

# Prayer Changes Everything!

## I Believe in the Power of Prayer!

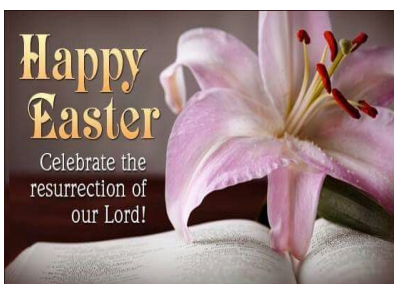
April 1, 2020 Volume 39

**L**iving well through Lent has been the focus of my daily meditations, as I prepare for the glorious Easter Season.

This Lenten Season, I had the opportunity to deepen my Lenten journey through personal reflection and meditation, with the help of a study devotional by “Living Compass”, which encouraged me to live well through Lent, being vulnerable and courageous, and to practice my faith in a way that would be deeply renewing. The daily devotional featured articles by eight writers who in their own words encouraged myself and other members of St. Benedicts, to practice courage with all our heart, soul, strength, and mind. Lent is a season of self-reflection through prayer and meditation, and to prepare us for the glorious Easter Season. I was engaged by the topics for each daily devotional, as they were thought provoking, and really made me think about how I have lived my life as Christian, and how I would like to go forward living my life as a Christian. After each daily reading, I was able to document the insights that emerged as a result, and I thought I would share a few with you in this month’s Newsletter. Throughout this month’s edition, I will focus on five of the topics that I was able to apply to my own life, and how I could use what I have learned to help others in their spiritual walk with God. May you be encouraged, inspired, and blessed. In Deuteronomy six, we are reminded, that we should love the Lord our God, with all our heart, and soul, and strength, and mind. We are encouraged to fear the Lord our God, and to serve him, and him only, we are urged to do what is right, and good, in the sight of the Lord, that it may be well with us. In our daily walk with God, we are tested and tried, tempted and persecuted, but if we continue to love the Lord, by obeying his commandments, he will bring us out victorious, and all he asks, is that when he delivers us, that we do not forget him.

### A LOOK INSIDE

- ⇒ The purpose of practice
- ⇒ Living an examined life
- ⇒ Are you still in the wilderness
- ⇒ The courage to change
- ⇒ Featured Adult Song
- ⇒ Inspirational Quotes
- ⇒ Our Spotlight is on you
- ⇒ Children’s Corner
- ⇒ Bible Quiz
- ⇒ Featured Children’s Song



# PRAYER CHANGES EVERYTHING!

**I** am living an examined life. The life we live as Christians should be one that is continually being self-examined.

We cannot go on living the Christian life without at some point, taking time out, to reflect on where we are, where we have been, and where we are going, in our walk with God. There are benefits to living an examined life. Every year during the Lenten Season, instead of deciding what to give up, I focus on how I could live my life better as a Christian, and in order to come to a conclusion, I do a deep dive into the life I am now living as a Christian. Too many Christians fall into the trap of thinking, that once they are saved, they do not need to be renewed in their minds, renewed in the way that they handle situations, renewed in the need for re-commitment in their service to God, and as a result, they just stay saved. Without self-examination and re-commitment, there is never much growth. When I got saved, I felt on fire for God, it was a feeling that made me happy, it was a feeling that had me eager to tell everyone who would listen, all that the Lord had done for me, I wanted everyone to know about my God. I felt fulfilled in every area of my life, and I promised to be always committed to God, to be fire for him. But, if I am not constantly conducting self-examinations, I would not be able to realize what I was doing when I got saved, that had me fired up for God, and what practice had fallen by the wayside. It is easy to become lukewarm in our service to God without consistency. If I am not consistent in my service to God, I could fall into the same trap as other Christians. Sometimes we may suffer faith-failure, sometimes it could be the struggles that we go through, that cause us to lose our focus, and the good habits that we once enjoyed, would cease. For me, my fire needs rekindling not because of faith-failures or the struggles I go through, but it's more about time-management, finding time to fit in all that I would love to do in my service to God. The thing is, every time, I believe in my simple thinking that I have things under control, God keeps enlarging my territory. God has a sense of humor! And it's amazing to know, that when God enlarges my territory, he strengthens my feet, my hands, my resources, he provides all that I need in order to be obedient to him. What more could I ask for, but for time to reflect, regroup, and recharge my mind, body, and soul; and this for me is done through regular self-examination.

**R**ejoice, for he is risen! Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed! Have a Blessed Easter!

Easter with a difference! WOW! How will we celebrate Easter this year? Christians around the world will have to get creative in order to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. We will not be able to attend church on Easter Day, and this will be so unusual. However, we could all renew our baptismal covenant at home, we could sing Easter hymns and light our incenses, while rejoicing in the hope, that Jesus' death and resurrection affords us. Because of all that he endured for us, he bled and died so that we could have hope, that our faith in him could be restored, even as we are reminded of his goodness. May God bless you, this Easter and always.



