says that Paul prayed for them: **To be strengthened with all power according to His glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience.** Think about this. If those we pray for were strengthened with all power, don't you think that would be a good thing? If they were to have great endurance and patience, don't you think those would be good things too?

I haven't made this point for a while so let me tell you that I believe God answers prayer and I also believe more prayer means more answers. Here's another thought. What if I was going through life and my mind really did just wander and I thought it was God reminding me to pray for someone. Do you think it would end up being a bad thing that I prayed for them? Of course it wouldn't be a bad thing. So, when someone comes to your thoughts, pray for them.

Prayer: Lord, help me to pray more. I pray that You would bring people to my thoughts so I will pray for them and help me to not miss You speaking to me. I know that praying more is always good. I ask You right now to speak to me about someone to pray for and I will be faithful to pray for them. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



Scripture Reading: Deuteronomy 14-16 Mark 13:14-37

Praise the Lord! Here's some more of what Paul prayed for in Colossians 1:12, "and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of His holy people in the kingdom of light." As Paul prayed for these believers, he thanked God that they were saved and walking in the blessings of God.

Have you ever known anyone who was jealous or maybe angry when someone else was blessed? That is so wrong. We should rejoice when others are blessed. Let me show you an example of a time when some people did this the right way. In Luke 1 Zechariah and Elizabeth didn't have any children and God miraculously gave them a child. Now, look at Luke 1:57-58, "When it was time for Elizabeth to have her baby, she gave birth to a son. Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown her great mercy, and they shared her joy." The people who heard about Elizabeth being blessed *shared in her joy.* This is a great way to live. Rejoice when others are blessed.

If we would consistently do this we would always have more to rejoice about. Look at 1 Thessalonians 5:16, "**Rejoice always!**" That is a very short verse but putting it into practice will help you big time. Look at what Paul said in Philippians 4:4, "**Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.**" When Paul wrote this he was in jail for preaching the Gospel and yet he was rejoicing and telling others to *rejoice always.* Look at what Paul said next, "**Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."**

Prayer: Lord, I am so thankful that You have saved me. I have so much to rejoice for in my life and I have even more to rejoice about when I rejoice over others being blessed. Help to remember these things today and every day. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



Scripture Reading: Deuteronomy 17-19 Mark 14:1-25

Praise the Lord! We have been talking about how blessed we are and how we should rejoice always. Let me give you two more verses from Colossians for today. Colossians 1:13-14 say, "For He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son He loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins."

We are so blessed! We used to be in bondage in the dominion of darkness, but Jesus saved us. Take a moment and think about how blessed you are to be saved. We were totally and completely lost without Jesus and yet He loved us and He saved us. We were rescued from the kingdom of darkness and we were brought into the Kingdom of God.

We are in the Kingdom of God because Jesus paid for all our sins. He redeemed us and forgave all our sins. Look at what Paul wrote in Colossians 2:13-15, "When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; He has taken it away, nailing it to the cross. And having disarmed the powers and authorities, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross."

We were dead in sin. Jesus forgave all our sins. We are now alive in Him. He canceled all the debt we owed. All our sins and all our debts were nailed to the cross in Jesus. Jesus defeated the devil for us.

Prayer: Lord, thank You for saving me. I want to live fully for You. I know that You are working in my life and I want to stay close to You. Please continue teaching me from Your wonderful Word. I also want to represent You well to others. Help me to show people how wonderful You are by what I say and by how I live. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



Scripture Reading: Deuteronomy 20-22 Mark 14:26-50

Praise the Lord! John 8:31-32 say, "To the Jews who had believed Him, Jesus said, "If you hold to My teaching, you are really My disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." These people had believed in Jesus and they were saved. Praise the Lord! God had forgiven their sins and brought them into the Kingdom of God just like He has done for us.

