

Prayer Changes Everything!

I Believe in the Power of Prayer!

October 1, 2015 Volume 22

Thank you Lord, for the many times you said no, and for the new directions you have given me. I am better because of all this.

I am convinced! All that I have been through, I give God the glory, for he has been working His purpose out through them. Whatever my lot, thou has taught me to say, "It is well" whatever my Father does is well! When you are able to say this confidently, it not only shows how much you trust God, but your maturity in your walk with Him. I know this, because of where I started—not trusting God for anything, to trusting God for everything. When we are at our lowest and we still find time to lift God up in praise, we know that we are in a good place, that God is getting ready to promote us to the next level. Since I gave my life to Christ, I have gone through so many changes, but the changes God brought to my life have been good for me, but, many times I could not see it until he purposed it in my heart. My brothers and sisters in Christ, the situations in our lives may not always be sweet, but in these times we should call on the Lord to help us, to find in Him blessed hope, and courageous endurance. Many times we get discouraged, we get angry, because the changes we were expecting did not come in our time; but let us give God thanks, for not giving us all the things we have asked of Him in ignorance, but, help us to trust Him to know what is best for us, and teach us how to wait. Lord, please show us how to let go of all past hurts and disappointments and to hold on to you in prayer. Help us to understand the difference between no, and wait. Instill in us Lord, the belief, that, what we consider misses and disappointments in our lives, are indeed blessings in disguise. Lord, I am thankful for the many times you saved me from destruction by saying no, or to wait. We get into trouble because we depend on our own deceitful, mistrusting hearts, when the desires of our hearts are strongest and we refuse to wait on God. But Lord, help us to never lean to our own understanding, to be never doubtful because of what we cannot see ahead, to stop taking things that you have not predestined for us, which often comes with great trouble. Lord, for any situation we find ourselves in, show us how to be content, show us how to give you thanks and praise no matter what the situation, knowing that you are in full control, and that you know just when to turn the situation around for our good. Enable us Lord, to daily ask of you for your direction in all that we do, confident, that you will never misdirect us, but will give us new directions. Give us humbly hearts so that we may be able to go willingly where you send us, and to do all that is required of us, without grumbling or complaining. Lord, for the many times you said to me, no, or to wait, I am truly thankful.

A LOOK INSIDE

- ⇒ How do you serve God
- ⇒ Could Jesus calm the storm you face
- ⇒ Are you conformed to this world
- ⇒ Man does not know his time but God does
- ⇒ Featured Adult Song
- ⇒ Inspirational quotes
- ⇒ Our Spotlight
- ⇒ Children's Corner
- ⇒ Fall Quiz
- ⇒ Featured Children's song

PRAYER CHANGES EVERYTHING!

Could Jesus calm the storm in your life? Oh, yes, he can, and he is saying to you, “Peace, Be Still.”

Those who have not yet come to know Christ, will find it hard to believe that our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ can bring them any peace. But, on the other hand, those of us who know Christ, could boast of his abilities, we could depend on him to calm any storm in our lives, because, we understand, that, it was the same Jesus who said, “Peace be still” and the winds and waves obeyed him, that is was the same Jesus, who said, “Cast all your cares on me”, that it was the same Jesus who said, “Talitha Kum”, and the little girl arose, and it was the same Jesus who said, “My grace is sufficient for you.” How we handle the situations in our lives, determines our progress on the path of faith. So many are bowed down under the weight of their various situations, and they try to run from the storms in their lives, instead of learning to go through the storms with God leading them, because, they are yet to be convinced of God’s goodness and mercy, they are yet to believe, that even though they are bowed down and discouraged, that Jesus could life them up and show them the way. For those of you who have not yet come to know Jesus, I want to encourage you, to believe, that, Jesus calmed the storms with these words, “Peace be still” and he wants to calm the storm in your life, so he is saying to you, “Peace be still.” God is the God of all comfort. He wants to walk us thru our deep valleys and dark hills. In the multitude of our anxieties God comforts our souls. Be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might, for when we are weak, he is strong.

I serve God by blind faith and it has been good for me. How do you serve him?