Let us know how this issue helped you, please [click here](#)  
Questions or comments? Email us at: [jewellyngreerministries@hotmail.com](mailto:jewellyngreerministries@hotmail.com)

# PRAYER CHANGES EVERYTHING

**T**he purpose of practice – If we begin to do something that even at first seems challenging, but are courageous enough to continue, it could soon become a habit.

After reading this article, I was reminded that I needed to continue to grow in my walk with God by doing something through practice. When I started out on my spiritual journey, I did not anticipate the testings, trials, temptations or persecutions that I would go through. I was not yet strong in the faith as I should be and I was failing every test, every trial, every temptation and every persecution. I did not know then, that I could do all things through Christ who strengthened me, I was depending on my own strength. I did not know then, how to trust in God for anything. I did not realize then, that prayer changed everything. So, after many failed tests, and trials, temptations, and persecutions, I realized that I was finding much comfort in prayer and enjoying the results. I was praying about everything, asking God for direction, guidance, protection, and so much more, and it was then, that the practice of praying, became an integral part of my spiritual journey. Since then, I have been experiencing the power of prayer in every area of my life. This practice was not something that I had set out to do, but was greatly impacted by seeing the results after praying. It takes courage to do something that you have never done, but even more courage to continue doing it. As I grew more in my walk with God, I found that I gained even more courage to use prayer as a tool to motivate me, to practice additional courage in more challenging situations. Going forward, I want to rekindle the fire that once had me helping children to read in public schools. This is one of the things I did when I started out on my spiritual journey, and would like to practice again. Lord, please show me the way. I know that you will complete the work that you started in me, as you are the author and finisher of my faith.

**T**hings we could practice that could become good habits.

- Visiting the sick and shut-in
- Calling those you have not seen or heard from in a while
- Create a prayer list and pray for them intentionally every day
- Get in the word. Begin daily meditations
- Re-discover a talent that you have that could be used to help others
- Going to church regularly
- Doing a good deed for someone who lives alone
- Stop saying or doing things that are hurtful to others
- Practice kindness especially to those you do not know
- Share your testimonies with others

Let us know how this issue helped you, please [click here](#)  
Questions or comments? Email us at: [jewellyngreerministries@hotmail.com](mailto:jewellyngreerministries@hotmail.com)

# PRAYER CHANGES EVERYTHING

**W**ilderness. Are you still in the wilderness because it has become familiar?

A wilderness is often described as a parched land, a desert, a stony wasteland, an uncultivated region, a hard place, and so much more, but for me, I wandered eight years in the wilderness, and it was to me a place of solace. My friends, when you are in the wilderness, you are alone, you have no one else to turn to, but God. So, when we find ourselves in wilderness places, we should not be in a hurry to get out, because I believe that God imprisons us in our desert places for a reason. There is a lesson to be learned in the wilderness. I was humbled in the wilderness. When we come out of the wilderness, we should be changed. We should be energized to tell others of our wilderness experience. But some people are self-imprisoned in their wilderness places, sometimes because of fear or because their wilderness has become familiar. Jesus was in the wilderness forty days being tempted by Satan. Moses led Israel from the Red Sea three days in the wilderness and found no water. Do you realize from these verses in the bible which references wilderness, that there was a time limit to the wilderness experiences; so, my brothers and sisters in Christ, why does your time in the wilderness go on endlessly? Why have you extended your time in the wilderness indefinitely? Come out! It's time to come out and share with others your wilderness experience. Don't allow familiarity to grow contemptuously in your life. When you come out of the wilderness you, path should be clearer, because God has promised in Isaiah forty-three and verse nineteen, that he will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert, and our God does not make empty promises.

**T**he courage to stop digging. When you find yourself in a hole—STOP digging.

Easy to say, right? This article broadened my thinking, because it showed me different ways that we dig holes, without even realizing what we are doing. We waste so much time and energy digging holes when that energy could be best used on doing something else. STOP is something that is commanding in itself, but many of us don't heed. And the reason why we do not heed this warning, is because we are not ready to admit, that, we may have made a mistake, we may have misjudged someone, we may have tackled a project too soon, having an argument that is not worth the headache, forging ahead with a relationship that has run its course, or something that you have been fixing for a while should just be replaced; and so, we continue digging. But, unless we are open to admitting our faults, we will continue to dig holes that we would be not be able to get out of, and therefore find it harder to move forward in a new direction. When you find yourself in a hole, stop digging! We may not be able to accomplish this in our own strength, therefore, let us ask God to give us the courage to know when to stop digging and humble us to admit to our faults.

