

LIFESPRING CHURCH

2018 LENTEN

Prayer Guide Booklet



Lent is *really* about *thinning* our lives  
in order to *thicken* our communion with God.

Decrease life's unnecessary details  
and increase your relationship with the Lord  
so you can live in awe of Christ's resurrection!

# Preparing for Easter

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday each year  
and for Christians begins the 40 day period  
of spiritual preparation.

This spiritual season represents the 40 days  
Jesus spent fasting in the wilderness.

May this be a season that leads us to the annual  
commemoration of Holy Week, marking the death,  
burial, and resurrection of Jesus. This recalls  
the tradition and events of the New Testament  
beginning on Palm Sunday, further climaxing  
on Jesus' crucifixion on Good Friday,  
which ultimately culminates in the joyful celebration  
on Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Easter is more than a day for brightly colored eggs  
and wicker baskets full of candy.

A celebration as momentous as this requires  
preparation and reflection.

But with a little bit of effort,  
intentionality and time,  
you can spiritually prepare  
—and as you do, PRAY.

## 1 Corinthians 10:13

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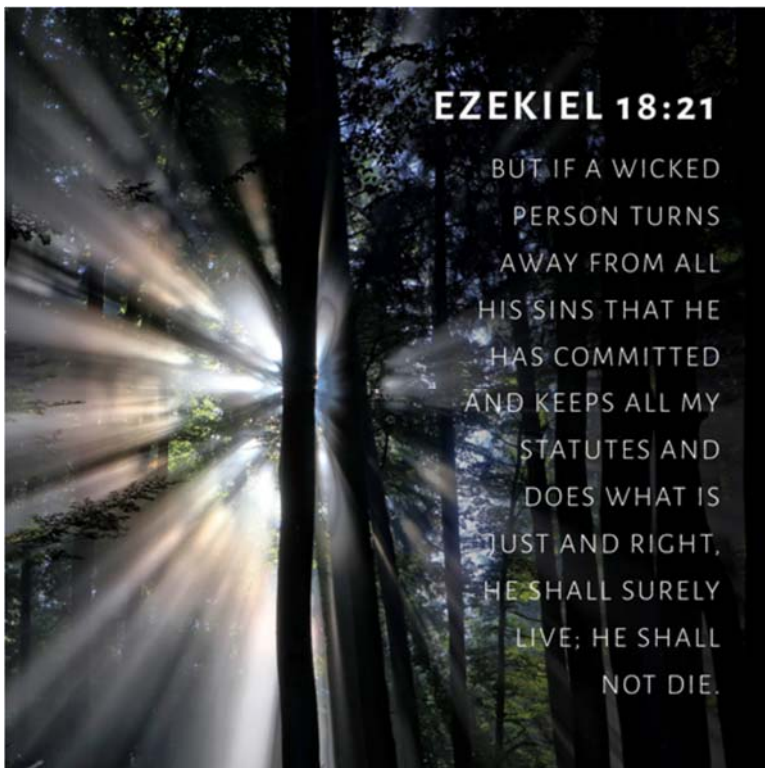
No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.



Day 1 ~ Wednesday, February 14, 2018

In this season before Easter, reflect on the fact that there is a spiritual battle taking place daily in the life of every believer. There was also a spiritual battle occurring as Jesus headed to the cross. However, he fulfilled his sacrificial mission, and rose from the dead in victory. Just as God gave him the strength to overcome, God will give you the strength to overcome your daily temptations!

Pastor Steve Holdaway



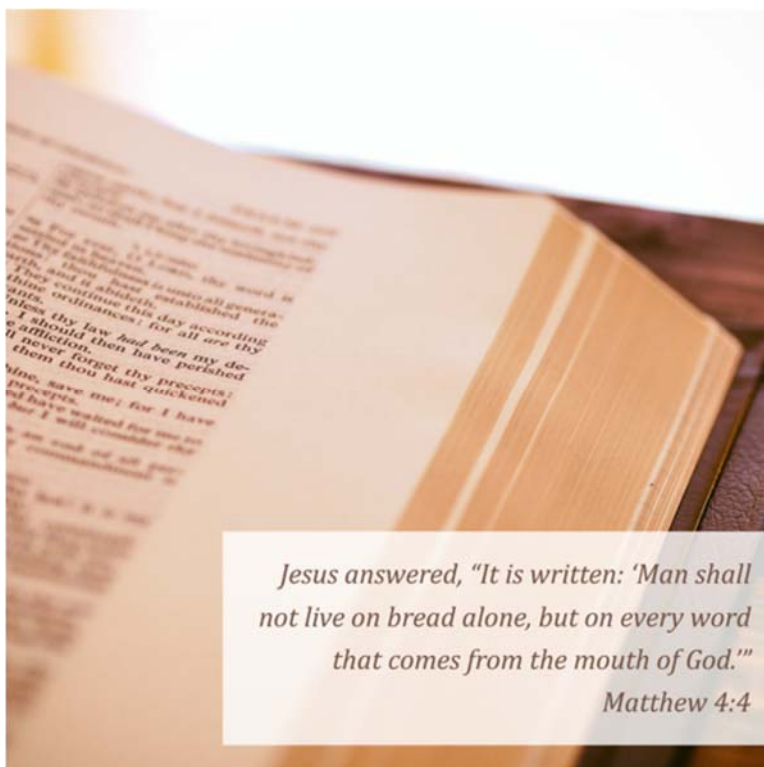
**EZEKIEL 18:21**

BUT IF A WICKED  
PERSON TURNS  
AWAY FROM ALL  
HIS SINS THAT HE  
HAS COMMITTED  
AND KEEPS ALL MY  
STATUTES AND  
DOES WHAT IS  
JUST AND RIGHT,  
HE SHALL SURELY  
LIVE; HE SHALL  
NOT DIE.

God is a God of second chances. Your past does not have to imprison you or define you. Your history does not have to be your destiny. God is life and full of grace and mercy. In grace, He gives you what you don't deserve. In mercy, He doesn't give you what you do deserve. So turn away from sin, confess your sins, and turn toward God and His Word and start obeying Him. He is offering you a second chance. He is offering abundant life. It's your move.

**Prayer:** Father, thank you for your grace and mercy. I turn away from my sin and turn toward you today. Thanks for giving me another chance to follow you.

Pastor Steve Hicks



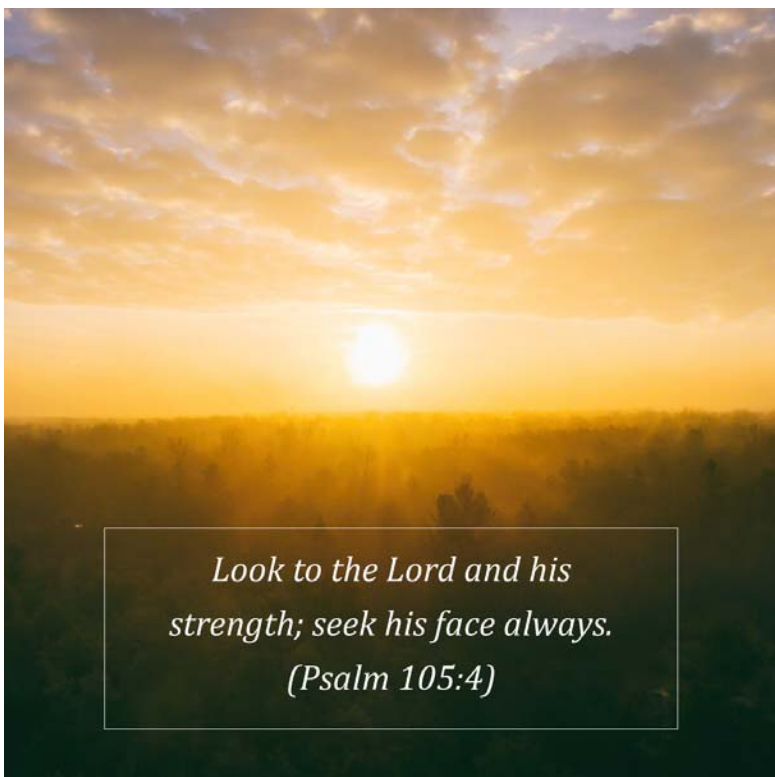
*Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"*

*Matthew 4:4*

We are meant for more than what this world has to offer. God designed you to long for him and it is in His word that we find him. Do you rely on the God's word as you do food to sustain you each day? How can you develop a habit of getting into the Bible each day?

**Prayer:** Lord, I want to desire your Word more than anything else. Grow within me a yearning for knowing you more and drive me deeper into your Word each day.