Then, Jesus spoke to them about holding on to the Word and letting the truth set them free. You see, they were already free but they still needed to be set free from some things in their lives. I hope you aren't confused by these things. Think about your life. When you gave your life to Jesus you were saved and forgiven for all your sins and yet I am pretty sure there were some areas in your life where you still needed to be set free from some things. I could put it this way: We were saved and set free but we still needed to grow into all the freedom that God has for us.

So, thank God we are saved. Now, let's keep growing in Him. God is working in our lives and He is never going to quit. That is sure good news. I don't know how long you have been saved but I am sure there are still some areas where Jesus is still working in your life. If He is still working in your life it is a sign that you are saved.

Look at what Jesus said a couple of verses later in John 8:36, "So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed." Jesus has set us free and we are free. Now, we are learning to live out the freedom that He has given us.

Prayer: Lord, thank You for saving me and for setting me free. I want to keep learning how to live in all that You have done for me. I am never going to quit living for You and I know that You are never going to quit on me. I know that Your ongoing work in my life is evidence that I am saved and it is evidence that I am growing in You. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



Scripture Reading: Deuteronomy 23-25 Mark 14:51-72

Praise the Lord! Aren't you thankful that Jesus has saved you? We are so blessed. Hasn't God blessed you in many ways? 2 Corinthians 5:17 says, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come. The old has gone, the new is here!" When we gave our lives to Jesus we were born-again and we have a fresh start in Him. The old is gone and the new has come. Thank God! Don't ever look back. Keep going forward in Jesus. Believe me, life and life in abundance is found in Jesus.

Look at Psalms 30:11-12, "You turned my wailing into dancing; You removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, that my heart may sing Your praises and not be silent. Lord my God, I will praise You forever." These things were written by David. He knew that God had saved him and he was determined to live for Him. David was also determined to praise God in all things. I am sure you know some of the stories about David's life and you probably know that he made some mistakes, and yet God never quit on him and David never quit praising God.

We need to be like David. If you are going through the hardest things you have ever faced, Jesus is worthy of your praise and worship. If you are in the best times you have ever had, Jesus is worthy of your praise and worship. (Ok, one more) If you are not at a low or a high time but just going through life, Jesus is worthy of your praise and worship. Look at what David wrote in Psalms 34:1-3, "I will extol the Lord at all times; His praise will always be on my lips. I will glory in the Lord; let the afflicted hear and rejoice. Glorify the Lord with me; let us exalt His Name together."

Prayer: Lord, I love You and I am going to praise You at all times. I also want to influence others to join in praising You at all times. Help me to know how to be a good witness to others no matter what I am going through. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



Scripture Reading: Deuteronomy 26-27 Mark 15:1-26

Praise the Lord! God loves you. Would you like to see how much He loves you? Ezekiel 34:11-14 say, "For this is what the Sovereign Lord says: I Myself will search for My sheep and look after them. As a shepherd looks after his scattered flock when he is with them, so will I look after My sheep. I will rescue them from all the places where they were scattered on a day of clouds and darkness. I will bring them out from the nations and gather them from the countries, and I will bring them into their own land. I will pasture them on the mountains of Israel, in the ravines and in all the settlements in the land. I will tend them in a good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel will be their grazing land. There they will lie down in good grazing land, and there they will feed in a rich pasture on the mountains of Israel." Jesus looks out for us like good shepherds look after their sheep. Take a moment and read these verses again and realize God is revealing that He will take care of your every need.

Verses 15-16 go on and say, "I Myself will tend My sheep and have them lie down, declares the Sovereign Lord. I will search for the lost and bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy. I will shepherd the flock with justice." Jesus even looks out for us when we are having troubles and when we need help. When these verses talk about some missing out it was those who thought they were alright without God and His help.

Psalms 23:1 says, "The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing."