Let us know how this issue helped you, please [click here](#)  
Questions or comments? Email us at: [jewellyngreerministries@hotmail.com](mailto:jewellyngreerministries@hotmail.com)

# PRAYER CHANGES EVERYTHING

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

Others!

**Charles D. Meigs —(1903)**

Lord, let me live from day to day, in such a self-forgetful way,  
That even when I kneel to pray, my prayer shall be for OTHERS.

Refrain:

Yes, others, Lord, yes, others, let this my motto be,  
Help me to live for others, help me to live for others, that I may live like Thee,

Help me in all the work I do, to ever be sincere and true,  
And know that all I'd do for you, must needs be done for OTHERS.

Let "Self" be crucified and slain, and buried deep, nor rise again,  
And may all efforts be in vain, unless they be for OTHERS.

So when my work on earth is done, and my new work in heaven's begun,  
May I forget the crown I've won, while thinking still of OTHERS.

**Born to serve!**

Let us know how this issue helped you, please [click here](#)  
Questions or comments? Email us at: [jewellyngreerministries@hotmail.com](mailto:jewellyngreerministries@hotmail.com)

# INSPIRATIONAL QUOTES FROM THE DESK OF JEWELLYN GREER

I dedicate more time to be in God's presence, so that I could discern his will for my life.

Without self-examination and re-commitment, there is never much growth.

I am expecting God to show up in unexpected places in my life.

Stop wasting energy digging holes and use that energy doing something else.

It is easy to become lukewarm in our service to God without consistency.

STOP is something that is commanding in itself, but many of us don't heed.

There is too much work to be done in God's vineyard for us to become complacent.

I was not open to the change, but that did not change God's direction, I had to change mine.

Without self-examination and re-commitment, there is never much growth.

I am trusting God for the possible, when I am only seeing the impossible.

When God calls us into his service, we must remain active, ever growing, ever changing.

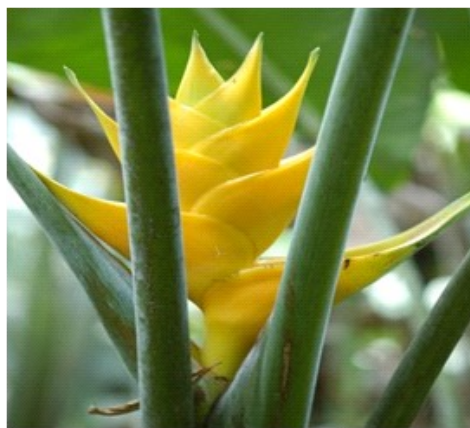
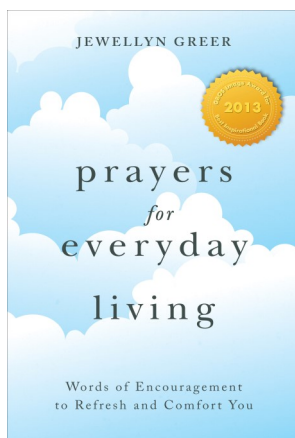
We must begin finding new ways to use the resources that God has given.

Don't allow familiarity to grow contemptuously in your life.

We should be energized to tell others of our wilderness experience.

Get more quotes like these at: <https://prayersforeverydayliving.com/quotes/>

Order a copy of my books today and be blessed and encouraged.



Let us know how this issue helped you, please [click here](#)  
Questions or comments? Email us at: [jewellyngreerministries@hotmail.com](mailto:jewellyngreerministries@hotmail.com)

# PRAYER CHANGES EVERYTHING

**O**ur Spotlight is on you! The courage to change direction. When God is ready to use us, we must not be afraid.

When God began creating a change in me, I was not open to the change, but that did not change God's direction, I was forced to change mine. My grandmother bless her heart, would always remind me, that I was on a long rope, and that when God was ready for me that he would reign me in, and he sure did. I have been changed and as one song-writer said, "I've been changed, I am new born now, my life has been rearranged, oh what a difference it made when the Lord came and stayed, in my heart, oh yes, I've been changed." Yes, God totally rearranged my life. The places I used to go, I go no more, the things I used to do, I do, no more, I have a different outlook on life, I am expecting God to show up in unexpected places, I am trusting God for the possible, when I am only seeing the impossible, I am content, I am satisfied with Jesus; and I am no longer afraid to go where he leads me. When I look back at my life, I have a testimony to share, and I am telling it to all who will hear, for when I was down and out, God gave me a reason to sing and a reason to shout. When my way was dark, he held my hand and led me all the way, what more can I say, what more can I do, but to carry on and to him be true. Praise the Lord!