I was having a conversation with an unbeliever the other day, and after sharing some of my testimonies with him, he said to me, that I am believing in someone I cannot see, and that is blind faith, and my response was, that, this was the kind of faith God desires us to have, that God provides for the faithful, and I confident in his abilities, and that I will continue to trust him with my whole heart. To a believer, blind faith, is a positive thing, but, to an unbeliever, trusting in God, and waiting on him, is seen as a negative thing. But, we understand what faith is, that faith is the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things not seen, and therefore, we walk by faith and not by sight, we wait in patient hope for the things we cannot see, and in His own time, thanks be to God, He makes everything clear to us, He give us our fruits in due season. As a believer, we may not be able to see what lies ahead, but we still trust God, to be faithful to us and keep his promises, and he never disappoints. Many will be quick to label you as having blind faith, but know that blind faith is a good thing, blind faith is believing God without true understanding of a situation, obeying God without question, and listening to Him without discrimination, and God is a rewarder of blind faith. When we trust God when we cannot see ahead, and he gives us the desires of our hearts, then, it becomes a testimony to share. You will be able to declare all that the Lord has done for you, when you proved his faithfulness, when you served him by faith and not by sight. My brothers and sisters in Christ, It is not an easy walk that we walk with God, but, we should strive to walk every day by faith and not by sight, for faith, is the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things not seen. Let us ask God, to strengthen our faith in Him, so that our faith walk would become easier, that our trust in Him would be greater, and our testimonies would be stronger. Praise the Lord!

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PRAYER CHANGES EVERYTHING

Are you conformed to this world or do you want to be transformed? The choice is yours.

Have you noticed just how much the world has changed around us? We have changed and not in good ways. Many of us blame these changes on the worries and cares of this life, our friends, and even our jobs. But, the fact is this, that the deceitfulness of wealth and the desires for material things, makes it so easy for us to be conformed to the ways of the world, making us unfruitful. We commit grievous acts against God and against each other, without any feelings of regret, because of what the world is teaching us, that it is ok to take, take, and take more. But, the time will come when all will come to realize that the world and all that is in it are slowly passing away, that we are taking, and taking, and still not being fulfilled, and that the desires of our evil hearts are leading us further and further away from God. It's time to be transformed. It is time for us to seek to understand that God's will for us, is for all of us to be changed, to be made new in the attitudes of our minds. If you need a fresh start, it must begin by being transformed by the renewing of your mind, to put on the new self, created to be like God, in true righteousness and holiness. You are no longer ignorant, as you have seen first-hand what the world offers - heartaches, pains and worry. Therefore, if you desire to be transformed, to become obedient children of God, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance, do not continue to follow the crowd in doing wrong. Stop behaving like the people of this world who are ignorant to what is good, and right, and pleasing to God, and instead, change the way you think, and the way you handle your situations. Then you will always be able to determine what God really wants-what is good, pleasing, and perfect to him. Do not love the world or anything in the world, for, if anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. My brothers and sisters in Christ, you cannot serve two masters. Choose wisely! To be conformed or to be transformed!

Man does not know his time, but God does, continue on faithfully and he will bring it to pass.

Time and chance happens to all. Man does not know when good will come or when bad will come. Do you feel like the cross you are carrying is a burden too heavy to bear? Have you been praying to God to change your situation? Know that God already knows what you are going through, God knows when it's time for you or chance for you. He said that he will work things out for your good, if you trust him and you continually walk in his ways. Nothing that you are dealing with is isolated to only you, others have been there, but in God's time, he turned the situation around, in God's time, he knows how to change our situations. Do not lose heart, God has not given you a spirit of fear, but one of love and sound mind, so that, during our trials and tribulations we could take comfort in God's love, and use our sound minds to keep our thinking right, so that, we will have the right attitudes to deal with our struggles. Let us always remember to say thank you Lord, for sustaining us through all the changing scenes of life and for the wisdom it gives to us. We are able to share our experiences to encourage others.

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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:

Oh, For A Faith That Will Not Shrink

Written by: ***William H. Bathurst—1831***

Oh, for a faith that will not shrink, though pressed by every foe, that will not tremble on the brink
of any earthly woe!

That will not murmur, nor complain, beneath the chast'ning rod, but, in the hour of grief or pain,
will lean upon its God.

A faith that shines more bright and clear, when tempests rage without; that when in danger knows
no fear, in darkness feels no doubt.

Lord, give me such a faith as this, and then, whate'er may come, I'll taste, e'en here, the hallowed
bliss of an eternal home.



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INSPIRATIONAL QUOTES FROM THE DESK OF JEWELLYN GREER

I am convinced, that God's power is released to us through our faith, when we are in trouble, or afflicted, and we call on him.

How we handle the situations in our lives, determines our progress on the path of faith.

Jesus calmed the storms with these words, "Peace be still" and he wants to calm the storm in your life, so he is saying to you, "Peace be still."