Pastor Ryan Jantz



*Look to the Lord and his  
strength; seek his face always.  
(Psalm 105:4)*

When was the last time you stopped to think about why you do the work you do or why you serve the way you do? Some do it for the praise of men. Some do it to fill a hole in their own soul. The Psalmist gives us the greatest motive: love for God. God knows all and sees all, even the motives of our hearts. When He sees that we are working and living to please Him, He will reward us. With what? "The inheritance." Give up what others want to keep, and God will give you an inheritance that is out of this world.

**Prayer:** Lord, you have done so much work for me to buy my pardon, I give my life for you and I will serve you with all of my heart, soul, mind, and strength.

Pastor Steve Hicks

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NOW ALL GLORY TO GOD, WHO IS ABLE,  
THROUGH HIS MIGHTY POWER AT WORK  
WITHIN US, TO ACCOMPLISH INFINITELY  
MORE THAN WE MIGHT ASK OR THINK.

EPHESIANS 3:20

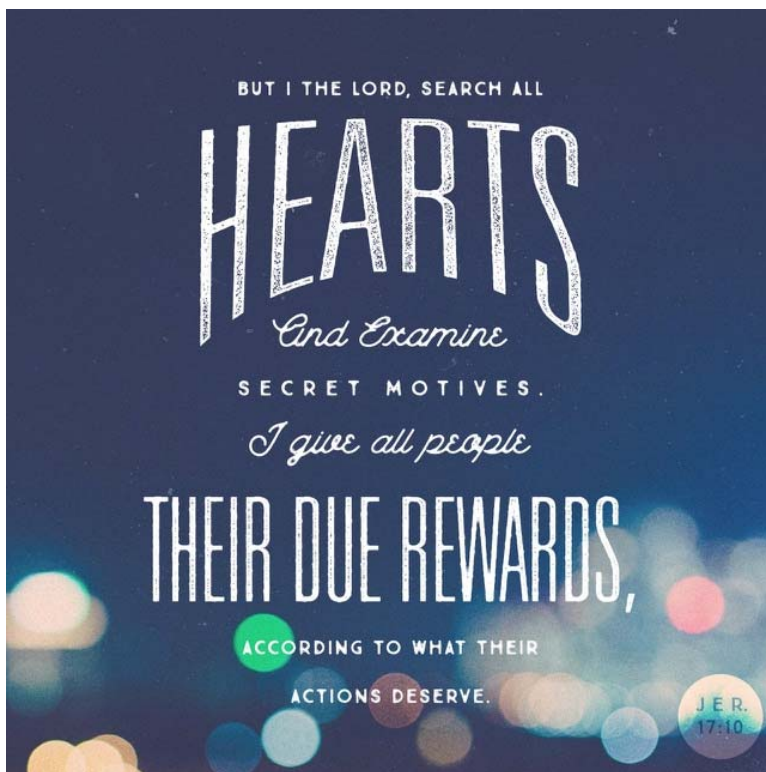
In this verse Paul seems to want to use every word possible to convey to us the vastness of God's power as found in Jesus Christ. He teaches us that His power is so great that it is available to us! In other words, the power of Christ, like the love of Christ, is beyond human understanding or measurement. And this is just the kind of power you and I need if we are to walk and war in victory.

**Prayer:** Dear Father, we thank you for sending us a Savior who loves us beyond description and He has the power to grant things beyond what we can ask for, so here we are asking! Let us use that power for your glory and your glory alone.

Pastor George Doyle



Day 6 ~ Monday, February 19, 2018

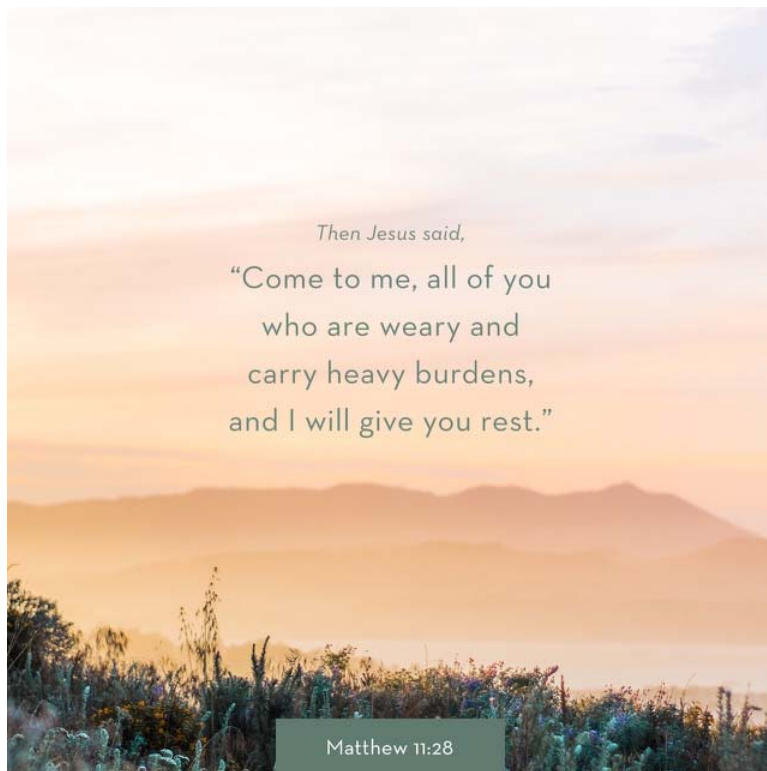


We can fool others, but we cannot fool God. Others cannot see into our heart and mind, but God can. And what he finds inside matters. Today, ask God to reveal to you any foul thing that resides inside. Then confess it and receive his cleansing. Blessing comes when we totally yield to God, inside and out.

Search me, O God!

Pastor Steve Holdaway





*Then Jesus said,*  
“Come to me, all of you  
who are weary and  
carry heavy burdens,  
and I will give you rest.”

Matthew 11:28

Jesus shares great compassion when He issues a call to all who are weary and burdened to come to Him. Our weariness comes from enduring our burdens, most likely the burdens of sin and its consequences. This “*call to all*” is a direct invitation from Jesus to come and yoke ourselves with Him. By placing ourselves under His yoke and learning from Him, we may find rest for our souls from sin’s burdens.

How will you come to Jesus today? His call is gentle and humble. Choose to take His yoke upon you and trade your heavy load since His plan for you fits perfectly. And the new load He gives is light.

Pastor Jeff Brocaille

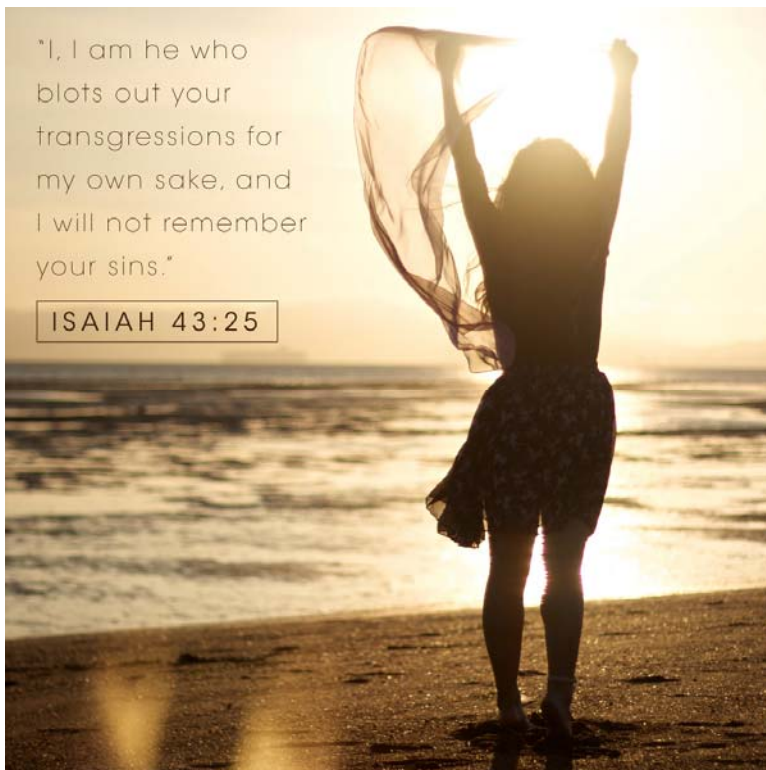
If we say we have no sin, we deceive  
ourselves, and the truth is not in us.  
If we confess our sins, he is faithful and  
just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse  
us from all unrighteousness.  
(1 John 1:8-9)

Just like we need a physical shower when we are sweaty or dirty, the same principle applies in the spiritual realm: We need to take a spiritual shower daily. Now, we know that when we put our whole trust in Christ for salvation, that we are forgiven of our sins, past, present, and future. So, our relationship is secure. But, when we sin, our fellowship with God is dirtied. That's why we need to agree with God about our sins and claim his cleansing daily.