Prayer: Lord, thank You for seeking and saving me. Thank You for taking care of me and for meeting all my needs. I know that I always need Your care and help and I know that I will always need You. Help me to know that You want to help me when I am weak and in trouble. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



Scripture Reading: Deuteronomy 28 Mark 15:27-47

Praise the Lord! Psalms 9:1-2 say, "I will give thanks to You, Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all Your wonderful deeds. I will be glad and rejoice in You; I will sing the praises of Your Name, O Most High." Aren't you glad that You are saved? Do you love the Lord? Are you willing to show others how much you love Him?

If you are like me there were probably people who helped you to come to the place where you gave your life to Jesus. Think about the kind of people they were. For me there were people who loved Jesus and they wanted me to know Him too. If they had been sad and negative about everything I don't know if I would have been attracted to the One they served. I am not saying they never went through anything hard, but they always loved Jesus and they let me know that living for Him was the best life.

These verses in Psalms 9 say we should give thanks to the Lord, we should tell of His wonderful deeds, we should be glad, we should rejoice and we should sing praises to Jesus. When people live those things out they will be good witnesses for Jesus. Again, I say that doesn't mean we won't ever go through hard things, but thank God Jesus is always with us and He is always helping us.

So, here's my point for today: Be in love with Jesus and let it show. There are people who need help just like you did before you were saved and they need to see some people who love Jesus and who are glad they have given their lives to Jesus. They need to see those things in you.

Prayer: Lord, I am so thankful that I have given my life to You. I am also thankful for those who reached out to me and shared the Good News with me. I ask You to bless them richly for the example they were to me. Help me to show how You are to those to those I am around. I want my life to draw others to You. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



Scripture Reading: Deuteronomy 29-30 Mark 16

Praise the Lord! Psalms 9:3-6 say, "My enemies turn back; they stumble and perish before You. For You have upheld my right and my cause, sitting enthroned as the righteous judge. You have rebuked the nations and destroyed the wicked; You have blotted out their name for ever and ever. Endless ruin has overtaken my enemies, You have uprooted their cities; even the memory of them has perished."

I usually write to you about how wonderful Jesus is and how we are blessed to be saved and living for Him. All those things are true and I will continue to tell you about all those things, but we also need to realize there are some who don't know Jesus and things aren't going to turn out well for them.

Knowing all these things should motivate us to share Jesus with them and we should know how wonderful we have it. Jesus has saved us and we are never going to face judgement. Jesus bore our judgment on the cross.

Romans 5:8-9 say, "But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since we have now been justified by His blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through Him!" Don't miss any of these things. God loves you, Jesus died for you, we have been justified by Jesus' blood and we are saved from God's wrath though Jesus.

We have been saved and we have been brought close to God and He will never leave us or forsake us.

Prayer: Lord, thank You for saving me. I know that I was lost without You and I know there was no other way for me to be saved. Thank You for all that You have done for me. Help me to know how blessed I am and help me to tell others that they can be saved too. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



Scripture Reading: Deuteronomy 31-32 Luke 1:1-23

Praise the Lord! Continuing in Psalms 9, verses 7-10 say, "The Lord reigns forever; He has established His throne for judgment He rules the world in righteousness and judges the peoples with equity The Lord is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble. Those who know Your Name trust in You, for You, Lord, have never forsaken those who seek You."

Look at this part of these verses: **He has established His throne for judgment.** God is sitting on the throne in heaven and these verses talk about His throne is for judgement and that is true. Everyone will face God on His throne, but not everyone will be judged guilty. We have given our lives to Jesus and because of that He has paid the price for all our sins and we will be judged not guilty because we have been forgiven.

Look at Hebrews 4:13, "Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of Him to whom we must give account." Nothing is hidden from God. He knows every bad thing any person has done and He knows that we have given our lives to Jesus. John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." God sent Jesus to die on the cross for our sins so we could give our lives to Him and be saved. Verse 17 goes on and says, "For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him." God didn't send Jesus to condemn. God sent Jesus to save us so we will never face condemnation. Thank God we have accepted Jesus as our Lord and Savior.