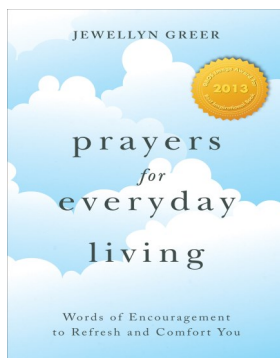
People don't recognize where you have been until they see where you are going, but this is an opportunity to tell them where you came from and who brought you here.

Let us try our best to build our faith on a firm foundation – a foundation of patience, hope and endurance.

From my experiences in my walk with God, I ask him to fill my life in every part with praise, and it sustains me.

Be confident of this, that the will to live that the enemy has stolen from you, God is able to restore.

Thank you Lord, for the many times you said no, and for the new directions you have given to me. I am better because of all this.



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Our Spotlight is on you. Is your sinful, unbelieving heart, causing you to lose faith in God, and therefore your will to live?

Many of us may have had a desire to do something then, lost the will to finish it, because we forget that our God is a God of completion, and, that whatever good thing he started in us, that he will complete it; but, that we must be faithful. My brothers and sisters in Christ, God is able to renew our strength and make us mount up with wings like eagles. Do you realize that the will of the enemy is to fill our minds with doubt, and fear and turn us away from God, and his will for our lives? When we fall, we should never think of giving up but, stay focused, keep trying. We should renounce the sinful desires of our hearts which are so strong, that they are leading us away from God. The heart is deceitful above all things, therefore, we must all trust God. It may be hard if you are feeling overwhelmed to be of good courage and to believe that God will strengthen your heart, but he knows our limits and asks this of us. From my experiences in my walk with God, I ask him to fill my life in every part with praise, and it sustains me. Never doubt that God is with you, but have faith in God, believe, do not lose heart, be confident of this, that the will to live that the enemy has stolen from you, God is able to restore, God is able to finish the good thing which he started in you, just allow him to have his own way in your life today. But, in order for God to have his way in our lives, we will need to totally surrender to him; all our evil desires, all our rebellious behaviors, and offer our heart completely to him, and let him have his way. Many of us give up too soon, we give up when we are tested, tempted and tried, we lose faith in God, because, we are not patient and enduring in our walk with him. Let us try our best to build our faith on a firm foundation – a foundation of patience, hope and endurance and God will be able to complete what he started in us, but it's a process that you and I must go through. Don't lose faith or your will to live, for it is in living we experience trials and tribulations, and by faith in God we overcome. Just allow God to have his own way in your life today, because one thing we can be confident of is this, that if we ever lose ourselves, that, we could always find it in the Lord.

Children's Corner: What are some of the activities our kids do in the fall? I'm sure you will find a few of your favorites below. Try them all and enjoy the Fall!



Go apple picking

Go leaf-peeping

Get lost in a corn maze

Play a game of two-hand touch football

Go for a hayride

Collect colorful fall leaves

Plant bulbs in your garden for next spring

Collect pinecones and display them in a glass bowl

Jump in a pile of leaves

Bake an apple or pumpkin pie

Learn to knit

Remember what you're thankful for

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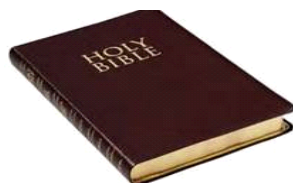
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Match the correct answers to the questions

QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
What is the first day of fall called?	Heat waves which occur in the late fall
Who wrote the lyrics to the song "Autumn Leaves"?	ragweed
What is hard cider?	Apple
What is an Indian summer?	fermented apple juice
How many Federal holidays are there during this fall?	autumnal equinox
What weed pollen causes the most common fall allergies?	Four
What vegetables are traditionally planted in the fall?	Johnny Mercer
What fruit is freshest in the fall?	Onion and Garlic



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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 childhood song:

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

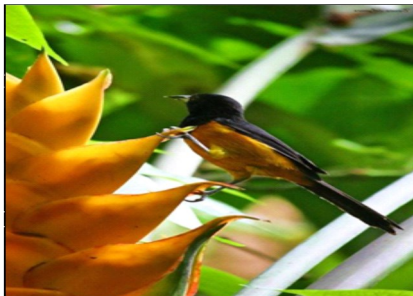
Written by: **Sundar Singh Majithia**

(His story is amazing read it for yourself—I looked up his name on Wikipedia)

I have decided to follow Jesus
I have decided to follow Jesus
I have decided to follow Jesus
No turning back, No turning back

Though none go with me still I will follow
Though none go with me still I will follow
Though none go with me still I will follow
No turning back, No turning back

The world behind me, the Cross before me
The world behind me, the Cross before me
The world behind me, the Cross before me
No turning back, No turning back



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