Pastor Steve Holdaway

"I, I am he who  
blots out your  
transgressions for  
my own sake, and  
I will not remember  
your sins."

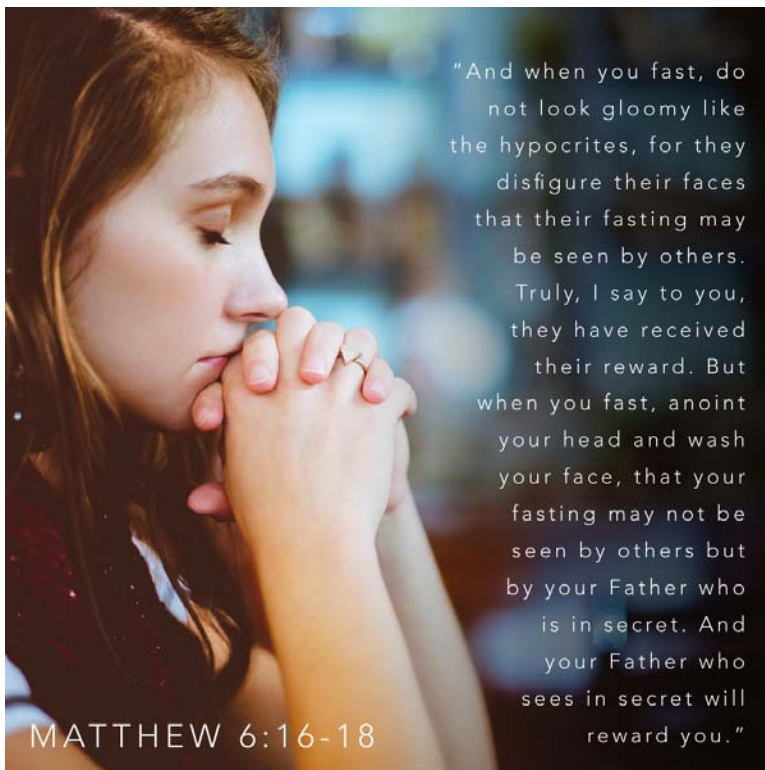
ISAIAH 43:25



God is a forgiving God. He knows everything about you, yet He is willing to put it behind Him if you confess your sin to Him. It is impossible for Him to forget, but when we confess our sins, He chooses not to bring your sins up against you to harm you. The blood of Jesus continually washes away our sin (1 John 1:7). Our sins separate us from God, His forgiveness draws us close to God. Praise Him!

**Prayer:** "Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy, blot out my transgression. Wash me and I will be whiter than snow. Restore to me the joy of my salvation, then I will teach others your ways."

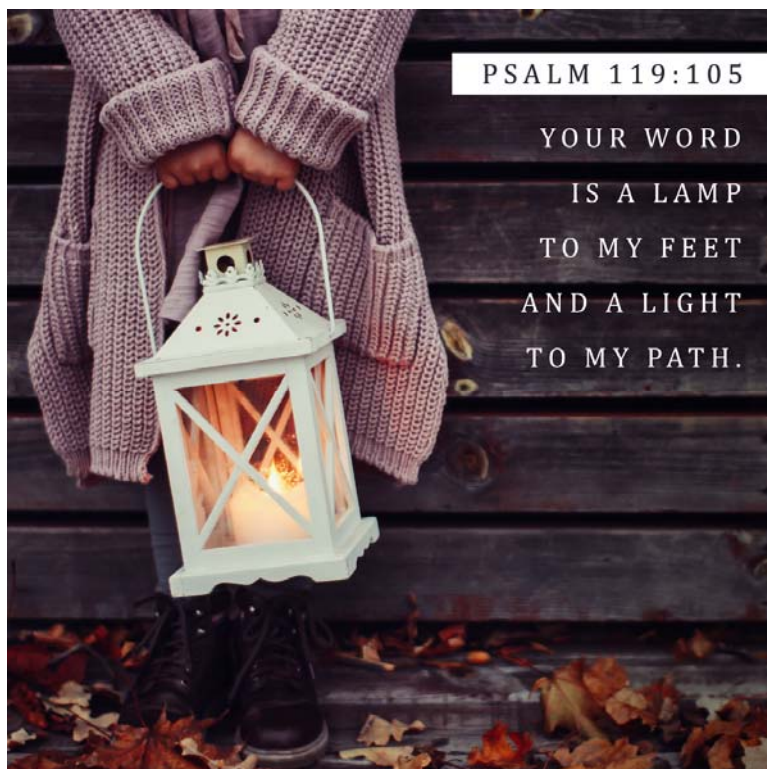
Pastor Steve Hicks



By Jesus saying "when" you fast, it is clear that Christ followers are expected to fast. Fasting is a physical symbol of the inward priority adjustment of placing Christ, his Word, and his Kingdom before earthly pleasures. Have you ever fasted? What could God be calling you to fast from now?

**Prayer:** Lord, are calling you me to fast from something? I want you to be first in my life and if there is something getting in the way of that, reveal it to me, and give me the strength to turn away from that thing for a time to focus on you.

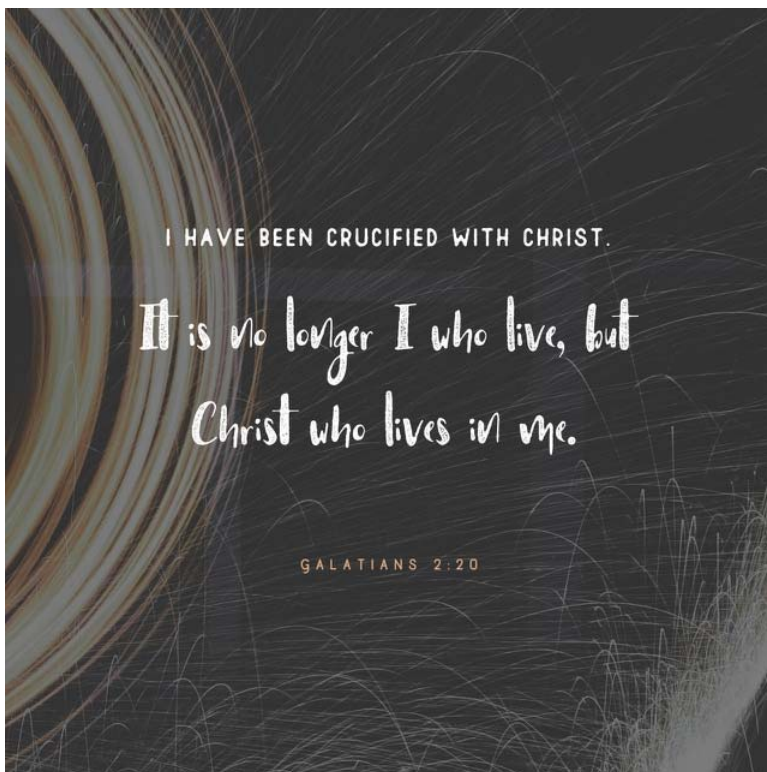
Pastor Ryan Jantz



Light is needed where it is dark, like at a campground or in a dark basement. We also need light as we walk in this dark world so we won't stumble and fall or get lost by going the wrong way. God's Word is our light as we walk in this darkness. Just as a flashlight does not help if left on a shelf, so God's Word will guide us only if we have it with us and in us, which comes from a habit of reading it every day. This Book will keep you from sin, and sin will keep you from this Book.

**Prayer:** Lord God, thank you for your Word of truth that guides me. Help me to let your Word live in me richly so I turn from sin and follow you.

Pastor Steve Hicks



I HAVE BEEN CRUCIFIED WITH CHRIST.