Prayer: Lord, thank You for sending Jesus to die on the cross for our sins. Jesus, thank You for coming and dying for us so our sins could be forgiven. I ask You to help me to comprehend my salvation and the fact that I am not condemned. I choose to believe everything Your Word says about me as a born-again believer. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



Tuesday March 19

Scripture Reading: Deuteronomy 33-34 Luke 1:24-56

Praise the Lord. Look at Psalms 9:7-10 again, "The Lord reigns forever; He has established His throne for judgment He rules the world in righteousness and judges the peoples with equity The Lord is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble. Those who know Your Name trust in You, for You, Lord, have never forsaken those who seek You."

God is sitting on His throne of judgment, but we will be judged *forgiven* in Jesus and we will not face condemnation. Look at what Hebrews 4:14-16 say, "Therefore, since we have a great High Priest Who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have One who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet He did not sin. Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need."

Don't miss this. Look at what these verses say about the throne we will stand before. Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need. We can approach the throne of grace with confidence. We have given our lives to Jesus and we are in Him. All of these things are because of His grace and we can have confidence to stand in God's presence because of Jesus. When we stand before the throne of grace we will receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need. Thank God!

Prayer: Lord, thank You for saving me. I love You so much and I want to live fully for You. I know that everything in my life changed when I gave my life to You. Thank You for bearing my sins and my judgement. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



Scripture Reading: Joshua 1-3 Luke 1:57-80

Praise the Lord! Psalms 9:11-12 say, "Sing the praises of the Lord, enthroned in Zion; proclaim among the nations what He has done. For He who avenges blood remembers; He does not ignore the cries of the afflicted." When I start these devotions off by saying, Praise the Lord! I am in good company. We should praise the Lord at all times.

Look at the last part of these verses: God does not ignore the cries of the afflicted. When we cry out to God He hears us. He never ignores us. Psalms 34:1-3 say, "I will extol the Lord at all times; His praise will always be on my lips. I will glory in the Lord; let the afflicted hear and rejoice. Glorify the Lord with me; let us exalt His Name together." We should praise the Lord always and we should encourage others to praise Him too.

Psalms 34:4-7, "I sought the Lord, and He answered me; He delivered me from all my fears. Those who look to Him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame. This poor man called, and the Lord heard him; He saved him out of all his troubles. The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear Him, and He delivers them."

I feel like this point is needed for some of you today. Praise the Lord all the time. If you are going through a hard time it is not time to quit praising Him. Look at this: **This poor man called, and the Lord heard him; He saved him out of all his troubles.** When we call upon the Lord He hears us AND He will save us our of our troubles. That is a wonderful promise. Believe it.

Prayer: Lord, I want to praise You consistently. I know that You always deserve my praise. Help me to seek You no matter what I am going through. I know that You hear my prayers and I know that You answer them. Help me to know that You have always saved me out of my troubles and help me to remember that You always will. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



Scripture Reading: Joshua 4-6 Luke 2:1-24

Praise the Lord! Matthew 8:1-3 say, "When Jesus came down from the mountainside, large crowds followed Him. A man with leprosy came and knelt before Him and said, "Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean." Jesus reached out His hand and touched the man. "I am willing," He said. "Be clean!" Immediately he was cleansed of his leprosy." Isn't this a wonderful account of Jesus healing this man.

There are several things I want to point out from these verses for today. First of all, the man who came to Jesus had leprosy. Under the law he was unclean and he wasn't supposed to be around people. Leprosy was contagious. That was the case, but this man wanted to be healed so much that he was willing to do whatever was necessary.

When he came to Jesus he knew that Jesus *could* heal him but he wasn't sure if Jesus was *willing* but he still came to Jesus. He had enough faith to come to Jesus and he was exercising His faith.