**C**hildren's Corner: Keeping our children engaged throughout the coronavirus. It has not been easy—show more appreciation for our teachers.

I am sure it must be challenging keeping children engaged as we go through this crisis, but, I am also convinced that good will come out of this, that parents would be more appreciative of teachers all over the world. Teachers, nurses, and doctors, are not made, they are born. It takes special people to do the work they do. Parents, after having to stay at home with their kids, started crying out after day two, and I am hoping that they would begin to train their children to respect their teachers. I do not have school-aged children, but I have a nephew that I try to keep engaged over the phone. He is in a different part of the world, but we read stories, we sing, we play guessing games, we recite the days of the week, and the months of the year; and I try to ask him questions to get him to tell me about his day in detail. But for you at home with your kids, and some of you have to also work from home, I know it must be challenging. Here are some activities that could help:

Reading

Karaoke

Puzzles

Games

Movies

Art projects

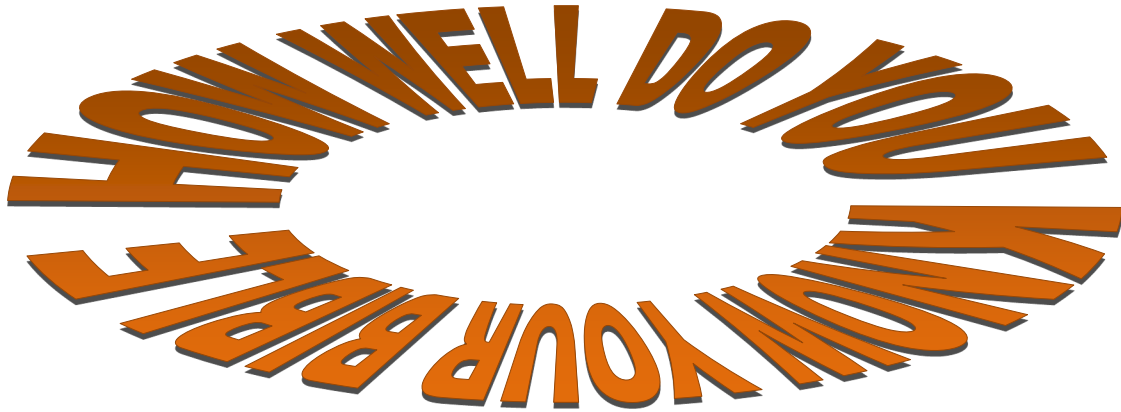
Painting

**Family Bonding Time**

Let us know how this issue helped you, please [click here](#)

Questions or comments? Email us at: [jewellyngreerministries@hotmail.com](mailto:jewellyngreerministries@hotmail.com)

# PRAYER CHANGES EVERYTHING



**Finish the questions with the answers provided**

<b>QUESTIONS</b>	<b>ANSWERS</b>
This season is a time for repentance and reflection	Study God's word
This place is often described as a parched land, or a desert	Resurrection Sunday
We cannot grow in our walk with God if we are not prepared to do this ...	Self-examination
Many people renew this at Easter	Lent
Most people experience this in the wilderness	Hope
If we keep doing the same thing it could become this...	Wilderness
Jesus died on the cross so that we could have this ...	Baptismal vows
Easter Sunday is also referred to as this ...	Humility
We could reflect, regroup and recharge by doing this...	Habitual



Let us know how this issue helped you, please [click here](#)  
Questions or comments? Email us at: [jewellyngreerministries@hotmail.com](mailto:jewellyngreerministries@hotmail.com)



# PRAYER CHANGES EVERYTHING

**C**hildhood 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. We are featuring two childhood songs this month. Enjoy!

## This Little Light of Mine! **Harry Dixon Loes**

This little light of mine, I'm goanna let it shine,  
This little light of mine, I'm goanna let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.  
Everywhere I go I'm goanna let it shine, everywhere I go I'm goanna let it shine,  
Everywhere I go I'm goanna let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.  
Even when I'm afraid I'm goanna let shine, even when I'm afraid I'm goanna let shine,  
Even when I'm afraid I'm goanna let shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

## I've Got Peace Like a River! **African-American spiritual**

I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river,  
I've got peace like a river in my soul.  
I've got love like an ocean, I've got love like an ocean,  
I've got love like an ocean in my soul.  
I've got joy like a fountain, I've got joy like a fountain,  
I've got joy like a fountain in my soul.  
I've got peace, love and joy like a river, I've got peace, love and joy like a river,  
I've got peace, love and joy like a river in my soul.

Let us know how this issue helped you, please [click here](#).  
Questions or comments? Email us at: [jewellyngreerministries@hotmail.com](mailto:jewellyngreerministries@hotmail.com)