*It is no longer I who live, but  
Christ who lives in me.*

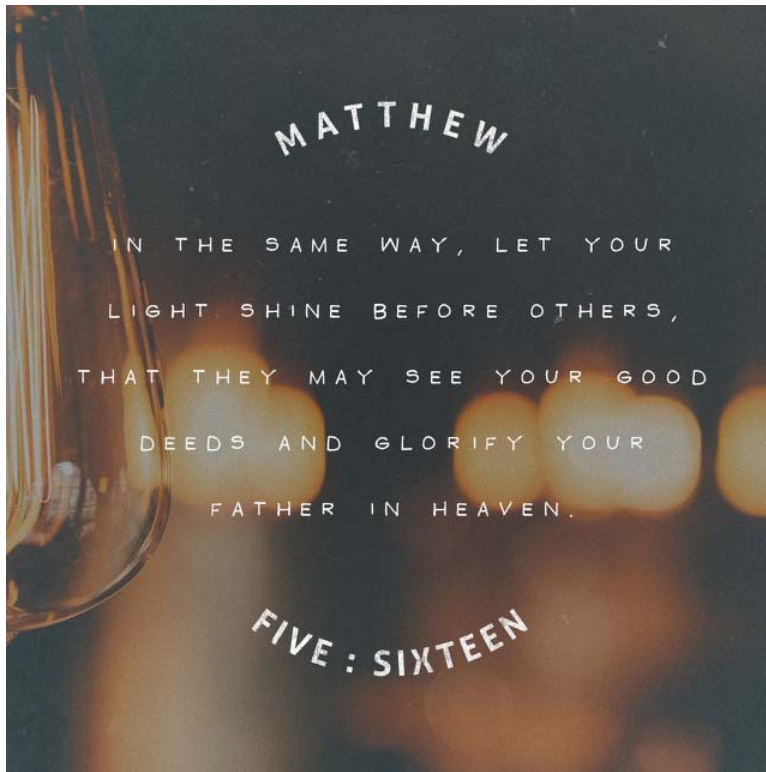
GALATIANS 2:20

In today's verse Paul says we are not only justified (made right) by faith, but we also live by faith. The promise of eternal life by faith is combined with the reality of a faith for living that impacts every aspect of the believer's life. Living without faith is as unreasonable as being granted eternal life without faith. The object of this faith is Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who gives new life and sustains that life.

**Prayer:** Lord, thank you for sending Jesus to be crucified on our behalf. We also thank you for the privilege to be crucified with Him and the power to receive eternal life and the power to live here on this earth until we are called home.

Pastor George Doyle





Day 13 ~ Monday, February 26, 2018

During this Lenten season, make an extra effort to let your light shine before others. What good work can you do to reflect God's love? Try doing a good deed daily to bless someone, no matter how small. Perhaps your sacrifice this season is not what you give up, but what you do.

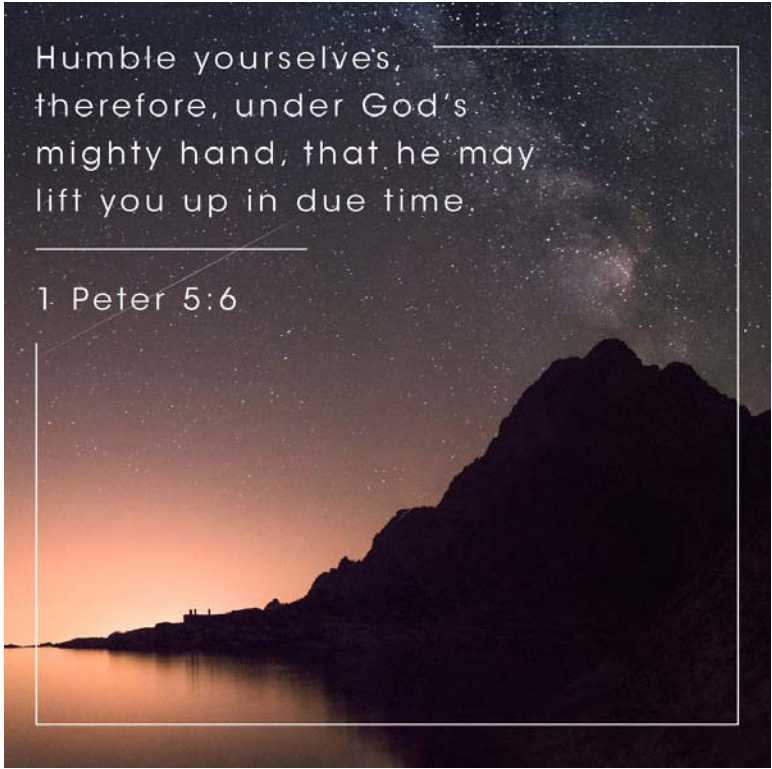
Pastor Steve Holdaway





Whenever the first followers came together in the name of the Lord, He would be with them. And if two or three would agree together about anything it would be done for them by the Father in heaven. One might deduce from this verse alone that private worship excludes God's presence. That is certainly not the case. Moses, for example, met with God one-on-one in a fiery bush. God asked Moses to remove his shoes because the place he stood was holy. Private worship is an essential part of gathering in His name, yet as we see in this verse, it is not ever meant to replace the prominence of gathering with other Christ-followers. Make gathering in His name a valued priority. God will meet with you.

Pastor Jeff Brocaille



Humble yourselves,  
therefore, under God's  
mighty hand, that he may  
lift you up in due time.

1 Peter 5:6

As Jesus headed toward Jerusalem and the cross, he humbled himself to the plan and will of the Father. That meant scorn, pain, suffering, and death. Yet, because he was willing to humble himself, God lifted him up in the resurrection and forever in heaven. What about you? This season, how do you need to humble yourself and say “yes” to God’s will? If you do so, he will lift you up in due time!

Pastor Steve Holdaway

"Is not this the kind of  
fasting I have chosen: to  
loose the chains of injustice  
and untie the cords of the  
yoke, to set the oppressed  
free and break every yoke?  
Is it not to share your food  
with the hungry and to  
provide the poor wanderer  
with shelter—when you see  
the naked, to clothe them,  
and not to turn away from  
your own flesh and blood?

Isaiah 58:6-7



Have you ever been tied up, even as a child playing a game? The ropes restrict us from what we really should be doing. That is exactly what sin does. It ties us up and robs us of all that God desires for us. Christ has set us free from sin so that it no longer is our master. Before we were free, we had no choice but to sin. Now that the Lord has set us free, we are no longer the servant of sin, but now we are free to serve Christ (Read Romans 6 again).

**Prayer:** Lord, I praise you for setting me free from sin and death. Your truth has truly set me free. Help me to use my freedom to humbly serve you as my Master, and to serve others so they also can experience freedom in Christ.

Pastor Steve Hicks



But *seek first*  
his kingdom  
and his  
righteousness,  
and all these  
things will be  
given to you  
as well.

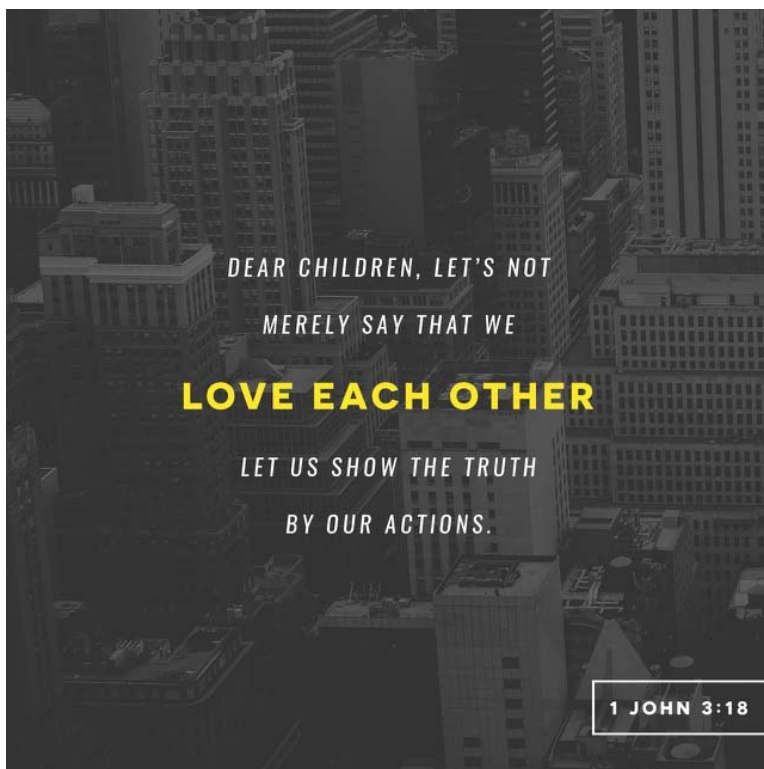
*Matthew 6:33*

Jesus calls his followers to nothing but total commitment to him. Nothing should compete for your attention or affection. What competes with Christ most for your time and devotion? How can you seek him first today?

**Prayer:** Lord, may you be on the throne of my heart and life today. Help me to place you first, consider your will above my own, and choose you in every situation.

Pastor Ryan Jantz

Day 18 ~ Saturday, March 3, 2018



In the ancient Greek world, the person who played a part in a theatrical performance was called a *hypocrite*. In what ways are you the real deal, and what other ways, if any, are you playing a role? There is no room for just saying the words *I love you*. Love is real love when there is action to back up the words.