Jesus revealed that He was *able* to heal this man and He was *willing* to heal him. Thank God for those truths. Believe them and know that Hebrews 13:8 says, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." Jesus was *able* and *willing* to heal this man and Jesus is *able* and *willing* to heal us today.

One more thing. **Immediately he was cleansed of his leprosy.** Jesus is able to meet your needs *immediately.*

Prayer: Lord, thank You for saving me when I came to You for salvation. Help me to know that You always want to meet my needs. I don't ever want to doubt Your ability or Your willingness to meet my needs. Help me to exercise my faith by not letting anything keep me from coming to You in faith. I love You so much. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



Scripture Reading: Joshua 7-8 Luke 2:25-52

Praise the Lord! I want to show you a story from 2 Chronicles about a time when God's people were facing a battle against a great multitude of people who wanted to destroy them. The people of God cried out to God and look at what He said to them in 2 Chronicles 20:15-17, "He said: "Listen, King Jehoshaphat and all who live in Judah and Jerusalem! This is what the Lord says to you: 'Do not be afraid or discouraged because of this vast army. For the battle is not yours, but God's. Tomorrow march down against them. They will be climbing up by the Pass of Ziz, and you will find them at the end of the gorge in the Desert of Jeruel. You will not have to fight this battle. Take up your positions; stand firm and see the deliverance the Lord will give you, Judah and Jerusalem. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged. Go out to face them tomorrow, and the Lord will be with you.""

God was with them. That made all the difference. He was with them and they needed to remember it. We need to know that God is with us too. We need to know that and we need to remember it. Then God told them that the battle was not their battle but it was God's battle. God will take care of us too. We need to believe that and we need to remember it.

It also stood out to me that there was something that God spoke to them not once but twice. Do not be afraid or discouraged because of this vast army and Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged. Go out to face them tomorrow, and the Lord will be with you. When are facing something: Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged. The Lord will be with you.

Prayer: Lord, I am so thankful that You are always with me. Help me to know that You are well able to take care of anything I face. I choose to stand in faith. I choose not to be afraid or discouraged. I am so thankful for Your having this story in the Bible so I can learn from it. I love You. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



Scripture Reading: Joshua 9-10 Luke 3

Praise the Lord! I just realized that I haven't written to you about something from your Scripture Readings for a while and I am going to correct that right now. In Joshua 10:5-8 we see, "Then the five kings of the Amorites—the kings of Jerusalem, Hebron, Jarmuth, Lachish and Eglon—joined forces. They moved up with all their troops and took up positions against Gibeon and attacked it. The Gibeonites then sent word to Joshua in the camp at Gilgal: "Do not abandon your servants. Come up to us quickly and save us! Help us, because all the Amorite kings from the hill country have joined forces against us." So Joshua marched up from Gilgal with his entire army, including all the best fighting men. The Lord said to Joshua, "Do not be afraid of them; I have given them into your hand. Not one of them will be able to withstand you."

Joshua and his army went to rescue the Gibeonites. Look at the part of the story: **So Joshua marched up from Gilgal with his entire army**, <u>including all the best fighting men</u>. They had an army and in that army there were some who were *the best fighting men*. That stood out to me. I pray for every one of you who are reading this that you will be one of the *best fighting people*. Don't miss this: they were going to fight for some other people. I pray that we will be full of faith and able to fight and win not only for ourselves, but for others too.

God also said this to Joshua: **Do not be afraid of them; I have given them into your hand. Not one of them will be able to withstand you.** Here is a New Testament verse that goes right along with this. 1 John 4:4, "**You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the One who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.**" Thank You, Jesus.

