

PRAYER CHANGES EVERYTHING



February 1, 2014 - Vol. 8

How swiftly time flies! We are already into February. How are you spending your time?

It seems like it was just yesterday that we celebrated Christmas, then the New Year rolled in, and now we are at the start of February. How time flies! But, we all know that to everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven. God has a plan and purpose for your life and mine, and he has a time to bring it to pass. You may find yourself in a place where you did not want to be, but know that you are where God wants you to be, allow God to work your purpose out. You may find yourself indulging in tasks that bring no glory to God, but seem like fun, but know that only what is done for Christ will last, know that you will have to give an account of your stewardship, know that God will require a full report of how you spend your time here on earth. It's never too late to make a change. Let us begin today to do good works which will bring honor and glory to God's name. We must not spend our time in idly babble or foolish gestures; we must devote our time instead to prayer and worship and to encouraging one another, to helping, sharing and just engaging ourselves in the work of the Lord. For when we are in service for God it's time well spent.

How will you use the gifts God has given you this year?

God has given us gifts for use in his service, he has blessed us with sound minds to think and to make wise decisions, hearts of love to care, and hands and feet to go and do as he asks. But, apart from these gift, God has blessed us with different talents that he wants us to use to bring him glory and honor. We all have gifts that we could use in the service of the Lord. Some are ashamed of their gift because they may not be as glamorous as others, they may not seem as valuable as others, they may not look as attractive as the other persons, but know that regardless of how simple your gift may seem, it was designed with a purpose and it could be used in the service of the Lord. All you need to do is to ask God to show you how to use the gifts that he has given you in his service, and when he shows you, be not hesitant about the way in which he choose to use your gift, and in the end, you will find that even though your gift may have seemed the most simple it will do a lot for many. If you have not yet figured out what your gifts are, ask of God and he will reveal them and show you how to use them and when you do they will bring glory and honor to his name.

A LOOK INSIDE

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What is on your bucket list? Learn to live every day the right way.

Are you living or existing? How you spend your time is important. If you labor in vain, if you spend your strength for nothing and you are not living but existing. Many of our loved ones passed on during 2013. Some were taken quickly from us and when this happened we were in shock, we were reminded of how fleeting life was, and instead of taking ourselves to task and asking ourselves, where will we spend eternity, we start making up our bucket list. Some want to see the seven wonders of the world, while some want to try some crazy sport; but, if I had to make up a bucket list, topping the list would be this: To make it my aim to accept every new day that the Lord has made and be glad and rejoice in it, and the rest of my life in God – understanding that nothing is impossible with God—To be thankful to God for everything – taking nothing for granted—To grow spiritually every day – through prayer, reading and meditating on God’s word – To never turn my back on God – take a decision to follow Him wherever he leads me—To spend eternity with God – there is no place else in the world I would rather be. My brothers and sisters in Christ only what’s done for Christ will last, for scripture reminds us that if we labor in vain and spend our strength for vanity, we have a cause with the Lord. So, go over your bucket list and begin to check only the things that will bring honor and glory to God’s name, and secure for you a place in His kingdom where your new life in Christ will begin. A bucket list without God on it, is a bucket with holes in it.



**INCOMPLETE if God if
God is not on it.**

How lovely have you been to others?.

If God had to love us the way we love others, where would we be? No matter how willful and rebellious we are, God still loves us. Yet, we find it so hard to love one another. After the slightest falling out, we are ready to slander, backbite and cast out those who offend us. But, how many times in a day alone do we offend God? Is he hateful towards us, or is he loving us still? God is love, and he says he will not willingly cause us pain, that he will love us even when we are unlovely, that he will not turn his back on us; so why can't we be more like him? My brothers and sisters in Christ, let us be slow to anger and swift to forgive, we are reminded in scripture that we should forgive seventy times seven, that we should turn the other cheek, that we should be kind and loving one to another just as Christ loves us, he laid down his life for us. What greater love! And now abideth, faith, hope and love, these three but the greatest of these is love.



**Would others say you
are lovely?**

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Safeguarding ourselves from the strongholds of the enemy.