**Prayer:** Father, help me imitate your love, and love as Christ loved me. Help me to see the real needs of those around me and humbly and honestly serve them with the resources you have given me.

Pastor Steve Hicks

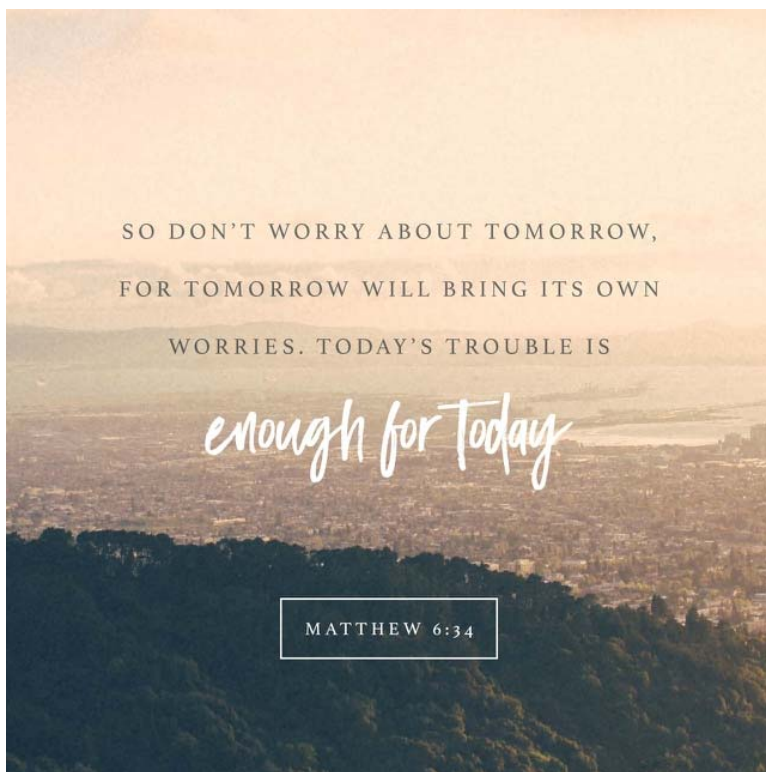


Paul, in this verse, encourages his readers to bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ. The context is for those who are born-again brothers and sisters formed together by the Holy Spirit in a common fellowship of mutual love. Believers are duty bound to do good to all persons whether or not they are Christians. However, a further obligation for the Christian is to do good especially to those who belong to the family of God. This is the love that will be noticed by nonbelievers and bring believers closer together.

**Prayer:** God, make me aware of every burden my believing brother and sister is carrying. Give me the willingness, the strength and wisdom to help them carry that load.

Pastor George Doyle





As he drew nearer to Jerusalem and Calvary, Jesus had much to worry about. Yet, he had perfect peace. Why? He had already committed everything to his Father. Though his path would be very difficult, he would not be alone.

What about you? What are you worrying about? Commit it to the Father.

Father, I confess that I am worrying about \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

I give it to you, and I will not take it back.

Pastor Steve Holdaway



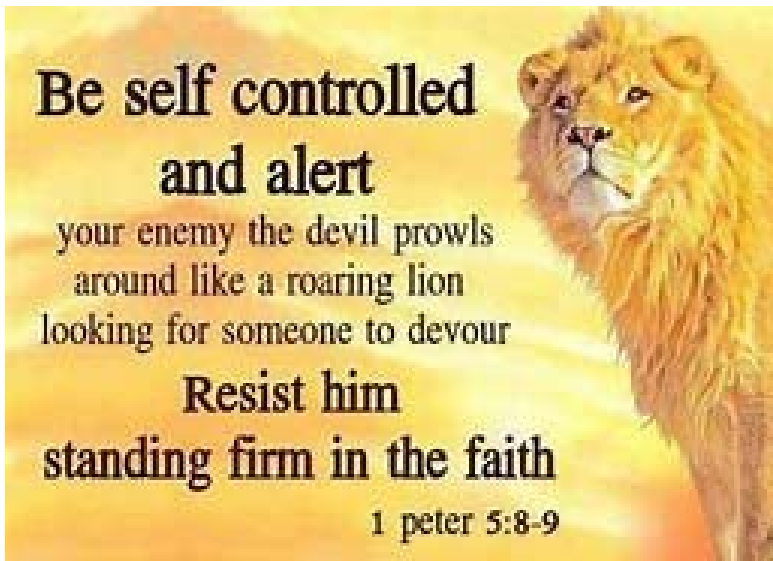


Have you ever noticed how security can be true or false? The righteous know to run to the Lord and be safe. The Lord alone offers permanent safety. This safety is true because it matches with His revealed character. His protection is unmatched.

By contrast, the refuge of the rich is mentioned in verse 11. Money will never be able to replace the Lord as a basis of security. The wealthy think that their riches can protect them from harm as a high city wall used to protect from enemy troops, but this thinking is wrong. Money simply cannot shield people from many problems.

What do you run to for security? Put your trust in the Lord and tell Him how you will do that.

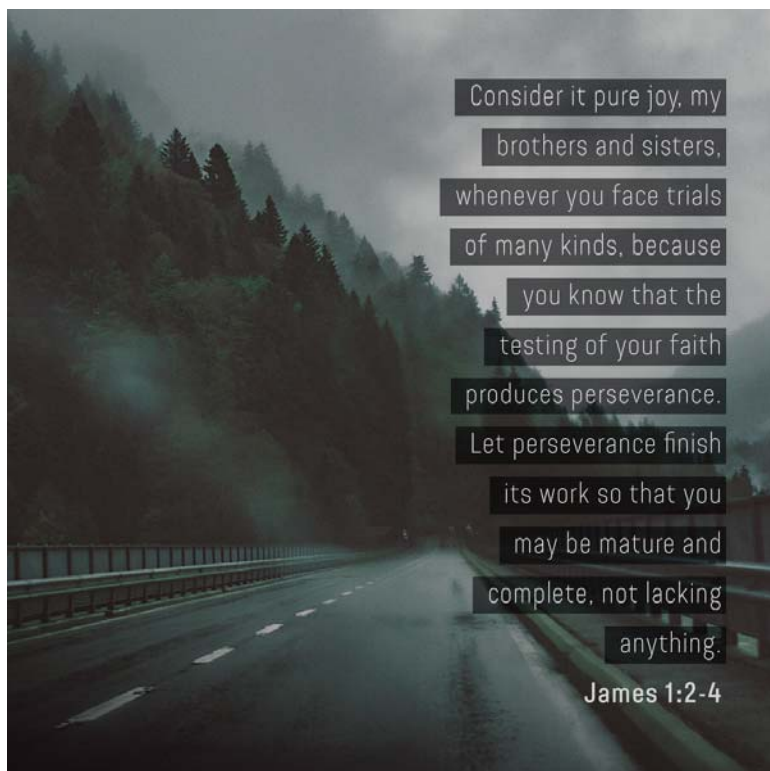
Pastor Jeff Brocaille



As you draw closer to God during this season, you might feel like you are under attack. You are! A roaring lion seeks to destroy any good thing in your life. Peter calls us to resist him and to stand firm! You are not the only one who is suffering.

**Prayer:** Father, I am under attack. Please help me to resist the devil by standing firm on my identity as your child. You are more powerful than the roaring lion is! As I submit to you, you will give me the strength to persevere. Thank you.

Pastor Steve Holdaway



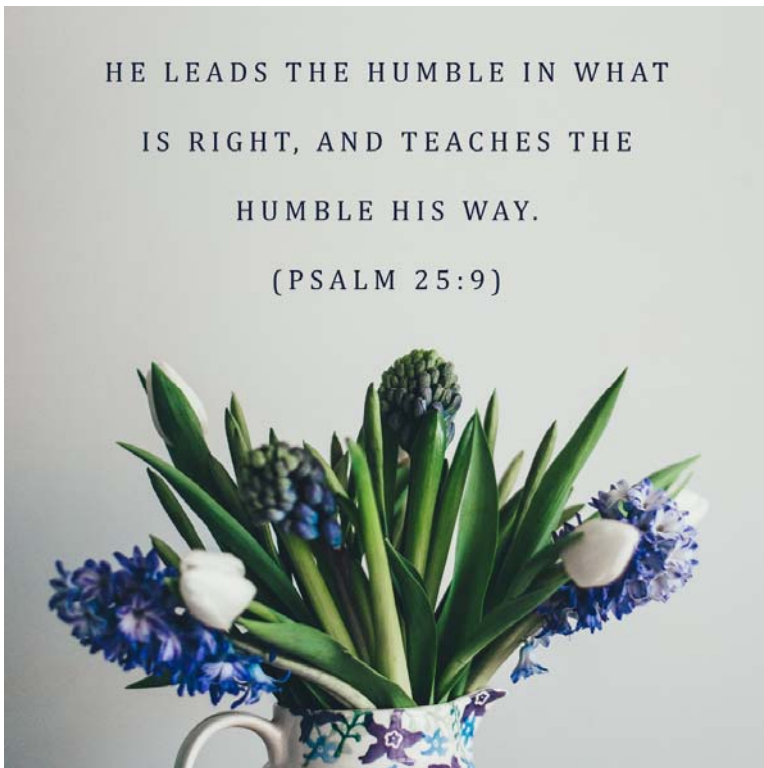
James 1:2-4

The whole world is looking for happiness. But, happiness is dependent upon the *happenings* in our lives. God never promised unending happiness. Joy on the other hand is a gift from God. Joy is a mind-set of peace knowing that God is in control of everything in our lives and He is always doing what is best for us and will bring Him glory. Therefore, when trouble of all kinds come into your life, you can have true joy in the middle of the pain.