Prayer: Lord, I know that You are always with me. Help me to be strong in faith and help me to know to fight and win for myself and for others. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



Scripture Reading: Joshua 11-13 Luke 4:1-22

Praise the Lord! Look at what Paul wrote in 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14, "But we ought always to thank God for you, brothers and sisters loved by the Lord, because God chose you as firstfruits to be saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the truth. He called you to this through our gospel, that you might share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ." Paul was thankful for these brothers and sisters in the Lord and I want you to know that I am thankful for you as well. We are always stronger together than we are apart. I appreciate you and I value the fact that we are in unity based on God's Word and I am thankful for the prayers that we offer up every day through these devotions. Paul reminded those who he wrote to that they were saved and called to the gospel. Thank God that Jesus has called and saved us too.

Now, look at verse 15, "So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the teachings we passed on to you, whether by word of mouth or by letter." Paul gave them some really good advice here and I am sure you know that we all need to take that same good advice. Stand firm and hold fast to the teachings we passed on to you. We are so blessed be able to study the Word and share with each other. God speaks to us in many ways and no matter how He speaks to you, believe His Word and stand firm.

1 Corinthians 15:58 says, "Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain." Stand firm and keep working for the Lord. You are making a difference.

Prayer: Lord, thank You for saving me and thank You for all the men and women You have used to teach me Your ways. I am determined to stand firm. I am never going to quit. Please give me opportunities to reach out and help others to know You better. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



Scripture Reading: Joshua 14-15 Luke 4:33-44

Praise the Lord! Here is some more from 2 Thessalonians 2 for today. Verses 16-17 say, "May our Lord Jesus Christ Himself and God our Father, who loved us and by His grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word." Look at what Paul said Jesus and the Father have given us. By His grace He gave us eternal encouragement and good hope.

Because of God's grace He gives us *eternal encouragement and* good hope. If you have ever needed encouragement and someone encouraged you I am sure you were sure thankful. Well, Paul says that God gives us *eternal encouragement*. Eternal encouragement sounds to me like it will last a really long time. Paul also said that God will give us good hope. Look at what Romans 5:5 says about the hope that God gives us. **"And hope does disappoint us, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, Who has been given to us."** The hope God gives us doesn't disappoint us. We have God's love poured into our heart by the Holy Spirit. The Word is revealing to us that God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit are all working in our lives. We are going to make it.

All of these wonderful things that God provides for us should encourage our hearts and strengthen us in every good deed and word. God has so many blessing for us. As we receive all the blessings He has for us we should live fully for Him and never give up. We should be encouraged and strengthened and never quit.

Prayer: Lord, thank You for saving me and thank You for giving me everything I need to I live fully and victoriously for You. Help me to receive Your encouragement and help me to be strong in You. I also thank You for the people You have brought into my life for me to bless and encourage. Help me to be faithful. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



Scripture Reading: Joshua 16-18 Luke 5:1-16

Praise the Lord! Matthew 7:7-8 say, "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened." Jesus said this. He was encouraging those who first heard these words to pray and He is still encouraging you and me to pray. Jesus told us that God will answer our prayers. Doesn't that motivate you to pray more? Let me say something that you might not have ever thought about, but it is true. God loves it when you pray. He loves hearing from you and He loves answering you.

Look at the next thing Jesus said in verses 9-11, "Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask Him!" Don't you agree that any good parent would want to give good things to their children? Well, God is better than the best parent ever.

Think about what Jesus said. How much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask Him! Doesn't that sound like we are being encouraged to pray and ask? Let me say something you might have heard recently and it is true. God loves it when you pray. He loves hearing from you and He loves answering you.

We need to know that God loves us and He answers our prayers.

Prayer: Lord, thank You for showing me that You love me and that You answer my prayers. Help me to really believe these things and help me to pray like I believe them. I know that You are good and that You love me. I also pray for all my brothers and sisters who are reading these things to know Your love more and help us all to pray more. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



Scripture Reading: Joshua 19-20 Luke 5:17-39

Praise the Lord! Yesterday I wrote to you about God loving you and that God loves to hear from you when you pray. I also made the point that God also loves to answer our prayers.