Have you made any significant change over the past month? I am sure that you made a resolution to begin something new or change a habit that you had perfected; but, even though you try to move forward with your new resolution, you find yourself reverting back to the old way sometimes. Don't be too hard on yourself, we are humans and it takes discipline to effect change, and most times, we lack this discipline, but believe that you can do all things through Christ who strengthens you. Many times when I find myself in what I call a bad place, I remind myself that I am not alone, that God understands my frailty, he knows that even though I am capable of much good, that the enemy is waiting for the smallest of opportunity to destroy me, but that he will not allow me to be tempted and tried beyond what I could bear. Many are destroyed; but, even though you try to move forward with your new resolution, you find yourself reverting back to the old way sometimes. Don't be too hard on yourself, we are humans and it takes discipline to effect change, and most times, we lack this discipline, but believe that you can do all things through Christ who strengthens you. Many times when I find myself in what I call a bad place, I remind myself that I am not alone, that God understands my frailty, he knows that even though I am capable of much good, that



I need to safeguard my heart at all times.

His banner over us is love.

When I think of this verse and try to understand it's meaning, I had to read the passage in its entirety to really understand it. "He brought me to the banqueting house and his banner over me was love." Its' saying that we are loved by God unconditionally, he is proud to take us anywhere he goes, that he will give us the best of everything, and we need not fear, for his banner over us is love. I am thankful for the many places that God has taken me and his banner over me was love. But, I know that there are many places where I would not be welcomed because I bring glad tidings of my new born King, and God is saying, that where I am not welcomed he will escort me, he will be with me, his banner over me will be love. My brothers and sisters in Christ, will you allow God's banner to cover you in places where he leads you? I am thankful that I am richly covered under the banner of God's love. There is room under that banner for you and for me. He has good things in store for us and his banner will always be over us, his banner over us is love.



God is Love!

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Songs have a way of lifting me up when I am feeling down. Here is one of my favorites as our featured adult song:

My Jesus I Love Thee

Written by: ***William R. Featherston—1864***

My Jesus I love thee, I know thou art mine, for thee all the pleasures of sin I resign;

My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art thou, if ever I loved thee, my Jesus is now.

I love thee because thou hast first loved me, and purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree;

I love thee for wearing the thorns on thy brow, if ever I loved thee my Jesus is now.

I will love thee in life, I will love thee in death, and praise thee as long as thou lendest me breath

And say when the death-dew lies cold on my brow, if ever I loved thee my Jesus is now.

In mansions of glory and endless delight, I'll ever adore thee in mansions so bright;

I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow, if ever I loved thee my Jesus is now.



INSPIRATIONAL QUOTES FROM THE DESK OF JEWELLYN GREER

Let us love one another, for even when we are unlovely, God loves us still.

My bucket list will only be an unfinished list, with holes in it, if Christ is not on it.

It's never too late to make a change.

You may find yourself in a place where you did not want to be, but know that you are where God wants you to be.

Following God is better than chasing after selfish goals. He will lead you in the right path.

We find out God's purpose for us through prayer and meditation and listening to him.

We must safeguard any weak areas in our lives, so that the enemy does not gain any strongholds there.



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Our spotlight is on you. Are you chasing after selfish goals?

Following God is better than chasing after selfish goals. But, how many know this? Many continue to pursue their own selfish goals which brings them nothing but heartaches and worries. Before we were created, a purpose was assigned to us, but many people even long after they were born, still do not know what their purpose is in life, and because of this, chase after what they believe is their purpose which in fact is only the desires of their hearts. How do we find out God's purpose for us? We find out God's purpose for us, through prayer and meditation and listening to God, following where he leads. Have you ever been given an assignment that you did not like or ask for? You completed it without any problems but you convince yourself that that assignment was not for you and vow to never do it again. Yet, you find yourself again faced with the same assignment, even though you tried to ma-

neuver your way out of it, even though others tried to convince you that you are a natural at it, your heart is set on another assignment, but, not this one. So, you go and follow your heart to the assignment you think is right for you, but this assignment is difficult, you encounter many roadblocks, there are others who are better at this than you are, and they are promoted ahead of you, and you then become angry and rebellious and give up that assignment, and go after another desire of your heart with the same result. God said he will make roadways for you in the desert, when he is ready to bring to pass what was predestined for you. Do you think God will put roadblocks in the path of his will for you? Absolutely not! He will however put a stumbling block in your path, so that you will turn to where he wants you to be. Following God is better than chasing after selfish goals. He will lead you in the right path.