**Prayer:** Lord, I rejoice in you and even the trials you bring into my life because I know you are the potter and I am the clay. I humbly climb up on your potter's wheel and ask that you powerfully and lovingly shape me into a vessel that will please you.

Pastor Steve Hicks

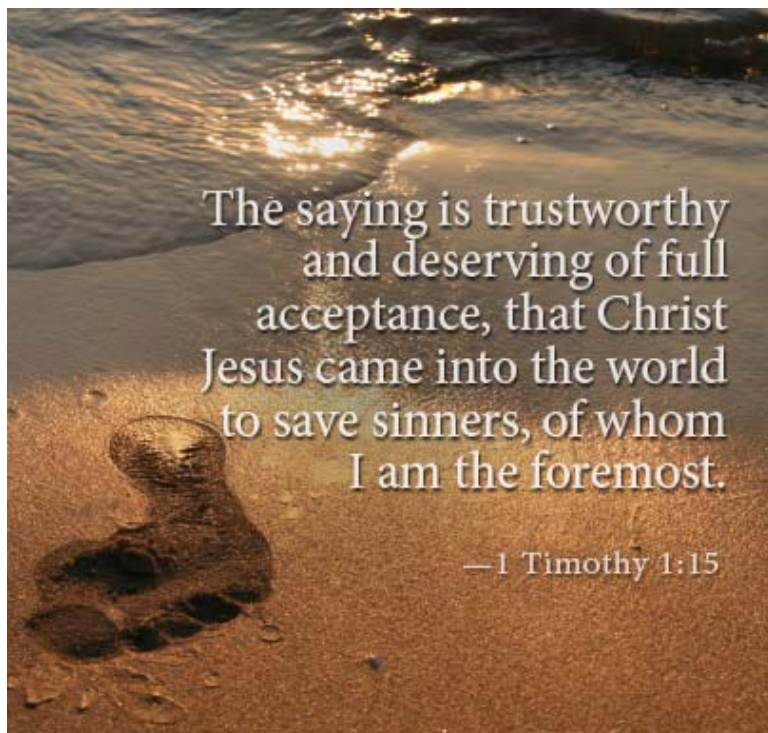
HE LEADS THE HUMBLE IN WHAT  
IS RIGHT, AND TEACHES THE  
HUMBLE HIS WAY.  
(PSALM 25:9)



One of the marks of a follower of Christ is humility. When you are humble, God moves. When you choose humility, God leads and teaches. In what area of your life has pride crept in? How can you choose humility in your actions and words today?

**Prayer:** Lord, as your Son humbled himself to die on a cross help me to choose humility today. Lead me to put you first and consider others before myself.

Pastor Ryan Jantz



The fact is that we all are sinners. Because of our sin, we deserve eternal death and separation from God. If left alone, we all would suffer eternal death and separation from God because it is impossible for us to come to God by our own works or religion. God became man, and His name is Jesus. He died in our place so we would not have to die. He became our substitute. He paid a debt He didn't owe because we owed a debt we couldn't pay.

**Prayer:** Father, thank you for your great love and for giving your only Son for us. “Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me. I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.” Help me tell others about this amazing grace.

Pastor Steve Hicks



This verse is given with the backdrop of God's loving care for those who are His. A focused concern for possessions will diminish our dependency on God's goodness. It can take us from contentment to an ever-increasing desire for more of what, in the end, will never make us happy.

The "love of money" will cause an effect as seen in the parable of the rich man who built bigger barns (Luke 12:15) and was not "rich toward God."

**Prayer:** Dear God, make me ever dependent on your riches and not that of this world. Make me content and a good steward of what you give and make me thankful not to have to worry about the things that can be taken from me so quickly.

Pastor George Doyle



The fear of the Lord  
is the beginning of knowledge,  
*but fools despise  
wisdom & instruction.*

PROVERBS 1:7

People don't seem to fear God anymore. They treat him as an inept grandfather who doesn't care when his grandchildren disobey. Now, should the fear of the Lord make you cower in a corner, awaiting God's wrath to fall upon you? No. However, a reverence and fearful awe of God *should* lead you to bow before him and worship him. It should make you desire to obey his commands. When you do that, then come knowledge and wisdom that will bless your life.

**Prayer:** God, teach me to fear you in a way that will honor you and open the door for knowing you in a loving, personal relationship.

Pastor Steve Holdaway





This verse is almost the same as Proverbs 16:2.

*"People may be pure in their own eyes, but the Lord examines their motives."*

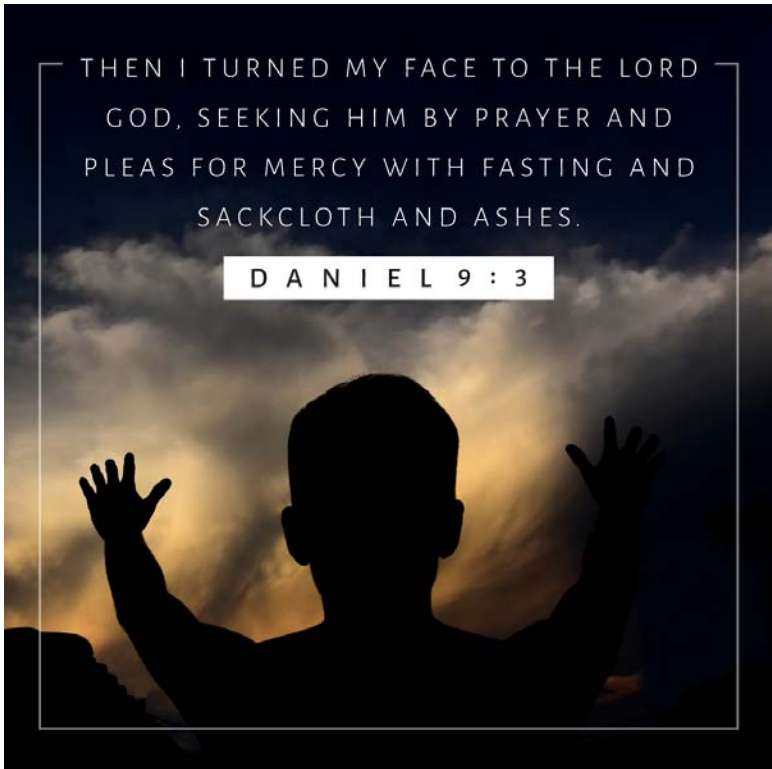
Both of these verses are a sober reminder that we can think nothing is wrong with what we do. Outwardly it may seem innocent. But God knows the heart, whether the motives behind the actions are pure or not.

*"Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." 1 Samuel 16:7*

The Lord judges people on the basis of **why** they act because He sees human hearts. The Lord accurately evaluates one's motives and tests them.

Ask God to help you know **why** you are doing what you do today?

Pastor Jeff Brocaille



— THEN I TURNED MY FACE TO THE LORD  
GOD, SEEKING HIM BY PRAYER AND  
PLEAS FOR MERCY WITH FASTING AND  
SACKCLOTH AND ASHES.

D A N I E L 9 : 3

The Prophet Daniel saw from the scroll of Jeremiah that God's judgment on Jerusalem would last for 70 years. So, he turned in total contrition to the Lord and prayed a long prayer of confession. He also fasted and wore the ceremonial clothing of fasting. He wanted God to know that he was serious. What about you? Is it time to show God that you are serious by fasting?