Well, there was a man in the Bible whose name actually meant "sorrow". 1 Chronicles 4:9 says, "Jabez was more honorable than his brothers. His mother had named him Jabez, saying, "I gave birth to him in pain."" Jabez means "sorrow". His mother evidently had a hard time delivering him and she named him Jabez.

I don't think it would take too much imagination to think that those things affected him in his life, but look at verse 10, "Jabez cried out to the God of Israel, "Oh, that You would bless me and enlarge my territory! Let Your hand be with me, and keep me from harm so that I will be free from pain." And God granted his request." Jabez cried out to God and he asked God to bless him AND GOD DID BLESS HIM. Look at the last phrase of this verse: And God granted his request. Jabez prayed and God heard His prayer. Jabez asked God to bless him and God blessed him.

Now, if you think I am going to give you some more verses that talk about God wanting to bless you - you are right. Jeremiah 33:3 says, "Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know." Jeremiah 29:12-13 say, "Then you will call on Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. You will seek Me and find Me when you seek Me with all your heart."

Prayer: Lord, I am so thankful that You are my Lord and Savior and I am thankful that You have taught me to know and to believe Your Word. I believe You answer my prayers and I am going to pray more. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



Scripture Reading: Joshua 21-22 Luke 6:1-26

Praise the Lord! Proverbs 14:25-26 say, "A truthful witness saves lives, but a false witness is deceitful. Whoever fears the Lord has a secure fortress, and for their children it will be a refuge." We should be people of the truth. Even our children will be blessed when we speak the truth. Zechariah 8:16 says, "These are the things you are to do: Speak the truth to each other, and render true and sound judgment in your courts." We should always speak the truth.

Look at what the Word says about the Holy Spirit and truth in John 16:13, "But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on His own; He will speak only what he hears, and He will tell you what is yet to come." The Holy Spirit is called the Spirit of Truth. He only speaks the truth. When we are people who speak the truth we are living in line with the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 5:33-37 say, "Again, you have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'Do not break your oath, but fulfill to the Lord the vows you have made.' But I tell you, do not swear an oath at all: either by heaven, for it is God's throne; or by the earth, for it is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the Great King. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make even one hair white or black. All you need to say is simply 'Yes' or 'No'; anything beyond this comes from the evil one." Our yes should mean yes and our no should mean no. When we are known as people of our word people will trust us.

Prayer: Lord, I want to be a person who always speaks the truth. I want my people to know that they can believe what I say. I know You always speak the truth and I know that You are helping me. Help me to let my yes be yes and my no be no. I know that I need speak the truth in big things and little things. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



Scripture Reading: Joshua 23-24 Luke 6:27-49

Praise the Lord. Here is some more from Proverbs. Proverbs 15:1-2 say, "A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger. The tongue of the wise adorns knowledge, but the mouth of the fool gushes folly." I am sure we have all been in situations where we could say something that would stir up strife or settle things down and make for peace. It is always better to speak gently and not to stir up strife. These verses also make it clear that those who stir up strife are speaking like fools would speak.

Look at verse 4, "The soothing tongue is a tree of life, but a perverse tongue crushes the spirit." What we say is powerful. Our words can help or they can hurt. When we speak peaceful word this verse referred to them as benign soothing. Doesn't that sound good? When people speak perverse words crushing happens. Doesn't that sound bad? Having said those things I want you to know that the choice is yours. Choose well and it is always better.

Proverbs 18:21 says, "The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit." Our tongues and the things we speak can and will produce life or death. We should always choose to speak life. When we speak live our words will produce good things. This verse says that those who love this truth will eat the fruit that is produced by speaking life. When we speak life it will help the situations we are in. We can help produce peace rather than strife. Speaking words of life will also produce good in our lives.