God's plans for my life are better.

Children's Corner: What do I want to be when I grow up? It's never too early to begin encouraging your children on the path to their destiny.

As a child growing up, I would hear my mother of Being There, I am a nurse without the uniform. I am able to care for, nurture and comfort others, and I am very happy doing so. I am looking back at the path I travelled to get where I am today, I could see how she saw the makings of a great nurse in me. I was always caring, nurturing, singing, comforting, and at one point I signed up for the nursing program, but my daughter got in the way, or so I thought. But now, I can clearly see the path God predestined for me to walk. In my Ministry

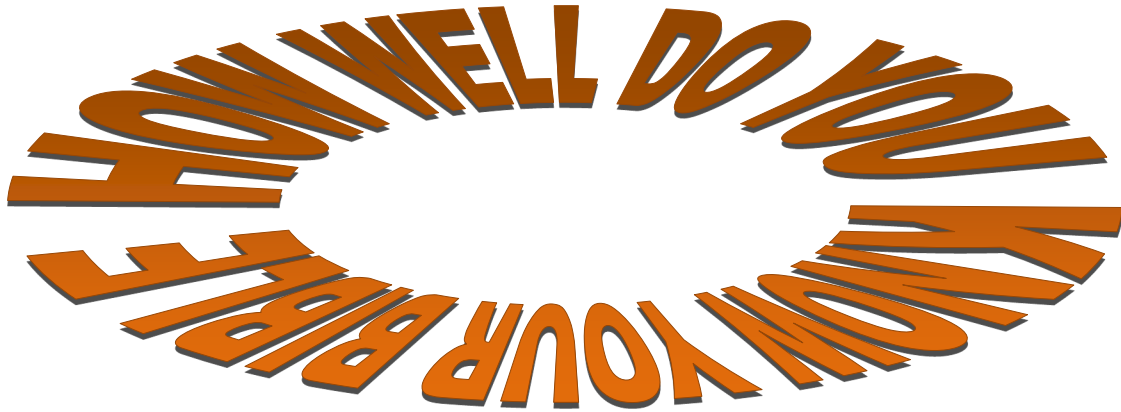
of Being There, I am a nurse without the uniform. I am able to care for, nurture and comfort others, and I am very happy doing so. I am where God wants me to be and my mother did her best to encourage it. So, my friends, it's never too early to begin encouraging your children on the path to their destiny. When you recognize positive traits in them, encourage them, and one day, you will see them in the roles God intended for them to play.



God will position you.

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Match the correct answers to the questions

QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
Jesus did this and the winds and the waves ceased. What did he do?	Red
God found grace in this man. He was pleased with him. Who was this man?	Love
And now abideth faith, hope and love, these three. Which of the three is the greatest?	His Grace
Which sea did God part for the Israelites to cross over to dry land?	Seven
God said this is sufficient for us. What is this?	Rebuke them
King Naaman was told to go and wash in the river how many times?	The second
You shall love your neighbor as yourself. Which commandment is this?	Noah
God has a name for his banner over us. What is the name?	Love



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Childhood songs that we have learned have been passed on for generations. Let's keep it going. If you have a song that you would like to share, email it. Here is one of my favorites as our featured children's song:

Jesus Loves Me This I Know Written by *Anna Bartlett Warner- 1860*

Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so; little ones to Him belong, they are weak but He is strong. Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me! He who died, heaven's gate to open wide; He will wash away my sin, let His little child come in. Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me! Loves me still, when I'm very weak and ill; from His shining throne on high, comes to watch me where I lie. Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me! He will stay, close beside me all the way; he's prepared a home for me, and some day His face I'll see. Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.



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