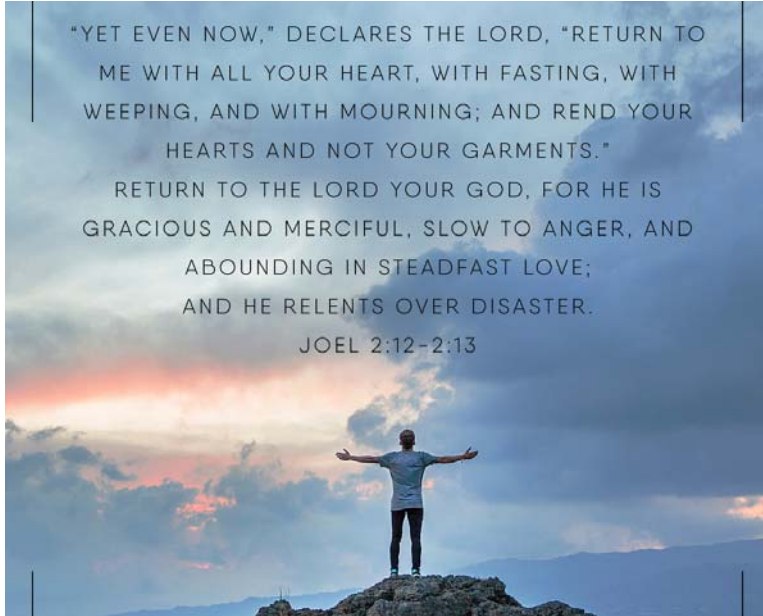
This season, try fasting from food, TV, or social media for a period of time. Give up something so that you can focus your attention on God and his Word.

Pastor Steve Holdaway

"YET EVEN NOW," DECLARES THE LORD, "RETURN TO ME WITH ALL YOUR HEART, WITH FASTING, WITH WEeping, AND WITH MOURNING; AND REND YOUR HEARTS AND NOT YOUR GARMENTS."

RETURN TO THE LORD YOUR GOD, FOR HE IS GRACIOUS AND MERCIFUL, SLOW TO ANGER, AND ABOUNDING IN STEADFAST LOVE; AND HE RELENTS OVER DISASTER.

JOEL 2:12-2:13



One of the most overlooked spiritual disciplines for the Christian is fasting. In Jesus' teaching in Matthew 6, He assumes that His followers will give to the needy, pray, and fast... "When you fast..." Fasting is giving up something (most commonly food, but can be other needs or desires) in order to focus on your relationship with the Lord and the prayers you are lifting up to Him. Set aside a 24-hour period to fast. In that time, spend more time than normal to get alone with God to read the Bible, pray, and listen to Him. Take a notebook to write out what God teaches you. As you do this more, you will find that your days of fasting are the times of your best ideas and greatest growth.

**Prayer:** Lord, break my heart over my sin, then turn my mourning into rejoicing and dancing because of your great grace and mercy. I come to you with an open heart, open mind, and open hands.

Pastor Steve Hicks

YOU, GOD, ARE MY GOD, EARNESTLY I SEEK YOU;  
I THIRST FOR YOU, MY WHOLE BEING LONGS  
FOR YOU, IN A DRY AND PARCHED LAND  
WHERE THERE IS NO WATER.

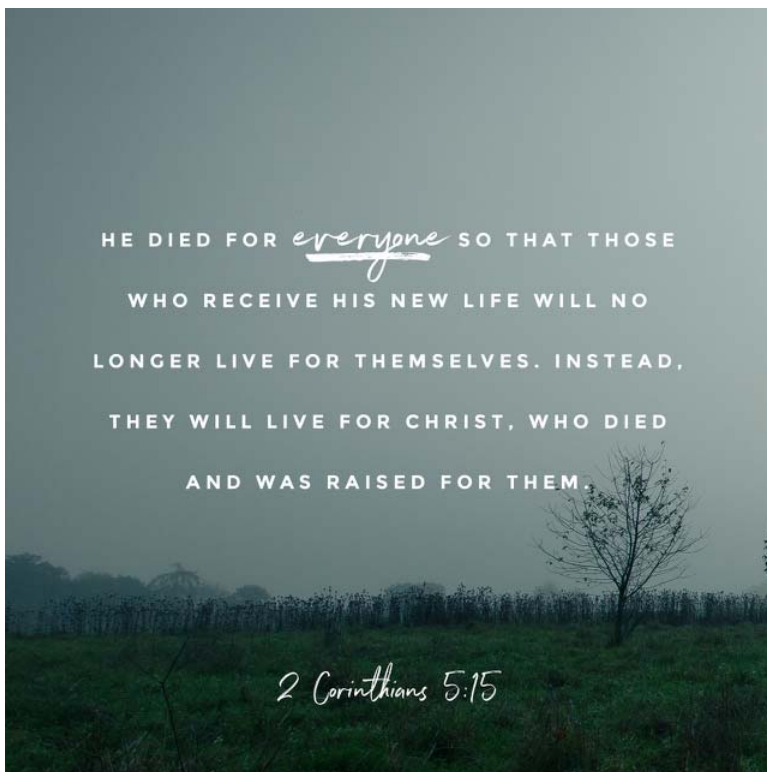
**PSALM 63:1**



What are you passionate about? What do you find yourself drawn to when you have some down time? Would Jesus make the list? Like the man in the desert searching out a drink of water, may we be passionate about seeking Jesus out in our daily life.

**Prayer:** Lord, I know my heart needs to yearn for you more. Grow in me that type of desire. Help me seek you out more and more each day.

Pastor Ryan Jantz



How would you feel about a fireman who would rescue you from a burning home or a lifeguard who would pull you out of frigid waters? No doubt, you would feel thankful and probably indebted. We owe a response of gratitude and service to Christ. He surrendered His life to rescue us from sin and death. Therefore, our normal and expected response is to surrender our life for Him.

**Prayer:** Lord, thank you for all you have done for me. Thanks for eternal life and the pain and sacrifice you endured to rescue me. I lay down my life for you. Because you died for me, I want to live for you. Please give me the strength to do this every day.

Pastor Steve Hicks

*"For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
neither are your ways my ways," declares  
the Lord. "As the heavens are higher  
than the earth, so are my ways higher  
than your ways and my thoughts than  
your thoughts.*

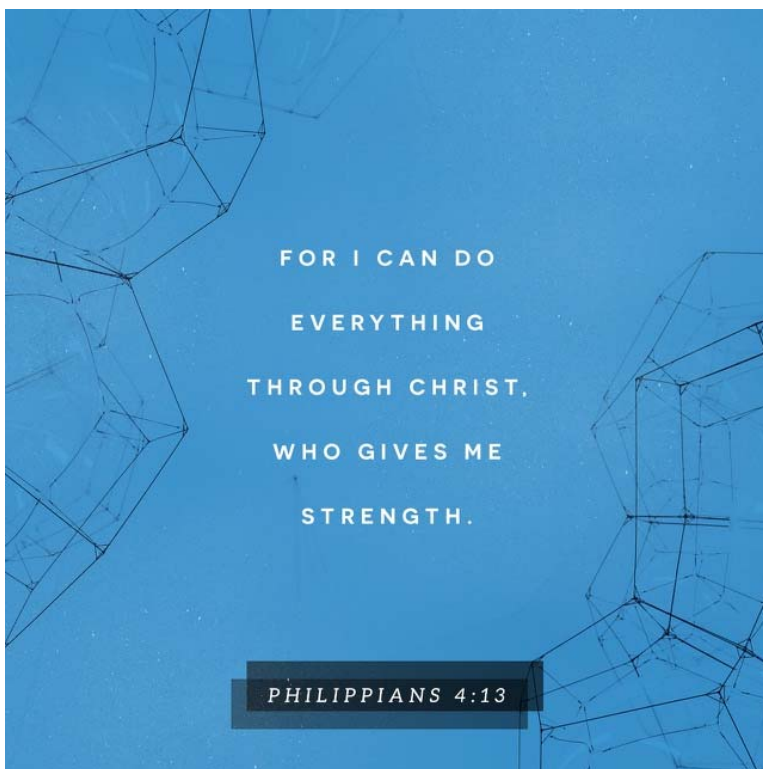
*Isaiah 55:8-9*



The writer in the previous two verses says that God's compassion is on those who turn to Him and here says that His compassion comes because His thoughts and ways are far superior to human thoughts and ways, which in fact are evil. God's compassionate plan is something that would extend far beyond anything we could ever dream.

**Prayer:** Lord, thank you for your knowledge that is so far beyond what we can imagine, and based on that knowledge and your wonderful love for me, I can rest regarding my future. You have never had anything in mind except the very best for my life in this world and in eternal glory.

Pastor George Doyle



This verse is not a magic pill for increasing your self-esteem. It is not a “name it and claim it” scripture for making everything come out okay. In its context, it is about being able to persevere in any and all circumstances: rich, poor, in good times and bad, through trials and adversity.