Prayer: Lord, I want to be a person of my Word and I want to speak words of life and not death. I want to be a person who brings peace rather than strife and turmoil. I want to be a person who adds Your wisdom rather than stirring up trouble. I pray for these things now and I ask You to help me to remember them when I am in situations where I need to remember them. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



Scripture Reading: Judges 1-2 Luke 7:1-30

Praise the Lord! Well, we are almost to the end of March and I want to commend you for being in God's Word every day. I also believe that being in the Word habitually will help you. For one thing, when you are in His Word every day, He will have lots of opportunities to speak to you and God speaking to us is always a good thing. So, keep it up.

John 14:26 says, "But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My Name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you." Thank God for the Holy Spirit and His work in our lives. Jesus only has good gifts for us and the gift of the Holy Spirit is surely one of His best gifts. Jesus said that the Holy Spirit would *teach us all things and remind us of everything He has said to us.* What a blessing this is.

Would ups like to know something that Jesus has spoken to us that the Holy Spirit will consistently remind us of? Well, right after Jesus said the Holy Spirit would remind us of what He has said, He said this, "Peace I leave with you; My peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." Did you need that reminder today?

Jesus gives us peace and it gets even better than that. Jesus gives us *His peace*. Jesus gives us a peace that the world can't give. The world can't give us this peace and the world can't take it away. Then Jesus said some more and the Holy Spirit is reminding us of what He said. **Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.** Did you need that reminder today?

Prayer: Lord, thank You for all the truth You have revealed to me and thank You Holy Spirit for reminding me of what Jesus has spoken to me. I know these wonderful things are a demonstration of Your love and care. Help me to always add my faith to what You show me. I know that You always speak the truth. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



Scripture Reading: Judges 3-5 Mark 7:31-50

Praise the Lord! Here is probably the best known verse. John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." You may even have this verse memorized and if you do that is a great thing.

Mankind was lost with no hope of being good enough to be saved. So, God in His love, sent Jesus to die for our sins so we could be saved. Can you say, "Thank You God for sending Jesus and thank You Jesus for coming."? There is something in this well known verse that I want to make sure you see. God and Jesus did all these wonderful things and our part is to **believe in Him**. Those who **believe in Him** are saved and those who don't **believe in Him** are still lost. Thank God we **believe in Him** and we are saved.

Now, look at the next verse. "For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him." When we believe in Jesus we are saved and we are set free from condemnation. God sent Jesus to set us free from all condemnation.

Look at Romans 8:1-2, "Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death." This is a wonderful promise, but don't miss that this wonderful promise is made to those who are *in Christ.* When you gave your life to Jesus, you were bornagain, and you are now *in Christ.* And there is no condemnation for you. Praise God.

Prayer: Lord, thank You for sending Jesus to die on the cross for my sins. Thank You that I have given my life to You. I know that I am saved. I also see that I have been set free from condemnation because I am in Jesus. I choose to believe Your Word and not doubt it. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



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Up and Coming Events

BREAKFAST OF CHAMPIONS

Every Wednesday morning at 7:30 AM the men meet for coffee and/or breakfast at the Church Office and a time of fellowship. Contact us here at the Church for more information.

WOMEN'S BRUNCH

The first Saturday of the month, the women of Creative Ministries meet for a carry-in brunch at 12pm. Contact us here at the Church for more information and location.

We Have A New Mailing Address!



Creative Ministries PO Box 21930 Cheyenne, WY 82003 Creative@CreativeMinistriesChurch.com www.CreativeMinistriesChurch.com

Please visit our FaceBook page by scanning the QR code to the left or going to:

www.facebook.com/pages/Creative-Ministries-Church/116156001741814

Sunday Morning

Event	Time	Location
Main Service	10 -11:30 A.M.	The CCI building LCCC
Sunday School	10:45-11:30 A.M.	The CCI building LCCC
		TH MONTH AT 9:30

Please Join us the first Sunday of each month at 9.30 before Church for some Coffee and Doughnuts and lots of fellowship!

Where the GOOD NEWS is: PREACHED to all who will COME! LIVED by all who will GROW! DEMONSTRATED to all who will RECEIVE!