Even if you are struggling today, try something hard for God. God will come through by his strength, not your own.

Pastor Steve Holdaway



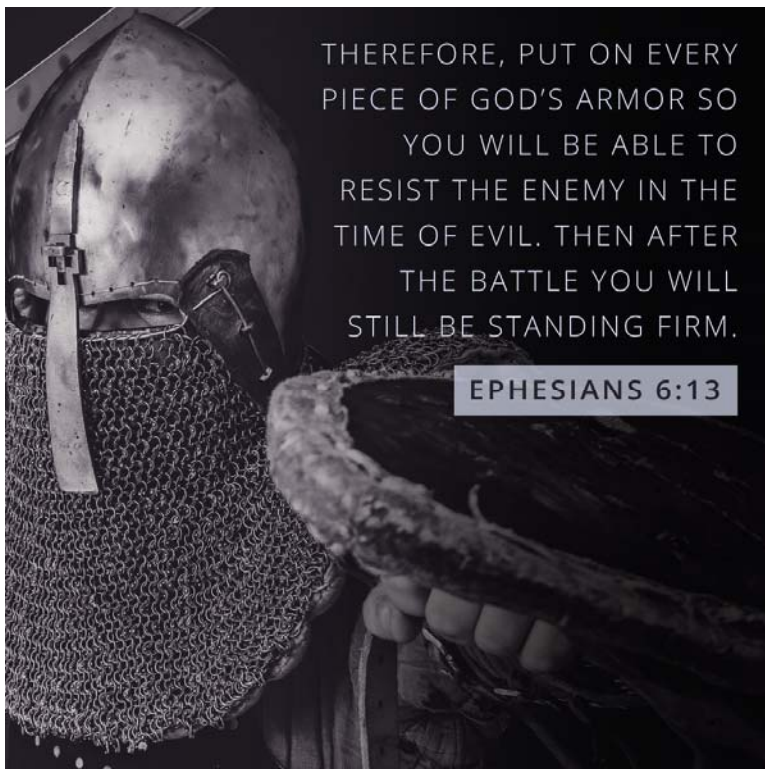


*In the morning, Lord, you hear my  
voice; in the morning I lay my  
requests before you and wait  
expectantly.  
Psalm 5:3*

In today's verse we find the Psalmist pleading with God to hear his lament as he prayed morning by morning with full expectation. He begins the entire chapter by asking the Lord to hear his prayer and specifically his groaning. What are the groanings deep within you that you want God to hear today? Be faithful by bringing it before Him each morning and then wait expectantly for His reply.

**Prayer:** Lord, you know my inner thoughts better than I do. Align my groanings with your word and your will. Build my faith to wait expectantly on your reply. I pray in Jesus' name and for His ultimate glory. Amen.

Pastor Jeff Brocaille



THEREFORE, PUT ON EVERY  
PIECE OF GOD'S ARMOR SO  
YOU WILL BE ABLE TO  
RESIST THE ENEMY IN THE  
TIME OF EVIL. THEN AFTER  
THE BATTLE YOU WILL  
STILL BE STANDING FIRM.

EPHESIANS 6:13

What is the full armor of God? It is claiming that you possess the belt of truth of God's word, the breastplate of righteousness in Christ, shoes that will take you to proclaim the gospel, the shield of faith to protect you from demonic darts, the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, the Bible.

**Try this:** Visualize yourself putting on this armor, piece by piece. Claim victory in Christ!

Pastor Steve Holdaway



AND HE SAID TO ALL,  
"IF ANYONE WOULD  
COME AFTER ME, LET  
HIM DENY HIMSELF AND  
TAKE UP HIS CROSS  
DAILY AND FOLLOW ME.

---

LUKE 9:23

Do you claim to be a follower of Christ? These words of Jesus formulate a test and function like a mirror to determine if our commitment is real. ***Deny yourself:*** **This is surrender.** Surrender your will, desires and agenda to Christ's will for you. ***Take up His cross:*** **Speak up for Him daily,** and be willing to suffer for His name. The cross was a symbol of suffering and death. ***Follow me: This is submission.*** This is modeling your life after Christ. Live the way He lived. Imitate Him. Missionary martyr Jim Elliott said, "He is no fool who gives up what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose." What do you need to abandon, sacrifice, or add to your life to imitate Jesus? The Master is calling. Will you follow?

**Prayer:** Lord, all to Jesus, I surrender. All to Him I freely give. I will ever love and trust Him; in His presence daily live. I surrender all.

Pastor Steve Hicks



If you could give a jump-start or a reboot to one area of your life, what would it be? The Psalmist prays for a spiritual revival in his heart. If we want to see revival in our church, community and world, then it starts with that prayer!

**Prayer:** Lord, bring revival. Draw our hearts back to you. Set us on fire once again with the joy of your salvation so that we could rejoice in you like never before.

Pastor Ryan Jantz

WHATEVER YOU DO, WORK HEARTILY,  
AS FOR THE LORD AND NOT FOR MEN,

KNOWING THAT FROM THE LORD  
YOU WILL RECEIVE  
THE INHERITANCE  
AS YOUR REWARD.

YOU ARE SERVING  
THE LORD CHRIST.

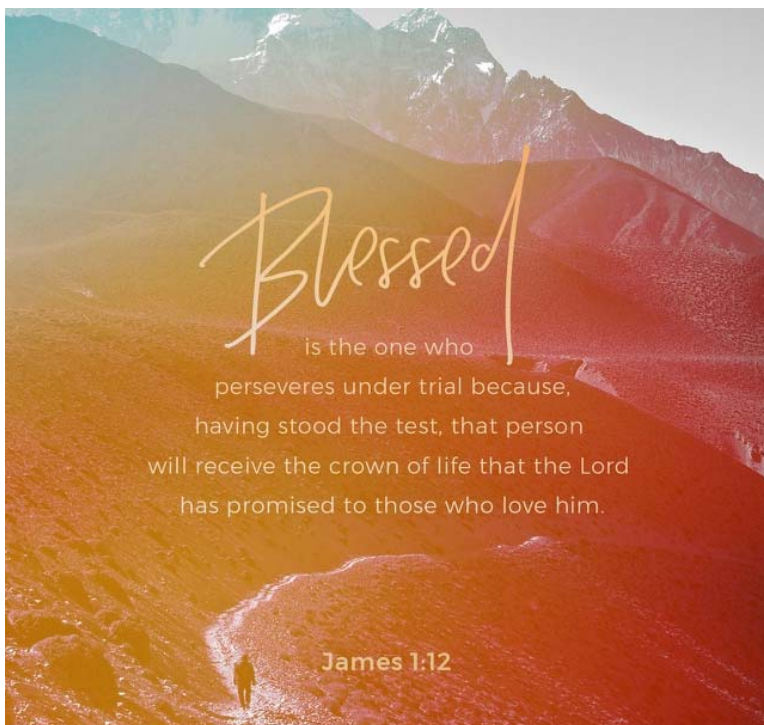
COLOSSIANS 3:23-24



We all like rewards. As we work at our jobs, in our homes, or in ministry, we are to do it out of love for God and to please Him. We also serve Him with the knowledge that we will receive a reward. What is the reward? The inheritance. We are heirs of God and joint heirs of Christ. We will inherit everything that Christ will inherit. The greatest part of the inheritance is to be with Him and to experience eternal joy with Him. He works through us and when we work for Him, we bring joy and glory to Him. His joy will be our joy, when He says *well done good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of your Master.*

**Prayer:** Father, I praise you for your faithfulness. Help me be faithful to you in every aspect of my work for you. Thank you for this promise of an inheritance, and what a privilege to have joy here and joy in heaven with you forever.

Pastor Steve Hicks



James begins with surprising encouragement to believers that they can face “trials of many kinds” with pure joy. Being brothers in Christ means sharing in the testing of their faith. (vs. 2)

The reason for this joy is because we are promised that if we weather these temporary trials we will be given endurance for this life and a reward in the next. This is reinforced by the care of the Heavenly Father evident throughout our lives.

**Prayer:** Heavenly Father, thank you for allowing trials in our lives to learn to become more like your Son, our Savior. We thank you that just as you watched over your Son in His trials you will watch over us just as lovingly. Make us strong, give us the heart of Jesus.

Pastor George Doyle



JEWS  
FOR  
JESUS®

*presents*

# Christ in the Passover

**LifeSpring Church  
Worship Center**

**Maundy Thursday  
March 29 at 7:00 PM**



# WHY WE EXIST

**LifeSpring Church exists  
to advance the GOSPEL  
of Jesus Christ  
by making disciples  
to the ends of the earth.**



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